

樊豐美1940年於台灣嘉義大林出生，成功大學畢業後便到日本東京大學進修，70年代來到美國。在當時法拉盛地區還尚未開發、華人飄洋過海來到紐約的人數少之又少的年代，樊豐美和當時來美留學的台灣年青人一樣，一直希望能為「台美人」打造一個「家」。因緣際會之下，1980年初他與一群熱愛台灣的朋友們合作策畫，在1985年正式成立了位於北方大道上的台灣會館。同是創辦人、現任台灣會館老人中心董事長的陳隆豐說：「就是那股對於家鄉的眷戀和思念把我們聚集在一起，努力想要擁有一幢自己的家，讓後代子孫能夠認同台灣文化的地方。」

當時志同道合的朋友找上樊豐美，提出打造「天下第一館」台灣會館的想法，他毫無猶豫地加入且全心投入。本身是專業工程師(professional engineer)，又在地產業領域頗有成就，他便一手包辦找尋地點、會館室內室外設計、整修等大大小小的事項，利用其專業拉拔出臺灣人在美國的家。陳隆豐指出，台灣會館目前所在地原先是個舞廳，裡面的環境或設計都不符合理想，就靠樊豐美的規畫和設計，才有今天如此舒適的場地供同鄉們使用。

回憶起當時共同打拚的時光，陳隆豐感念數十年好友樊豐美的義不容辭和盡心盡力，使台灣會館在動盪之中茁壯。他說：「樊豐美的父親早期在嘉義擔任縣議員，一直對當地社區熱心奉獻，我想樊豐美就是遺傳到他的父親，擁有一股關心公眾事務的熱心。只要在這裡的台灣朋友需要幫忙，他一定不會吝嗇的。在我們老朋友的眼裡，他就是一個腳踏實地、認真努力，卻又不願意張揚的老實人！」

亦就是這份典型台灣子弟認真努力卻又低調的個性，使得樊豐美受到社區眾人敬重，也成為家中子女崇拜的對象。樊豐美四個子女分別在醫界和律師界頗有成就，擔任律師的小兒子更是受到父親的影響，追隨其腳步走入地產領域、專精地產業法律。而一家人緊密的感情以及成功的家庭教育讓樊豐美的好友們直說：「第一代移民的台美人心中都有一個美國夢，樊豐美就是個成功的圓夢者，也是後代子子孫孫值得效法的對象。」

22日在康乃爾醫院(Cornell Hospital)離世，享壽74歲。白髮蒼蒼卻總是笑容滿面的他，於80年代一手打造台灣人於紐約的家，讓來自寶島的新移民在紐約市落地生根，台灣會館的成立象徵著台灣人美國夢的成真。在樊豐美離世的這一天，聳立在法拉盛北方大道上的會館代表著樊豐美為社區奉獻和關懷的精神，將像眾人賦予這幢建築的使命般永續留傳。

# Fon-may Fan

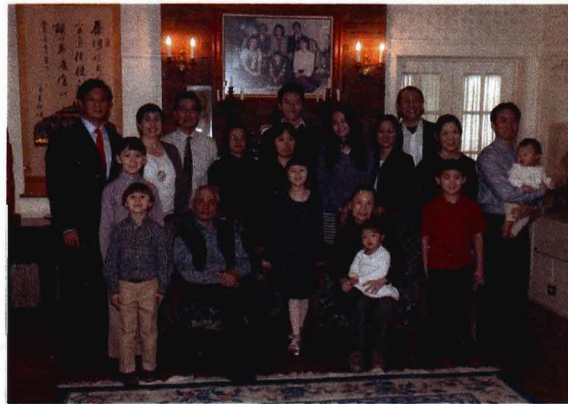
February 25, 1940 – February 22, 2014



Devoted husband  
Wise father  
Affectionate grandfather  
Loving brother  
Trusted friend  
Respected colleague



Mr. Fon-may Fan enjoyed life for 74 years. He was born in 1940 in Talin, Chiayi, Taiwan. After graduating from National Cheng Kung University, he continued his post-graduate studies at Tokyo University, Japan. Fon-may came to the United States in 1968. He initially worked at Stone & Webster for ten years. Since then, he devoted his life to real estate development, growing a successful business from the ground up.



Fon-may loved Taiwan and he was very enthusiastic about the Taiwanese community. Twenty years ago, he and a group of good friends devoted their time, efforts, and resources to establish the first Taiwan Center in the United States in Flushing, New York. This center continues to benefit the Taiwanese community and help Taiwanese immigrants feel welcome in their new home.



But most of all, Fon-may was a devoted family man. He was the first member of the Fan family to immigrate to the United States. Under his patriarchal guidance, the Fan family has since grown to several families throughout the United States. He and his wife, Yu-Mei, were childhood sweethearts, together for more than half a century. They have four children who are all very successful in their careers. He is also survived by ten grandchildren.