

先慈 [] 女士，原名 [] 彩瓊，享年九十一歲，祖籍廣東省順德縣人，自幼生長在順德羊額的桑魚之鄉，兄弟姊妹十人居長，幼年在父母的教導下勤習家務和養蠶繅絲，十三歲時藉姨母過訪，追隨往上海學習紡織以求一技之長，並且意願過終生“梳喜”的獨身生活。1937年日寇侵華，勢捲上海，南京告急，母親不得已與七姨乘輪船逃難經汕頭回到南方的香港。香港淪陷旦夕危急，她攜著幾件散衣和若干木魚書避難到澳門。在戰亂中，她因為父母弟妹在鄉間活命維艱，終於放棄了獨身的意向，嫁了粵澳營商的父親，在這段稍豐裕的日子裡，母親以扶渡生存在鄉間的弟妹到澳門為己任，與先父先後把三個弟弟、一妹妹和一個堂弟帶到澳門安置他們的新生活。大戰和平前後母親誕下姊姊和我。隨著大陸的解放，父親在廣州的絲綢、果菜欄和旅館生意漸化為烏有；過了幾年，家裡在澳門的生意也滑走下坡。在戰爭期間常以米糧接濟親友的父親在時旋勢易的環境下到香港投靠兄長，母親也開始她刻苦的工廠生涯以扶育我們。一直到我基本的學業完成申請老人家移居為止，母親才有持續二十六載比較安逸的晚年生活。不過母親一生安貧樂命，雖貧無怨，從不聽見她對別人提起過往艱難的歲月。

在村莊生活成長的母親，少時未逢學堂的滋潤，一生僅靠自學，好問強記，認字讀寫來自珍藏的幾本唱曲的木魚書，儘管如此，她一直好學不倦；記得她在修習移民英語時，她不斷聽錄音帶、勤于練習對話和向孫兒求教的認真態度，實使我們欽佩和驚訝。

在家庭中，母親謙讓有序，對祖母輩恭敬溫和，對兒女輩關顧有加，常以婚後從未與父親爭吵的榜樣輔導我夫婦兩人相處之道。她也有濃厚的人情味，在動盪刻苦的日子裡仍照常帶領我們探親訪友，保持聯繫。在處事方面，先父曾告訴我母親的聰敏、應變、膽色和善待人的長處。

母親待人接物，和藹友善，談吐親切體貼，與子孫、朋友相處往往先為別人設想，即使在病榻中也是一樣，真摯而無私；對朋友有不如意受到挫折的，更富有同情心和鼓勵的說話，為此無論是故舊朋友，甚至是從子女輩認識的忘年之交，都感到她有非常容易接近的親和力量，結交朋友自然沒有年齡的界限，這一切值得我們兒孫學習的良多。回顧自小與她單獨一起，或渡輪、或散步、或閑談，對做人的立品修養、寬厚忍耐、言行舉止、努力向上，無一不婉言善導，作為兒孫的，追想有生以來，能夠福享得到一個慈祥和心胸廣闊長者的關顧，確是莫大的恩賜。

而今新枝既起，舊本為枯，唯一感到一生稍能盡一點微薄孝意的，僅僅是近年能夠在每日工作後可以和她樂聚片刻，話題天地。今天，畢竟失恃傷懷，慈顏終是遠去。。。。。

心乎愛矣，遐不謂矣，中心藏之，無日忘之！

My dear mother S F [] , originally named Choi King [] , was born in a small village in the Shun Tak county of Guangdong, China. As the eldest of ten children, she spent much of her early years helping with the house hold duties and learning silk filature, a process of drawing and reeling raw silk from cocoons. At the age of thirteen, she decided to follow her Aunt to Shanghai to work in a textile factory. Her life in Shanghai was disrupted in 1937 with the Japanese invasion of China. Over the next few years, she was forced to repeatedly flee the war, moving south to Hong Kong and finally to Macau. It was in Macau that she married, Chiu Sze [] . After the war, the family business suffered greatly due to the establishment of new regime in China and the family relocated to Hong Kong. To make ends meet, she balanced working in a factory with raising her daughter and son. Her hectic life would continue until her children became independent.

In 1984, she immigrated to Canada to join her son, Al, and his family in Regina. She also accompanied them when the family moved to Vancouver in 1986. Mother took readily to the city and spent many years living near Chinatown in Central Vancouver. In 2002, she returned to Regina where she lived out the remainder of her days.

In life, mother was challenged with many years of hard work and difficult financial times. In spite of this, she never complained or expressed regrets about opportunities she missed. Instead, she was able to accomplish many things on her own. Growing up in a small village, she never had the opportunity to go to school yet she taught herself to read and write in Chinese. Once in Canada, she also educated herself in rudimentary English, simply by learning from others.

Family meant everything to her. Growing up, she cared for her younger siblings. As an adult, she managed to bring three of her brothers, a sister and a cousin from China to Hong Kong for a better life. As a mother, she had raised two children on her own. As a grandmother, she was an active part of all four of her grandchildren's lives.

Those who knew her will remember her for her genuine character, vibrant personality and compassion for others. This allowed her to develop strong friendships and close family bonds. She passed away surrounded by many of her friends and family who loved her. As one friend summarized, mother was 'a friend without age borders . . . She touched a lot of souls.'