



Annie Seid Chu

May 5, 2024

Annie Seid Chu, 97, passed away at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, TN, on May 5, 2024, after a short illness. She departed peacefully with loved ones by her side.

Annie was born in 1926 in Portland, Oregon, to Lim Choy Lum Seid and Fook Lee Seid, the third of five siblings. Her parents moved the family back to China when Annie was 5, where her father died soon afterwards. When she was 12, the Japanese began bombing China at the beginning of World War II. For years, Annie and her family lived through Japanese raids on their village, hiding on the hill behind their village, and at times moving temporarily to Macau and Hong Kong. When she was 19, a family friend was able to arrange a meeting for Annie with the U.S. Consul in Canton, who secured her passage back to the United States on a U.S. warship. During the 18-day journey, she found that an acquaintance, Ruth Yue, was also on the ship, and the two became lifelong friends.

Annie's older brother Bing helped her navigate immigration and took her in to live with him. For the rest of her life, she would remember with deep gratitude and love how he took care of her and her sisters. Later, Annie moved to Seattle to attend a high school that taught English as a second language. In Seattle, Annie continued her education while working as an au pair. A year later she traveled to Madison, Arkansas, to help her older sister Lily, who was expecting her first child. It was there she met Don Quong Chu. He would later become her husband, but Annie wanted to finish high school before marriage.

She graduated from Forrest City High School, then married Don in 1951. Annie and Don owned a grocery store in Madison for many years, where they had four children and Annie tended a large Chinese vegetable and rose garden. They later moved to Forrest City, Arkansas, where Don repaired clocks and watches at Standard Jewelers. They supported all four children through college, though neither of them had formal education beyond high school. After their children were grown, they were able to travel extensively in the U.S. and to Europe, Australia, Asia, and the South Pacific. In 2008 they moved to Germantown, TN, to live with their daughter and son-in-law, Martha and Marvin Shapiro. She loved being near her sisters Lily and Jane and became a devoted member of First Chinese Baptist Church. After working hard her entire life, Annie enjoyed her final years, lovingly cared for by her daughter and son-in-law. She loved cooking and eating delicious meals, winning at mahjong, and watching her grandchildren grow and have four children of their own, with one more on the way.

Annie was preceded in death by her husband, her brother Bing Seid, and sisters June Seid, Jane Wong and Lily Chu. She is survived by her four children, Donna Chu (Mark Crawford), Martha Shapiro (Marvin), Thomas Chu, and Timothy Chu (Kim); eight grandchildren, Lane and Alison Crawford, Leigh and Drew Shapiro, Rachel and Michelle Chu, and Cameron and Chandler Chu; four great-grandchildren, Elliot and Evan Ferguson, and Jeanne and Grace Darby; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Chinese Baptist Church, 7555 Macon Rd, Cordova TN 38018.

A private graveside service will be held Saturday at the Forrest Park Cemetery in Forrest City. Stevens Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. You may log on to stevensfuneralhome.net for the online registry.

Cemetery Details

Forrest Park

Hwy 1 South
Forrest City, AR

Previous Events

Interment

MAY 11 (CT)

Forrest Park
Hwy 1 South
Forrest City, AR

Tribute Wall

JT

“ Prayers to all the family. I have fond memories of visiting the store and the welcome mat was always out.

Janet Toney - May 27, 2024 at 01:56 PM

TH

“ Condolences to the family of the Chu family on the loss of your Mother. I had the privilege of attending school and graduating with Donna. I, also have many fond memories of visiting Standard Jewelers as my father, Dr. Bill Benton's dental office was located just around the corner from their store. Thinking of you all during this difficult time.

Tricia Benton Hesler - May 13, 2024 at 11:24 PM

LL

“ Tim, I am so sorry to hear this about your mom. She was such a lovely person.
Love and Prayers to you all. Lisa Munn Long (Classmate)

Lisa Long - May 09, 2024 at 02:57 PM

DS

“ She and Mr. Don were my neighbors when I lived in Washington Heights in the 80s. They were great neighbors. My Labrador retriever would go to their house when they were working in their yard, and they enjoyed her company. Reading her obituary makes me realize how blessed I have been. I thought I had seen hard times but what she lived through is unimaginable She and Mr. Chu were really nice people.

Darrow Linn sr - May 09, 2024 at 02:25 PM

CC

“ My deepest condolences to the Chu family. Mrs. Chu was a very very nice lady. She knew my family well, I would often visit Standard Jewelry with my dad. Once I finished high School, I joined the Marine Corps, She would send care packages to me while I was in service. Once I came home on leave, I made sure to go and visit Mr, and Mrs. Chu. May god guide you through this homegoing process.



Christopher Chatters, and family

Christopher Chatters - May 09, 2024 at 01:45 PM

DJ

“ David and Eileen Johnson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Annie Seid Chu.



David and Eileen Johnson - May 09, 2024 at 10:54 AM

DJ

“ David and Eileen Johnson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Annie Seid Chu.

David and Eileen Johnson - May 09, 2024 at 10:54 AM

LG

“ My thoughts and prayers to family. Many fond memories of Mr. and Mrs. Chu. Trips to the jewelry store was always a treat. School days at Madison Elementary were so more special than we knew at the time.

Lynn Rice Grommet

Lynn Grommet - May 09, 2024 at 08:00 AM

RT

“ Such a sweet lady. Remember her at store in Madidon. Then visited family in FC. She will be missed. I only ate her chinese cooking.condolences, Donna, Martha, Thomas, And Tim.

Regina Gay Hill Turner - May 08, 2024 at 08:04 PM

MG

“ We, my husband and I used to never come back to Forrest City without visiting the Chus and Standard Jewelery Store. They were lovely people. Condolences and love to their family.

Marguerite Gilmer - May 08, 2024 at 04:57 PM