

# The MK Connection

Volume 3, Issue 2, April 2003

*Special Points  
of Interest:*

*College of the  
Ozarks  
become  
members of  
Mu Kappa, see  
article back  
page.*

*World  
Reunion  
2003  
June 19-22  
Minneapolis  
Register at  
[www.ickworld.com](http://www.ickworld.com)*

*MK  
Gathering  
Urbana  
2003  
check  
[www.mukappa.org](http://www.mukappa.org)  
for more  
information*

Mu Kappa Int'l  
P.O. Box 11211  
Rockford, IL  
61126

Phone:  
815-395-1335

Fax:  
815-395-1385

Toll Free:  
800-583-MKID

Email:  
[mukappa@barnabas.org](mailto:mukappa@barnabas.org)

## Goodbyes...From one MK to Another!

Vaya con Dios, sayonara, do svidanya, auf Wiedersehen, mari, anyung...the words mean the same in any language...goodbye! This word describes something we all experience and are familiar with.

There is one culture that knows this word by heart in any language, and that is the culture of missionary kids. MK's we call ourselves. It is said we are third culture kids: We are neither totally from the culture of the country that our parents serve in, nor are we totally of the culture from which our parents originate. We are a third culture, and intermingling of the two...or more! And we understand the word goodbye from the time we are very small. Life as an MK is full of goodbyes.

I'm from America but have lived and grown up in Indonesia. When my parents and I first came to Indonesia, I was very young. I don't remember having to say goodbye to America; Indonesia became my home. After living in this country for four years, my parents and I...and my little brother who was born soon after we arrived here...went on furlough to the States. We had to say goodbye to all the friends and family in this new country we had come to love. I had to adjust to a new school and a new church, make new friends, and live in a totally new environment. Then after a year of furlough, we left our home there and returned to Indonesia, once more having to say goodbyes to all our new friends. This process was repeated several more times throughout my school years. As I grew older and made closer friendships, each goodbye became harder.

Sometimes I wasn't the one leaving but was the one left behind. I attended an international school from first grade through my high school years. The friends I made were from all over the world. They would come, they would stay awhile, and then they

would have to leave for furlough or because their parents were moving to a different country.

A year would never go by in which I didn't have to say goodbye to a friend. Some would return after furlough, and others wouldn't; some we would see again, but others were gone for good. The hardest goodbye though, will be the one I will have to make this May when I graduate from high school and return to America to go to college. I will have to say goodbye to the people of Indonesia whom I love so much. But...the goodbye that will hurt the most is when I must say goodbye to this

country that has become my home. Even though all these goodbyes have been...and will be...very painful, I would not trade growing up in Indonesia for any other place in the world. This country will always have a very special place in my heart.

There are so many advantages to growing up as an MK; so many people I never would have met, places I never would have been,

friendships that I never would have experienced had I not come to live in Indonesia. Through all the goodbyes an MK must face, there is one comforting, ever-present hope: Heaven! We may be third culture kids and never be at home any place in this world, but I know we'll find a home in Heaven. It may be painful to say goodbye to many friends with the thought that we may never see them again in this world...but we do have the hope of see them again in Heaven. There, we will never, ever have to say goodbye again.

I don't know what language we will use in Heaven, but I do know that it won't have a word for goodbye.

(This was written by Aubry (Mulkey) Maxon back in December of 1992...just before she was leaving the field to return to the United States.)

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# God's Timing Is Perfect

Key questions to ask yourself...

What are three times in your life when God's timing has been perfect?

What can you learn from your parents about God's perfect timing?

What are some things you can do to keep from forgetting that God's timing is perfect?

As a kid in junior his, it felt like my timing was off on everything! I would say things at the wrong time...and not speak when asked. But the older I got, the more I began to see that God's timing is perfect...even when it differs from mine! An now as an adult...I recognize that God has a plan for the world and for each individual life. There is nothing that is outside of His control. Dr. R. C. Sproul says, "There's not a single maverick molecule anywhere in God's universe." Everything is under God's ultimate control, and His timing is perfect!

As I look back on my life I can really see how each part fits together. I played baseball as a young boy and all through high school...I loved the game and enjoyed playing. I thought that someday I would play professionally...but God had other plans. See during high school I needed to work and save some money for college...in doing so...I stepped out of baseball and God began to work in my life and move me toward missions. I went to Moody Bible Institute to prepare for the ministry. There I met my wife...we've been married now for 25 years. Back in high school...I was not thinking of the future at all...I was only focused on the present day...but

God's timing was perfect and He knew that unless I went to Moody...I would not have met my wife. His plan and timing was perfect!

As I look back at other events in my life I can say with confidence that His timing is perfect down to the week, down to the day and down to the minute. Nothing slips past Him. He controls it all.

One of the reasons that this is so crucial for MKs to understand is because you want to be able to be comfortable with who

you are and where you are at this point in your life. You can continually worry that you should be doing more, doing better, or doing things differently. Or you can simply trust that God cares for you and is in control of your life.

It might do you some good to take some time to look back over your life right now and think of a time when you came close to getting with the wrong crowd of people or making a mistake of some kind. Think of how maybe one word, one person, or one day made the difference that prevented you from getting into trouble or making a very unwise decision.

*(A word from the Director of Mu Kappa, Perry Bradford.)*

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## "A Principle to Live By"

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## College of the Ozarks...newest Mu Kappa Chapter

"Hard Work U" has become the most recent family member of Mu Kappa across the country. The College of the Ozarks is located on 1,000 acres overlooking Lake Taneycomo at Point Lookout, Missouri, 40 miles south of Springfield, near Branson. It has been listed by the U.S. News and World Report in their "Best Colleges" since 1989. Currently there are approximately 36 MKs on campus from around the world...it is their desire to support and encourage each and also be a catalyst to help incoming freshman assimilate into life in MO. This is a unique place or as they say..."A different kind of college"...it is a fully-accredited, 4 year college founded in 1906. Each full-time student works at one of 80 campus jobs or industries to pay in part for his or her cost of education. The remaining portion of each student's expenses is made up through scholarships provided by gifts and contributions from donors who believe in the programs. For more information about their Mu Kappa chapter...please feel free to contact the Mu Kappa Home Office.