

In Memorium

Mr Tupae Munokoa Pepe (aka Kairua), 08 August 1943 – 24 April 2008

Rakahanga, Cook Islands

On Wednesday 30 April, many canoes of love were anchored at the Pacific Islands Church Congregation, Newton, Auckland to pay our final tributes to Tupae Munokoa Pepe.



Tupae has been at the forefront of Pasifika Education alongside the diverse migrants from the Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau; Tonga, Samoa and Fiji; and most recently the islands of Tuvalu, Solomons, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Kiribati.

Tupae started his career in education in the Primary Sector before he travelled abroad to teach in places such as Saudi Arabia. Upon his return from his OE, Tupae taught in primary schools in Central Auckland. In 1975, he set up the English Language Teaching Unit (ELTU) at the Mount Roskill Grammar School. The ELTU was the first and only project to teach English to the migrants from the Pacific Islands geographic regions. Tupae then moved to the Tertiary Sector where he worked at the Pacific Islands Educational Resource Centre (PIERC, Herne Bay) and later at the Manukau Institute of Technology as the first Pacific Liaison Officer. Tupae's final contribution to Pasifika education was as a researcher for the Koloto & Associates Ltd, Auckland. He is survived by his only daughter, Morag Teina Pepe and whangai, Petini Pepe and John Pepe.

‘Oku manatua ‘e he Kakai mei he tukui motu ‘o Cook Islands, Tokelau, Niue, Tonga, Ha’amoā, Fisi, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Papua New Guinea mo e ‘otu Solomone ‘akinatuolu kotoa pe kuo nau tō tau ‘i he fonua ni. Kuo hiki atu ‘a Tupae Pepe ko e Tamai, ko e faiako, ko e kaungāme‘a pea mo e kaungāngāue ‘i he mala‘e ‘o e ako, ka ‘oku kei onгона mai ‘ene ngāue mo ‘ene tataki ‘a e loto mo e fakakaukau ‘hono kakai ke nau mahu‘inga‘ia ‘i he ako lelei ko e hakeaki‘i‘anga ‘o e Kakai Tu‘ufonua ‘i Aotearoa. Ke ke toka ā ‘i he fiemālie mo e ‘ofā ‘a e ‘Otuā lolotonga ‘etau mavaé.