

永遠懷念
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

王曾自當
WONG TSANG CHE TONG
1922 – 2016

Dearly beloved wife
of the late WONG HAU YUEN

已故王校源先生之愛妻

各位親朋戚友：

衷心感謝大家到來，與我們一同緬懷我們摯愛母親的一生。

八十餘年來，家母一直將整個家庭緊密凝聚。她深愛家中每一個人，而所有家人亦深愛她。

家母來自一個書香門第嫁入王家，並且秉持個人信念。雖然家母堅信要維護傳統，但對她認為道德上正確之事，她自必為之。

家母年輕時，主要在她家鄉廣東東莞石排的祠堂裡接受教育。她在村祠堂習得一手好字，對我們而言堪作榜樣。當年家母全家遷至香港之後，她父母並不十分重視她的教育。她父親入讀香港聖保羅書院，並閱讀南華早報。雖然他接受西方教育，但他經常從學校將家母帶走陪他看粵劇。家母因此培養出對粵劇一生的熱愛。

家母和家父那一代的傳統，婚姻都是媒妁之言後再戀愛之結果，兩老的婚姻亦復如是。兩人第一次相遇是一次預先安排的午膳，當時他們分開坐於兩桌，全程沒有正式交流，兩人只能向對方匆匆一瞥。家母回憶，當年她看到家父之食量，為之吃驚（驚人食量顯然已遺傳下來）。家母還提到兩人談戀愛時，家父曾自豪地帶著家母出門游泳，只是到游泳場後家母才發現原來家父根本不諳水性！儘管有如此種種小問題，家母在她十多歲時嫁給家父，然後才會有我們今天聚首於此。

當家母嫁入王家，她的嫁妝不僅包括她父母贈與之精美禮品，亦依習俗帶同一個「妹仔」－一個年輕的陪嫁丫鬟。此年輕丫鬟的角色是協助家母在她的新家庭服侍長輩。儘管家母為人重視傳統，但她仍覺得要將此年輕丫鬟由其貧

困的父母身邊帶走是不道德的。因此她決定給予此年輕丫鬟自由，並將她送回老家，而自己則親自肩擔服侍家人職責。家母從未後悔過此一決定，並為此自豪。

家母有幸，她的丈夫、我們的父親 - 「阿爺」一生對她忠誠。家母常常憶述，每當海外來訪的生意客戶要求父親帶他們光顧那些提供伴舞小姐的夜總會時，「阿爺」如何極力避免參與。如此絕對忠於自己妻子之丈夫，於半個世紀前男性主導之商業世界中並不常見。「阿爺」因此亦贏得了家母對他的完全奉獻。

家母身處的年代，女性的首要目標就是婚後盡快生下多個孩子。當年父母婚後未幾，時值第二次世界大戰之始，家母就生下了兩個兒子。為躲避日本人侵略，父母二人帶著兩個年幼孩子，徒步八十英里，從香港逃難到廣州。戰後不久，家中已有六子二女了。及後，她大部分時間均用於養育自己的子女之上。作為父親家中長子的妻子，家母還負起照顧其他有需要幫助的親戚的責任。往後的生活中，儘管家母非常喜愛含飴弄孫，但她仍建議我們這一代不要生太多孩子，並且不必過份催迫我們的孩子（第三代）追求學業。

戰爭結束後，父母決定讓我們時齡分別為十二及十一歲的長兄和二弟到英國上寄宿學校。一眾弟妹仍記得家母為此哭得死去活來，在開往英格蘭船上向她的兩位兒子告別。

在六十年代後期，我們八兄弟姊妹都赴英國留學。「阿爺」和家母都喜歡來英國探望我們，更一起由伯明翰驅車至倫敦的唐人街，吃上一碟燒鴨飯，聊慰思鄉之情。六個兒子最終成為不同專科之醫生，而兩個女兒亦在會計、法律以及房地產投資等領域發展事業。家中各人於學術及專業領域之努力及成就帶給家母生命中莫大的快樂。

家庭始終是她最珍視的，而她也一直維繫着我們這龐大家族之團結。每當我們和各自的配偶之間發生爭執，家母總是站在她兒女配偶的一邊，而非支持自己的孩子。這令她的一眾兒媳和女婿都感受到她真摯的愛和支持。

家母相信家人有安逸的家境，皆因「阿爺」為商殷實，取財有道。家母亦很有福氣，但卻願意發自內心地與身邊人分享。家母本人於股票市場活躍，亦可謂相當成功。於是我們家中的傭人亦表示希望以手上之小本與家母聯手馳騁股場。家母深明股市所涉之風險，亦乃念為僕者生活之艱苦，通常都來者不拒，但卻表明：「贏了你留著，虧了算我的」。

隨著所有孩子發展其個人事業，家母漸漸多了私人時間，前往股票行則成了每日例行公事。在股票行中，家母認識了許多志同道合的太太，更建立了長久的友誼。隨著歲月流逝，她在股市中漸趨保守，而她前往股票行大多是為了與太太們打麻將及聯誼。

往後，家母每天一大早都會於房子附近的公園散步。她的其中三個兒子和他們的家庭則直至今時今日仍然一同生活於此家族大宅之中。她的身體健康狀況一直十分良好，直到三年半前，她因嚴重中風才轉差。

在家母在世的最後一天，很多子女及孫兒亦到家中探望她及陪伴在側。家母在家於睡夢中安詳離世。

母親，我們愛你，並永遠懷念你

日東 日光 日燊 日橋 日祥 佩玲 婉玲 日榮
及家人

Dearest Friends and Relatives, thank you all for joining us to celebrate the life of our beloved Mother.

