

**Joseph E. Stepanek,
Co-founder of JIS**



Joe Stepanek had many loves in life: his wife and family, his ranch in Gold Hill, Yale, and China. They pulled him away from Colorado when he was only 21, and occupied him utterly throughout his long and productive life. At the age of 90, Joe passed away at the Boulder Community Hospital Thursday, January 31, 2008, at 8:10 a.m., four years after his wife Toni.

A retired chemical engineer and industrial strategist, Joe was married to Antoinette Farnham Stepanek, the daughter of a Yale professor and someone who shared his passion for travel and adventure, for 62 years. During World War II he worked in the Texas oil fields as a petroleum design engineer, then as an industrial strategist in China, Indonesia, Burma, India, Ethiopia, Colombia, and in 20 other countries before his retirement. Back in Boulder he promoted Colorado-China business ties. Each summer the Yale Club of Colorado met at Joe's mountain ranch above Boulder, "ten miles west and one mile up."

For the next 30 years, Joe advised governments on industrial development strategies. In China in 1946- 49 Joe Stepanek ran an industrialization center in Hunan Province under the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency. "We were pioneers in this project," he said. "The interior of the country was literally in the Stone Age." Joe recruited dozens of American-trained Ph.Ds to live in China and apply the latest technology in the service of small-scale, labor-intensive industries. This movement was later dubbed in the West as 'appropriate technology.'

After China, he was sent to newly independent Indonesia, where he worked for the ministries of industry and of finance in 1950. "It was very exciting to see a new government take shape," he said. While there, he and Toni began a small school in her children's bedroom that became the Jakarta International School, the largest international school in the world.

"Luck and circumstance" led Joe to Burma and then to India, where he was asked to advise on the

development of private industry. Joe discovered it required more than engineering and management skills to accelerate industrial development. His insights led to the creation of the Hyderabad school of business to teach entre-preneurship to small businesses. "I think we had a little hand in making India a very exciting place," he said.

By then his international reputation led to a posting in Vienna in 1968 as deputy director of UNIDO, the UN's Industrial Development Organization. Joe was employed by the World Bank, US Government, Ford Foundation, and a host of UN agencies. His profound knowledge of engineering influenced all he did. While driving across the flat expanse of southern India he pointed to a village cement plant, saying "They seem to be using the same tube mill technology we pioneered in China in 1946." The car would stop, manager found, and after warm toasts to lifelong friendship, it would turn out he was right.

Joe's retirement party lasted 10,000 miles, and is written up in a book by his wife, *Asian Highways*, that recounts their drive across Europe, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India in a little Peu-geot, finally arriving in Bangkok in 1973. One description of a hotel reads: "Acquainted ourselves with a motorcyclist's den, mosquitoes and misery... spending the night with the very bandits whose clutches we had hoped to escape."

In retirement, Joe Stepanek made 12 visits to China with Colorado's then Lieutenant Governor Nancy Dick and Commerce Representative Henry Strauss, among other Colorado business leaders, to establish state-to-province relations with Hunan and sister city relations with Kunming. In addition, Joe has served on the boards of several academic, scientific, and business organizations and has won honors, including the Yale Engineering Association Award for the Advancement of Science and Colorado University's prestigious Norlin Award.

Joe leaves behind his sister Betty Lambert of Denver, and four children: Joseph, James, Antoinette Shaller (born in China), and Debra (born in Burma); and nine grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.

A memorial service is planned in June at Joe and Toni's Gold Hill Ranch. Please contact his son at, or daughter at tonis@earthlink.net, for details.

In Memoriam

Sean Simms

I attended JIS my 8th and 9th grade with another student name Sean Sims. We had many great friends at JIS. I thought those people should know. Sean was a captain in the U.S Army and was killed in an ambush in Iraq. He was married and has a baby boy. I would like everyone to know he was an honorable man and great father.

Patrick Pettit
(patrickpettitt@hotmail.com)

Greg Noelken

The Noelken family lived in Jakarta seven or eight years and had two boys (Michael and Greg) who attended JIS. I am sad to pass on that Greg, age 22 was killed in a motorcycle accident in Florida. I've been told by people at my husband's company who knew Greg, that he was quite an out going and likeable young man. Thought I would pass on the family's address just in case anyone at school remembered them and wanted to send a card.

Dave and Caryl Noelken and Michael
4408 West Longmeadow Court
Peoria, IL 61615

Thanks,
Terri (MCLasiter@aol.com)

Denny Almendingen

Denny Almendingen passed away on December 24, 2007. Denny went to JIS throughout middle school and half way through high school as a proud member of the class of '06. Through unfortunate events he was not able to graduate from JIS, but his memory lives within the spirit of '06.

