

Kevin Wu Tang: Friend to All!

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“It’s always good to have friends!” This is the bright open perspective Kevin Wu Tang carries throughout his life on the basketball court, serving up delicious delights at Starbucks and traveling the world. Born in San Francisco in 1989, Kevin moved to Shanghai, China shortly thereafter to live with his grandparents until the age of thirteen. Raised with strong ethics and morals, Kevin returned to the United States a dual citizen with a deep rooted sense of honesty and contagious willingness to connect with others.

After moving to Oxnard, California, then Nevada, Kevin and his mother eventually settled in Village Park, a suburb of Encinitas. Kevin remembers the bulk of his childhood spent outside playing with friends around the neighborhood and on the basketball courts. “I connect with a lot of people here!” Kevin projects. “The people of North County are very nice and very respectful. I am able to goof around! They are goofy, I am goofy, they are willing to listen!” A graduate of La Costa Canyon High School in 2008, Kevin went on to study at Palomar College, ultimately finishing with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from Cal State San Marcos. Fluent in English, Mandarin Chinese and Shanghainese, as well as a dual American/Chinese citizen, Kevin has a bold future ahead.

Kevin’s dual upbringing in both China and the United States allows him a very unique perspective. Upon his return travels to China, he talks with friends who thank him for his shared knowledge and tell him, “I never knew of the freedom you have in America, the freedom of speech. That is really big!” When he returns to Encinitas, Kevin brings with him the life lesson he learned from his grandparents in Shanghai, “I am another human being here trying to improve the community. I try to spread positivity through laughter!” This dynamic is achieved multiple times daily in Kevin’s wonderful interactions with his adoring Starbucks’ guests.

Kevin thoroughly enjoys his work at the Leucadia/15 Starbucks. It is there that he has learned, “To be more responsible, be more positive and to control my emotions more.” Kevin believes, “From the minute you are born you are shaping yourself. When something goes wrong you have to think about both sides. You have to think about why certain things make you mad and question if it is even worth it to be mad.”

Intriguing and intelligent, filled with knowledge and humor, Kevin loves his life stating, “People like to talk to me because I am really open. I like to talk to other people to learn and to make friends!” This is a cyclically rewarding experience for all persons involved. Kevin’s want to learn and connect with others and his openness to communicate propels the community forward. “If people are closed minded they won’t budge,” Kevin says. He feels that the remedy to this is knowledge. When people have knowledge and information, they are more apt to see different sides of a situation or scenario, allowing for growth and more understanding all around.

Motivated to complete his Master’s degree in business marketing, Kevin also has trips in mind to Japan, Korea and China. Constantly seeking new experiences and fresh conversations, Kevin savors his connections with North County San Diego and the inhabitants here, most especially, “I like talking with the elders, they bring in a different kind of viewpoint. When they tell stories, I like to listen to them, it is so interesting to learn!”

As Kevin continues to move forward in his life, carrying with him multiple languages, dual citizenship and a zest to learn and connect, he keeps authentic to his ideal that, "You already lived yesterday and you don't know what is going to happen tomorrow. Live today, be happy, do what you want to do!" North County is most certainly a more connected and vibrant community with Kevin Wu Tang here!