

Unfortunately, I must share with you the news of Thursday's passing of our dear friend and past president, Mike Dennard. Celebration of his life will be held on Thursday, December 5 at 10:a.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. The service will include full military honors. Interment of his ashes will be at Houston National Cemetery at a later date.

Please note Monday's meeting, 12/2, will **not** be at Bay Oaks Country Club (my apologies for any confusion last week) but will be at the Garden Room of Bayou Building at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. As I mentioned in my previous email, please bring a small bag of gently-used adult clothing & belts (men's or women's) with you for donation to Crossroads, one of Mike's favorite charities. These clothes will be received by Crossroads staff, Margo and Carolyn, also friends of Mike's.

I would not be a Rotarian today were it not for Mike Dennard. He talked to me for years about this great group of community leaders to which he belonged and finally got me to check out the Rotary Club of Space Center. He was my mentor, my friend, my inspiration for the world-wide community of Rotary International. My own sense of serving others found a true home in our club, thanks to Mike.

Mike's recent decline in health and entrance into hospice care due to the toll of his cancer took others by surprise but did not take Mike by surprise. Mike was a man of great faith and he was at peace. He would surely agree with me in pointing to the Bible as his source of strength.. "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" Hebrews 11:1. It's being sure and certain. Faith prompted Mike not to stand still but to run and so he ran. He finished the race. He fought the good fight. He kept the faith and was of much earthly good. We will sorely miss our friend, Mike, but can take hope in the source of his hope, as Psalms 121 declares: "I lift up my eyes to the hills --where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." Mike has run into the arms of God.

Posted to ClubRunner Website December 1, 2013 President Sheryl Berg