

Dear Dr. Kushner,

June 1, 2008

Hi, Mr. Kushner! Please allow me to call you "Mr. Kushner" instead of "Dr. Kushner", because "Mr. Kushner" is so familiar to me. The instant I saw the name "Kushner", my heart was flown right way back to the Chatham High campus, parking lot where we students walked across to "Mr. Kushner's speech class." You can imagine how we loved your speech class! Being a little nervous and anticipated thinking of the presentation of the speech given as an assignment by you Mr. Kushner, I walked across the parking lot with textbooks, notebooks and a pencil case in my arm, chatting and giggling with classmates, talking how funny Mr. Kushner was in the previous class. We enjoyed your class so much. No one would have any doubt that you've made an excellent doctor!! I wish I could have taken your speech lessons at your college.

My experiences in Chatham have been a kind of a core of my life. I participated in English speech contests while I was a university student. ^{I won the first prize} I became an English teacher after I graduated from university. I retired at the official retirement age of 60, and since then I have still been working as a part time English teacher at a high school in Shizuoka city where I was born and brought up. So I am 64 years old this year. I have one son and one daughter, each child has two children, so I have 4 grandchildren.

As for my family life, my American host family in Chatham
"the Tuohig Family", especially my American Mom, Margaret
and Dad, Elton are my model parents. I love them
and respect them from the bottom of my heart.

Kathy Tuohig is like a real sister to me now.
We have been corresponding with each other. We have
seen each other several times. We are like true
family members. Last August my American Mom passed
away at the age of 89. She lives in my heart. I can hear her
voices and I can see her smile at any time.

It is so nice that your son Barak Kushner teaches
Japanese History at Cambridge University. I'd like
to know what made him interested in Japanese history.

I can imagine you are having a very happy life now
with your four children and 11 grandchildren. That's
great!

At the Big Reunion this July in Chatham, if
you find anyone who happens to remember me,
please say "Hello" for me, and tell them
how I loved Chatham, Chatham High School and
Chatham people. I am so very proud that I
graduated from Chatham High School. I am so very grateful
to the people of Chatham. I thank you, Mr. Kushner.

Thank you for writing to me! Sincerely Isachan Ishida