

The summarized account of the late Dr. John B. Tsu by Mr. Clayton Fong; the interview was conducted on June 28, 2010 .

Before Mr. Clayton Fong expressed his account of the late Dr. John B. Tsu, he said that some of his account of the Dr. John B. Tsu may be similar with that of those with whom the writer has so far conducted his interviews.

Mr. Fong described his account of the late Dr. John B. Tsu by saying that Dr. Tsu was very unique man with the quality vested in him which is compassionate, energetic, humble, above all, less selfishness. When it comes to the matter of advancing his effort, devotion and vision for the advancement and empowerment of Asian Americans, he was bipartisan trying to make Asian Coalition force to become “ the mainstream of American politics”. He was visionary person with ability and quality of working together with all level of people regardless of their ethnic background, heritage, culture, and political affiliations

Having said that the writer asked a number of specific questions focusing on his long standing relationship with Dr. Tsu as Clayton is a kind of disciple of the late Dr. Tsu who motivated and aspired him to work for the betterment of Asian Americans.

- The writer asked the questions; When was the first time you met him and where did you met him? What was your impression of him?
- + Clayton Fong; 1982, when the former Governor George Deukmejian was campaigning for his governorship, I met him at one of political meetings. He was one of few Asian Americans I met who was then trying to pull Asian American together to make it as political and civic force to express the voice of Asian Americans in regional and national political arena in the States.

As we began working closely with the late Dr. Tsu, I began myself involved more and more with political activities, I have noticed that he was not limiting his mission to that of local and regional but also that of national arena. In 1984, when the former President George Bush run for his

presidency, I got involved with the late Dr. Tsu to campaign for the Bush and upon his triumph for his presidency, I become officially involved myself with the Bush Administration where I served as-----(Clayton is to file in this section)

- As you get more closer and closer, how have you began to see and assess the late Dr. John B. Tsu in terms of one of leaders in Asian Americans community? How did you view of the style of the late Dr. Tsu who aspired to unite and consolidate the various forces in existence at that era for the more cohesive yet culturing the importance of respecting the value of each group in Asian American community?
- + Since the late Dr. John B. Tsu worked and kept a very close relationship with the core members of the Republican Party in the era of Presidents Donald Regan and George Bush, he was able to have relatively easy access to the Presidents(Regan, the two Bushes), which enable him to have more intimate relationship with the higher echelon of the White House under the Regan and the two Bush Administration. It made good for Asian Americans that the leader was able to have more intimate relationship with White House and its inner circle of the staff there.
- As you know, one's life is inherited with destiny of confronting reality of "ups and downs" in the tenure of one's life. How did you see and observe about the late Dr. Tsu in terms of his activities and his sprit to be kept going as what he was doing, particularly, during the period the Republican Party was out of power. When Republican party was out of the power, how did he mange to keep Asian community to be kept intact to keep the strength of Asian Coalition Forces in place.
- + In my observation, the late Dr. Tsu was amazingly active by keeping in touch with Asian community at both regional and national level. He never thought of himself being " in the state of EXILE" as it may be called for those who were political appointees and found of themselves to be out of the job. His activities and services he performed for Asian Americans was bipartisan and that he was able to maintain a very good relationship with other side of the aisle in his political relationship at both regional and national arena.

He was a pragmatic person. I think that the late Dr. Tsu got involved

himself more deeply with politics which may have begun in 1984 and kept his colleagues and supporters intact locally and nationally. In particular, he played an important role as a member of the transition team and during the year of 1987~1989, he was most active for getting Asian Americans to be named and assigned to the various positions in the public services through political appointees. He was a member of the transition committee under George H. W. Bush by which he contributed to the appointment of Asian Americans to be assigned to significant and important political posts in the US government.

- May I ask for your view of why the late Dr. John B. Tu desired himself to be behind the scene rather than to be visible and on the front of others as most political figures want to do so? It numbered some 200 political appointee posts.
- + I believe that in the first place he is very less selfishness and always thought of others first. He was very humble and compassionate for others. All of these character and vision he possessed made it him to behave as naturally as he did.
- During the period when Republican Party was out of the power, how did he prepare for himself to keep Asian Coalition Party intact and tried to educate the leadership of the next generation and how he did manage to get this to be done to meet the expectation of Asian Americans?
- + The late Dr. John B. Tsu kept in touch with those who had been active for the advancement of Asian Americans in even the period of the Republican Party was out of the power. For an example, some of those are: [Clayton is to provide the list of those peoples]. He also worked closely with those who are Democrats like Congressman Mike Honda. The late Dr. Tsu was very talented in his skill to minimize the frictions existed within Asian community.

He is a very unique enough to pull Asian Americans together regardless of their ethnic and cultural background (Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Philippines and Japanese).

- Since you worked with him closely, you may be familiar with some of his political grand design he had such as “the making of the avenue for development of dialogues between the leadership in the mainland China and Taiwan for the unification of the two separate China (Mainland

China and Formosa)”. How did you think of what he was trying to make it happen?

+ Since official US policy for China has been consistent since the restoration of Chinese and US relationship, any attempt against policy will raise some kind of disputes. Of course, there are those who are pro-Taiwan’s and those who are for China among Chinese Americans. My understanding of what the late Dr. John B. Tsu was trying to do may have been the fact that he thought of the unification of mainland China and Formosa would contribute to the advancement and empowerment of Chinese Americans in the United States.

● Now that the late Dr. John B. Tsu is gone, who is going to take the role of leadership for Asian Americans? Do you have anyone that may be able to replace what he had done?

+ It is so difficult to find someone who could replace him because the unique character and firm vision he had which was his strength. He was totally less selfishness, energetic, compassionate and universal and international in the mission he aspired for. If there is any weakness that he may have, he is less fiscally minded.

Mr. Clayton Fong’s account and his response to the writer’s question were much more elaborated. However, for editorial reasons, the writer documented the essence of his account and remarks about the late Dr. John B. Tsu. Mr. Clayton Fong is currently working for an energy oriented and related company as Vice-President for the US. Operation.