

## Tribute for Matthew Loh

By Michael Loh

I sat down many times to try to jot down what I was going to say today about Matt. The problem I have is not that there is too little but rather too much to share. As you can see from all of you here today – family, our extended family from Oklahoma, many friends, acquaintances and colleagues – many lives were impacted and will likely continue to be influenced by Matthew.

So, what do I do, tell you stories about his travels – the UK, Moscow, Indonesia, South America, Newfoundland, New Orleans, Ireland, Europe, Mexico, Hawaii, Israel, Tuktoyaktuk and many, many more. It would take too long to talk about his many travels.

What about times in Whitefish? Matt was an outdoors person and tried every chance to get to Whitefish with the kids. Skiing, boating, golfing and more – lots to share about the good times at the family vacation home, again too many to share.

Then there is of course his career. Matt was often challenged in his work life as I am sure many of you are with the ups and downs of the Petroleum industry in Calgary. He rose to the challenge becoming a very respected Engineer and learning way more than his Civil Engineering degree base. He was proud of what he achieved and enjoyed committing himself to his work. Many of his colleagues are here today and I am sure there are many stories to share here as well – and some I am sure not to be shared with children in the room, you Petroleum people are really crude sometimes.

I guess there is his local recreational activities. Kids sports and teams, fishing, golfing and for the past while cycling – Matt really loved his

recreational activities, especially when he was able to help or contribute to something like the ride for cancer – something Matt was compelled to do especially after Brittany had her challenges and something that Josh plans to continue for Brittany and his father.

Too many stories – so I think I will just share a few random thoughts.

Family was most important for Matthew. He generally put family as first priority and supported his kids in everything they did. He knew they could do anything they set their mind to and did his best to encourage them to succeed. I am sure that Matt is confident that his kids will continue to grow as confident, strong and successful individuals.

He always gave of himself to help, advise and encourage others – something I thought was only for his family but over the past while I have discovered it was part of his nature in everyone he encountered. There are countless condolences that speak about how Matthew helped or encouraged them. He was definitely respected by all – both personally and professionally.

I am grateful that in recent years, circumstances allowed my brother to reconnect more with mom and dad. They got to spend a lot of time together, even some recreational time with Matt cooking some meals with mom and going fishing with dad. This is time I am sure mom and dad will cherish forever.

Myself, being separated by 6 years, my brother and I did not have the strongest ties before. I was that pesky little brother through his teenage years and when he was starting his family, let us just say our interests and priorities were – well different. But as we grew older, these differences did not seem to matter as much and we did start to grow closer. I loved how he made room in his heart for Angela and my kids. I

know that my kids saw love in how he teased them and challenged them.

Recently I have enjoyed our time discussing family, work and receiving his encouragement and sound advice especially when I started and grew my company. I enjoyed our times talking about ideas for products and technology, some of which I plan to continue in development. And last year when I had a bump in my career, even though he had his own challenges and I was considering many opportunities in California, Matt helped find the perfect job for me in Vancouver. This led to even more time we got to spend together as he often needed to come to Vancouver for business – he would stay with me and we would share meals, movies and watch tv together. I was also more than happy to listen when he wanted to talk or ask for advice or experience. I only wish I could have done more.

On behalf of mom, dad and the rest of my family, we want to thank you for your support.

Matthew is loved by many and will be dearly missed.