

Friday August 16, 2013

Family and friends bid Maepara farewell

He was described as a person who was kind hearted and one who always had time to help others.

Collin Maepara, 29, a student at Fiji National University's College of Engineering, Science and Technology, was a role model not only for fellow students from the Solomons, but for those from Fiji.

The victim of an alleged attack by a nightclub bouncer in Suva last week, Mr Maepara was farewelled at Fiji National University's Derrick Campus last week, in a moving ceremony attended by around 130 students and members of the academia.

Head of School for Building and Civil Engineering, Nimilote Ratudina said the late Mr Maepara was a student who was always determined to strive for excellence.

"He was a very hard working and dedicated student. I remember him joining us in 2007 and since then, he had completed a series of diploma courses and was working towards enrolling for the Bachelor of Civil Engineering," said Mr Ratudina.

"He always had a smile on him and was a jovial person. We will all surely miss him."

Present at the two-hour ceremony were Mr Maepara's widow, Mere, and their two daughter's Esther and Harieta.

Delivering the eulogy, Mere Maepara's father, Josateki Ledua, said they had lost a son and a loving father.

"He was a very humble person and always ready to help others. We are so shocked with this tragic incident," said Mr Ledua.

"Goodbye my son. We shall miss you."

FNU Registrar Jone Davukula said Fiji and Solomon Islands had a special bond.

Mr Dakuvula said the late Mr Maepara was a symbol of a dedicated student who not only showed commitment towards excelling in education but was also someone who had a generous heart.

Mr Maepara's funeral will be held in the Solomons.

For more information please contact Communications Office on 3393110.