Remembering Bert Dinkel

Bert Dinkel (left) with Jeremy Clark

In this business, perhaps more than any, working relationships often become lifelong colleagues and sometimes bloom into long-lasting friendships.

For me, this is very much the case with Bert Dinkel who we lost from our world on July 25, 2024 and will be sorely missed by me and all those who knew him.

Obituaries usually follow a format of listing various achievements and accomplishments, but I shall avoid this because, when all is said and done, none of that really matters.

Those of us whose paths crossed Bert's in his long and varied career stretching from Switzerland, through Canada, Hong Kong and Vietnam, will remember the man and his character first and foremost.

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Remembering Bert Dinkel (photos courtesy of Jeremy Clark)

What I can say is that Bert was not only a highly skilled culinary craftsman, but an astute businessman and exemplary leader and carer of the people around him. He was passionate about giving opportunities to excel and, while demanding the highest levels of quality, understood the journey it takes to achieve success. He did not seek the limelight himself and was always delighted to see those he supported and nurtured succeed.

I first met Bert in 1998 on a project in Saigon and we quickly became close colleagues and then friends. I have been privileged to have shared hilarious and joyful moments, too many to list here.

Sadly, no longer here but with a soul and spirit that will remain in our memories, Bert was a kind and generous fellow who leaves behind his wife, Ha and a son and daughter.

“Gute Menschen gleichen Sternen. Sie leuchten noch lange nach ihrem erloschen.”

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