

A Celebration of the life of a dear friend Sylvia

In a spirit of deep humility, I am honoured to be a part of this public celebration of the life of a dear friend, Sylvia. In spite of the tragic loss of a Wife and soul mate...a Mother... and a Grandmother to precious, wee Hanne.

Perhaps Shakespeare says it best in one of his less familiar poems, "Who is Sylvia?" The poet concedes there are many admirable attributes all of us aspire to, but in the end, it is the spirit of human kindness towards one another that really matters. This quality was at the centre of Sylvia's personality. My life has been immensely enriched by her sunny optimism. Sylvia possessed great personal beauty and a remarkable joy for living that animated her private and professional life. A gifted musician...vocalist...choral conductor and pianist..., Sylvia felt a deep responsibility to her God-given talent. There was remarkable spiritual quality that characterized her engaging choral conducting.

My good fortune was to meet Sylvia in the 1980s when she asked me to teach Alberta... a gesture of generosity and trust on her part. My family wants... Al, Clarence, Alberta Axel and Baby Hanne and Al's mother Suet Fong Chow to know they are in our thoughts and prayers.

We, as a community of faith share the quiet assurance Sylvia is, indeed, in God's safekeeping.

Jean H.