

## *'No flowers, please!'*

**A** few weeks ago, my parents wrote to tell me about an old Christian man, Monsieur Ponsin, from their church in Dunkerque, France. He had been ill for a long time. He called my parents over to his house (a few minutes' drive from my parent's place).

He was very weak and could hardly talk. At the very end of the conversation, he asked my Mum and Dad how I was doing and the work among the street children in Cambodia.

A few days later my parents got a phone call to say the old man had just gone to be with the Lord.

They went over to the house and met his wife. She mentioned that her husband died peacefully but before he died he asked that when he goes to Heaven he does not want any flowers and no plaques at the funeral. Instead people were encouraged to give a gift and that all the money should go to Tim's ministry to needy children in Cambodia.

From all the gifts I get for the work here, this one will probably be the most valuable I have ever yet received!

When I phoned Madame Ponsin recently to tell her how touched I was with her husband's kindness, she mentioned that some time ago she and her late husband had decided without consulting each other that when they go, they both want people at the funeral service to give a gift towards God's work among the children in Cambodia. Both of them had separately made the same decision!

At the end of our conversation she told me that her birthday was on July 12. Guess what? This is the same day I am planning to be over in Dunkerque to see my parents! Just in time to walk over to Mme Ponsin's house and cheer her as she blows her birthday cake candles!

Timothee

*Enclosed is Mr. PONSIN's funeral announcement published in the local newspaper.*