



John Baker

RIP



On behalf of our dear sister Junonia (June) Colley VMM, editor and vice-president of the BHHS, we sadly announce the death of our much-loved brother-in-law and June's husband, John Baker.

John had served the BHHS for 20 consecutive years as former editor, secretary, and promotion officer. Throughout those years, he battled with four different types of cancer, including a stage-four metastatic cancer, which he survived in 2008.

John was a member of our award-winning non-profit foundation who educated us about the genera *Hosta* and *Hemerocallis* during our trips to visit hybridisers and nurseries in Europe. His favourite hosta is the 'Guardian Angel' (left photo) which he especially asked to accompany him in his last journey. It is 23 years old and undivided.

He inspired us all with his versatile talents as an international businessman in pharmaceutical and engineering industries; an inventor, horticulturist, historian, and an accomplished AV man. He helped in the production of two educational books on the taxonomy of local Philippine butterflies and a book depicting Philippine art, culture and folklore.

His eco-friendly cremation will be followed by an inter-village tribute by garden and photographic societies, where he also served for two decades as an officer, triennial newsletter editor, Parish Magazine garden section writer, as an award-winning creator of audio-visual presentations, and for his annual devotion on the Poppy Appeal. He raised money for several charities by opening their garden since 2005, and their plant collections include three Plant Heritage National Collections. He was popular in many societies where he gave more than 450 talks covering several topics which we also attended at times. He also collected orchids, dahlias and other lilies and was a member of nine garden societies where he received several awards, including one from the USA where he made a lot of friends as a member of both societies, the AHS (hosta) and ADS (daylily).

Our province will remember him most for his great respect for our culture, warm personality, sense of humour, his business acumen, his travels, engineering and artistic skills. Our many friends and relatives have known him since 1990 and will honour him appropriately. John was an eternal beacon of hope and optimism and never complained about his illnesses (considered one of the most complex seen), and was helping our sister right through his final days, and inspired those who face multiple illnesses to 'switch off, keep busy, and eat 5 fruits plus veggies daily to buy time'. His allotment grew 24 types of berries and veggies and the extra 100 daylilies.

Please donate to the Cancer Research UK.

Thanks from the foundation board members below:

Prof H. Jumalon: Foundation President
Dr N. Ogburn: Researcher and International Consultant

O. Jumalon: Custodian of the JNJ Butterfly Sanctuary, Museum and Gallery/
former City Commissioner of Historical Affairs and Culture

Attorney B. Ogburn: Legal Adviser ([see next page](#))



2025: Just married after 37 years!



Exhibition of the Foundation



Work experience included archeological work



Small gardens can also raise money for charity.



Buckingham Palace Party



Aurora borealis, mystical and bright,
A cosmic spectacle, a breathtaking sight.
Arctic Circle



Time to invent a fibre optic equipment



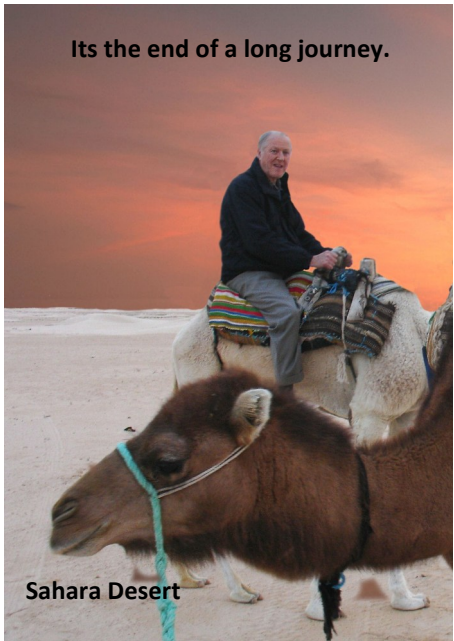
Cebu Party



Himalaya abode of the sacred-
toughest trip that raised money
for charity

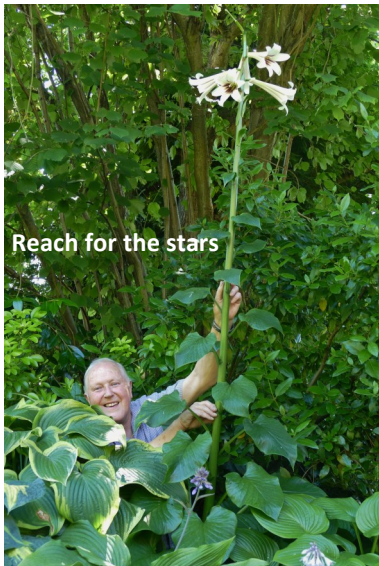


Alma mater – In old age, reconnect with familiar places; here with sister-in-law

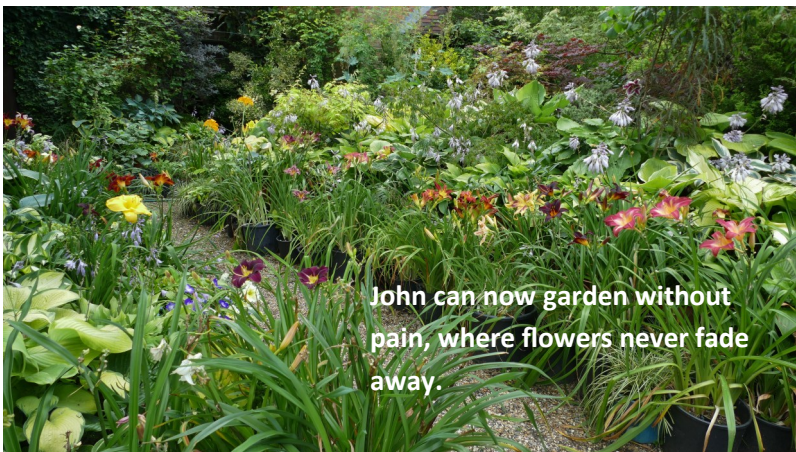


Its the end of a long journey.

Sahara Desert



Reach for the stars



John can now garden without pain, where flowers never fade away.



A loving step- father to our nephew Chris, and dad to Chris of USA, Rich and Debra