For more than eight decades, Mother was the great unifying force of our family. She loved everyone in the family and was in turn much loved by all of us. Mother joined the Wong Family from an impeccable upbringing and stood up for what she believed in. Although a strong believer in maintaining traditions, she would always do whatever she regarded as morally correct.

As a young girl, Mother was educated at the ancestral hall of her home village Shek Pai in Guangdong Province where she acquired her beautiful calligraphy, a shining example to us all. After the family moved to Hong Kong, Mother's parents did not give much priority to her education. Her father attended St. Paul's College and read the SCMP regularly. Notwithstanding his westernised education, he frequently dragged her out of school to accompany him to watch Chinese operas which became her lifelong passion and enjoyment.

As was customary at the time, the first formal encounter between Mother and Father was an arranged lunch when they were seated at separate tables. They had no formal contact but were able to look each other over. Mother recalled how horrified she was when she saw how much Father could eat (an ability that has been well passed on). Mother also recalled that during their early courtship he proudly took her swimming, only to discover that he could not swim! Despite these hiccups, she married Father in her late teens and here we are today.

When Mother married into the Wong family, in addition to the exquisite gifts from her parents, her dowry included a customary "*mui-tsaï*", a young indentured servant girl who would take on all the menial tasks expected of a new daughter-in-law in her new extended family. Despite the strong pull of tradition, Mother decided it was immoral to take this girl away from her poverty-stricken parents. She granted this young servant girl her freedom and sent her back to her parents, leaving Mother herself with the burden of getting all the chores done. Mother never doubted this decision and she would recount this to us with great pride.

Mother was blessed with a devoted husband, our father “AyeH”. She often relayed how AyeH conscientiously avoided attending hostess night clubs whenever his overseas customers requested such hospitality. Such absolute devotion to one's wife was not so common in the male-dominated business world over half a century ago. AyeH in turn earned absolute devotion from Mother.

In her days, giving birth to many children as quickly as possible was the prime goal for women. Mother gave birth to two sons soon after our parents married at the beginning of the Second World War. To escape the advancing Japanese invasion, Father and Mother trekked 80 miles from Hong Kong to Guangzhou with their two young sons. Not long after the War, the family was complete with six sons and two daughters and Mother's time was largely devoted to bringing up her children. As the wife of the eldest son of Father's family, Mother also took on the duty of helping relatives in need. Later in life, although she loved her grandchildren (3G) dearly, she advised us 2G not to overburden ourselves by having too many children and not to push our children too hard in their studies.

At the end of the War, our parents decided to send their two eldest boys at the tender age of 11 and 12 to boarding schools in England. The younger siblings still remember Mother crying her heart out saying goodbye to her two sons on the ship bound for England. By the late Sixties, all of us were studying in the UK. Mother and AyeH enjoyed visiting us, bravely driving down from Birmingham to the Chinatown in London to find comfort in a plate of roast duck rice. The six sons eventually became medical doctors in various specialties, and the girls pursued careers in accountancy, law and property investment. Her children's careers and endeavours gave Mother great pleasure in life.

Family is what Mother treasured most and she kept our mammoth family united. She taught 2G how to achieve harmony in a large family. Whenever a dispute arose between a 2G and their spouse, Mother would invariably support her in-law rather than her own children. Such strategy earned her incredible love and support from all her daughter in-laws and son in-laws.

Mother believed that the family enjoyed comfortable circumstances because Ayeh earned his living honestly and fairly. She herself was blessed with good fortune and she innately shared it with those around her. Seeing Mother's success in the stock market, our domestic servants expressed their wish to invest their minuscule stakes with her. Appreciating the risk to their hard earned savings, Mother would allow the servants to participate but on the terms: "win you keep, loss I take".

Once all her children had launched their respective careers, Mother had more time to herself. Her regular visits to the stockbroker's offices became a routine. It was there that she found many lasting friendships amongst *tai-tais* of similar interest. As years went by, her dealings in the stock market became more conservative, and her visits to the stockbroker's expanded into fraternity and mah-jong meetings with friends.

Later in life, Mother enjoyed daily early morning walks in the park close to her house. Three of her sons and their families live in the same family compound to this day. Her physical health continued to be good until she suffered a serious stroke three and a half years ago.

On her last day, Mother was visited by many of the 2G and 3G. She passed away peacefully at home in her sleep.

Mother, We Love You And Miss You

Jack Kwong Sun Buddy Charles Angelina Ellen David
and all members of the Wong family