

DHARMA WORDS

Dear Maezumi Roshi,

Twenty years ago in the month of azaleas,

You shed your skin and left us to teach in another sphere.

Right here, now,

As sure as our feet touch the earth —

We wander with you in the vast blue sky.

We meet in the steady heartbeat of Prajna Paramita

And in the fullness of sweet cantaloupe.

Today at the home temple, we bow in gratitude

To the Solitary Cloud who gave us life —

Who when pierced by lightening, had his bones transformed.

Aieeeeeeeeeeeee....

Life after life, birth after birth: never falter.

Do not let die the Wisdom seed

Of the Buddhas and Ancestors.

Truly! I implore you!

Founder's Service May 16, 2015

--Wako Egyoku Angyo

Notes:

"month of azaleas" - common Japanese expression for month of May

"left to teach in another sphere" - common expression upon death of a teacher

"sweet cantaloupe" - Maezumi Roshi's favorite melon.

"Solitary Cloud" - Maezumi Roshi's Dharma Name "Ko (solitary) Un (cloud)"

"... lightening.. transformed" - refers to the Great Death/Rebirth of spiritual transformation

"Life after Life....implore you" - lines from Maezumi Roshi's Inka poem for Bernie Glassman.