

**Grand Gesture Honors a Cherished and Benevolent Friend
A memorial Stupa honors Zeke O'Connor, Founder,
The Sir Edmund Hillary Foundation**



A memorial Stupa honoring Zeke was recently constructed and located behind the Kunde Hospital, in the Zeke O'Connor Beyul Healing Garden. (Photo above – Stupa and plaque, post-ceremony December 2021)

The blessing ritual of the Stupa and subsequent tree planting ceremony, were held on the morning of November 21, 2021. The event was officiated by the young Abbot of Thami monastery, Ngawang Tinley Palbar Rinpoche and his spiritual instructor, Loben Ngawang Tenkya. The young Abbot is believed to be the reincarnation (Rinpoche) of the previous Abbot of Thami Monastery. He is regarded as the spiritual leader of Khumbu region following the death of the Abbot of Thyangboche monastery in October 2020. The older monk in attendance is the head of Thami monastery and the personal teacher of the young boy. Attendance included many wearing traditional dress, along with Zeke's longtime Sherpa friends.

Photos below depicting the November 21st, 2021 blessing ceremony of a Memorial Stupa honoring Zeke O'Connor and his more than 45-year legacy in the Khumbu region located at the base of Mount Everest, Nepal.