Denny passed away due to heart failure brought on by complications with asthma. There were rumors that he committed suicide, but this is not true.

I have created a Facebook group for the class of '06 in attempt to keep in touch with everyone.

Max Chin
maxtoma@hotmail.com

Michael Law



Michael Law who graduated from JIS in 1993, sadly passed away at his home, near London, on Friday July 6, 2007.

Michael collapsed in November 2006 and was diagnosed with malignant Melanoma which had formed metastases in his brain (brain cancer). He was given six weeks to live at that time.

Michael was born in Aberdeen, Scotland but left at an early age and spent three years in Iran, six years in Singapore and in 1984, at the age of nine, moved with his family to Jakarta, Indonesia. Michael loved his years at JIS. He was a high achiever and did well academically. His passion, however was soccer and he played as much as he could, starting at a young age in the youth soccer in Singapore. He was an avid Manchester United fan and would never miss a match if he could help it! (Even when he was ill he listened to games on the radio when he could no longer see). He played IASAS soccer and also was a keen swimmer, again representing JIS in IASAS. During his high school years he worked as a referee for the youth soccer league and knew the game inside and out. Mark Gray (whom many of you will know) once commented that he had never known anyone who knew the game so well!

Michael graduated with an IB Diploma and was accepted at all the universities he applied to. He chose to attend Texas A & M and became an Aggie - or as we in the family used to call him a "Haggie."

He went there with his good buddy Chris Crissman who also attended JIS and they have remained firm friends since their JIS days. Michael found his "social animal persona" at university and as always loved life to the full. Once at uni both Michael and his brother Aaron ('97) realized how fortunate they had been to attend a school such as JIS. Michael mixed with all nationalities there and never once questioned race, religion or color.

Perhaps this is why later in life he found the vibrant, hectic eclectic life of London suited him better. Although he graduated with a degree in chemistry and worked offshore for a while in the North Sea he finally found his calling in the publishing world. First working for Sterling Publications in London and for the past seven years for the Cavendish Group based in London, as a Publishing Director. This position involved him traveling to China, Malaysia and the USA and once again he reveled in the opportunity to mix with a melting pot of cultures and nationalities. In October 2005 he married the love of his life, Zoya Abilova Law, from Kazakhstan, who brought him alive and gave him immense happiness. He never looked happier than the day he stepped out of the Registry Office in The Old Town Square in Prague, dressed immaculately in his Scots kilt and finery, his lady at his side and the skirl of the pipes resounding a clear declaration of his love for all to see and hear. (Much to the amusement of the Japanese tourists who were hell bent on getting a photo of this couple!)

His happiness was complete on August 9th 2006, when his beautiful son Michael Marat Law was born.

On the threshold of life he was ready to give it all and to fulfill his dreams. Sadly, it was not to be. For almost eight months, Michael fought with a pride, a strength and a determination that put us all to shame. He was going to beat this dreaded disease and be the best husband and father, anyone could hope for. His buddies Chris Crissman and Dave Ryan traveled from the States and spent a memorable weekend with their friend. They marveled at his spirit and found pleasure in the fact that his love of life and sense of humor were still intact and he was and always would be the Mike they knew, loved and respected.

On behalf of Michael's Dad Mike, his Mum, Sandra, his Brother Aaron, his wife Zoya and our "little man" Mikey we would like to thank all of

the many students, faculty, friends and colleagues of JIS for their thoughts and prayers over these past months.

Please think of Michael as living in the hearts to those he touched, for nothing loved is ever lost, and he is loved so very much.

The Law Family - August 2007

(Please email Mark Gray, JIS Athletics Director, atmgray@jisedu.or.id if you would like to send a message to the Law family.)

Louise Rozario

Louise passed away on February 26, 2008 in the peace and comfort of her home in Key West, Florida. Louise suffered from a rare form of liver cancer which was diagnosed about a year ago. At the moment of her death she was with her two children, Kelly and Brandon.

Louise was a very organized person. In keeping with that habit, a couple of weeks ago she planned a memorial and a funeral for herself. She enjoyed life and enjoyed seeing her friends having a good time. A celebration of her life will take place this weekend at her home in Key West, band and dancing included. Her closest friends are arriving to the Keys today to make sure that everything goes according to her wishes.

Louise was a very good friend and we loved her.

Kampung Blue Coral

Key West, FL

Marlynn and Stan
mands65@aol.com