

Ju Li (李 麗)

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the passing of Ju Li (李 麗, Lǐ Jú) lovingly known as “popo”, “mama” and “ma”. Ju Li, age 86, passed away on Friday March 18, 2022, at Victoria General Hospital, after post-surgery complications, with her daughter, grandson, and granddaughter by her side.

She was born April 14, 1935, in Xiaolan, Zhongshan, Guangdong, China, the eldest daughter of the late Wu Man Ha (吳 曼 哈) and the youngest daughter of the late Le Boc Mun (李 伯 文).

At the age of 16, she was enlisted into the Chinese Navy. Soon thereafter, she was selected for her natural athleticism to join the first batch of swimmers to represent the “new” China (The Republic of China). She represented China in international youth swimming competitions against Europe for five years, regularly placing in the top 3, in the breaststroke.

At a young age, she was known by her friends and family for her loving nature, her playfulness, and genuine smile.

After retiring as a swimmer, Ju Li became a Swim Coach in Guangzhou for approximately thirty years before immigrating to Canada in 1989 where she helped raise her grandchildren while building and living a peaceful new life.

With her welcoming and friendly personality, it was no surprise that she easily made new friends in her new home in Victoria.

Ju Li had many interests and hobbies: she was a skilled and self-taught artist. In fact, she taught herself how to design and sew clothing at a young age, making all of her own clothes! She was known for sewing her own clothing, her children and grandchildren’s clothing without asking for anything in return. They were often credited by others as

beautiful.

She also designed and made handbags, different pieces of art, did embroidery, and did her own repairs around the home – despite the difficulty. In her early years in Victoria, she also renovated her own houses.

Ju Li was a self-taught painter and taught herself the art of traditional Chinese painting. She combined Chinese and Western techniques and her artwork was loved and praised by others. She continued to paint up until her later years, inspiring her grandchildren with her many talents and creativity.

She enjoyed arts and crafts up until her last day. In her last few years, even with hand tremors, she lovingly created miniature dioramas and dollhouses with the desire to donate them. These were praised by friends and family for all her exquisite detail. In her free time, she loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, gardening, listening to music, walking around malls, going to beaches, and treating everybody she met to food.

Ju Li was born generous and beautiful. She had the most helpful personality and she always had a smile on her face. Even on her last day on earth, in the hospital, the nurses praised how beautiful she was, and how amazing her smile was.

She was known for her joyful heart, and lighthearted nature. She loved Shirley Temple, puppies, and traveling around the world. She had friends around the globe and kept in touch with many of them until her passing. She was resilient, strong, determined and fiercely independent. She had an extremely sharp mind up until her passing, kept up-to-date with all current events, and had the best penmanship, up until her last day, where she communicated with us by writing Chinese characters in the hospital.

She took care of all her mother, siblings, husbands, children, grandchildren, and family members. You couldn't have a single

conversation with grandma without her saying “let me treat you to a meal.” She was the supportive pillar and rock in our family. She would always listen intently to your problems and give you a logical yet loving solution.

Ju Li is survived by: son, Charles Cai (蔡昌); daughter Margaret Kan Ko (柯甘); grandson Edward Ko (柯國強); granddaughters Alice Ko (柯麗兒); Helen Ko (柯佩儀); Loren Cai (蔡麗蓮); Arleen Cai (蔡麗英); brothers Li Long (李龍), Wong Ga Cai (黃家才), and Wong Ga Wong (黃家榮), son-in-law, Donald Ko (柯國強); step-daughters Mandy Luo (羅曼迪) and Anna Luo (羅安娜), and step-son-in-law Gordon O’Young (歐陽國強).

She leaves many other family members and friends across Canada, Seattle, San Francisco, California, Hawaii, China, Hong Kong, and Indonesia who will sadly miss her.

Ju Li was preceded in death by her first husband of thirteen years, Cai Ga Cheung (蔡家興), second husband of forty plus years, John Luo (羅國強); daughter-in-law, Kitty Cai (蔡佩儀), and five brothers and sisters.

Ju Li has blessed all of us by leaving deep and beautiful memories that we will never forget. She will live on forever in our lives and hearts. We will all miss her every single day.

A Funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, in the Sequoia Centre at McCall Gardens Funeral Home, 4665 Falaise Drive, Victoria, BC with her grandchildren and daughter officiating.

☐ ☐

蔡麗英1935年4月14日出生於廣東省潮陽縣，於2022年3月18日19:35分在溫哥華逝世，享年86歲。

蔡麗英生前熱心公益，曾任多個社區委員會委員，並擔任多個慈善機構義工，為社會做出不少貢獻。

蔡麗英生前最喜愛的活動是旅遊和烹飪，她曾帶同家人遊遍世界各地，並經常為家人烹飪美食。

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Condolences may be offered to the family below.

McCall Gardens

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