Celebrating the life of

周黃笑宜

Ruth Shiu-Yee Chou

JULY 7, 1946 - JULY 3, 2023

Boulder Chinese Evangelical Free Church

MONDAY • JULY 10, 2023 • 3 PM

Ruth Shiu-Yee Chou passed away July 3, 2023 in Longmont, CO. She was 76 years old.

Born on July 7, 1946 in Guangzhou, China to Wong Shu-Yan and Poon Wai-Hing, she was their fourth of seven children.

As a toddler, Ruth contracted rheumatic fever and was not expected to live. This affected her heart valves and led to lifelong health challenges. She strengthened her body by swimming in Hong Kong's beaches and in her uncle's pool, and pushed her mind to achieve academic excellence. She graduated from the prestigious academy Pui Ching in 1963 and belonged to the fourth graduating class of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Social Work in 1967. She came to faith in Jesus Christ in high school and sensed a calling on her life for ministry and family.

Ruth married Henry Tat-Hang Chou on June 15, 1968 in Columbia, SC while they were both in graduate studies at Columbia Bible College and Seminary after being college sweethearts in Hong Kong. Together they lived in Hong Kong; Toronto, Ontario; Calgary, Alberta; and Boulder, Colorado while raising four children.

Ruth was a beloved special education paraeducator in the Boulder Valley School District for over 20 years until her retirement in 2011. For decades, she served tirelessly and faithfully as a pastor's wife and ministry partner at Calgary Chinese Evangelical Free Church and Boulder Chinese Evangelical Free Church, in pastoral and marriage counseling, fellowship and hospitality, and especially in children's ministry, both teaching and training others to teach children.

She enjoyed her grandchildren, keeping in touch with family and friends, arts and crafts (origami, sewing/knitting), listening to audiobooks, reading her Bible, and writing personal notes of encouragement.

Ruth is survived by her husband Henry; her daughters Faith Yeung (Calvin) and Grace Chou (Jerome Hoberman); her sons Gabriel Chou (Chris) and Caleb Chou; her grandchildren Nathan Yeung, Melody Yeung, Deborah Chou, Lydia Chou, Renee Yeung, Isaac Chou, Elaina Chou, Maia Snider (David), Gabriela Hoberman (Jason Avigan); her great-grandchild Noam Snider; her brother Enoch Wong (Becky); her sister Faith Wong (John Thornberg); her sister-in-law Helen Deaver; and her nephews Thomas Tam and Solomon Wong.

In lieu of flowers, condolences and memorial gifts may be sent to Providential Missions Stewardship Foundation (2026 Alpine St. Longmont, CO 80504), established by Pastor Henry and Ruth to support missions endeavors sharing their values.

Cremation entrusted to Ahlberg Funeral Chapel and Crematory. Private burial at Foothills Gardens of Memory.

Welcome and Obituary

Jerry Hoberman, *son-in-law*

Eulogy Poem

Written in Chinese by Ruth Chou

Recorded by Enoch Wong, *brother*

"Precious Lord" - Special Music

Violin: Renee Yeung, *granddaughter*

Piano: Grace Chou, *daughter*

Family Memories

Gabe Chou, *son*

Nathan Yeung, Melody Yeung, Debbie Chou, Lydia Chou, Renee Yeung, Isaac Chou, Lainey Chou, *grandchildren*

Faith Yeung, *daughter*

Faith Wong, *sister (read by* Chris Chou*, daughter-in-law)*

"Have Thine Own Way"

Congregational Hymn

Message

Caleb Chou, *son*

"Tis' So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

Congregational Hymn

Benediction

Calvin Yeung, *son-in-law*

歡迎和訃告

婿 何博文

悼詩

黃笑宜 詞

弟 黃耀銓 錄音

特別獻詩“親愛主，牽我手”

小提琴： 孫 楊時菁

鋼琴：次女 周愛靈

家屬分享回憶

長子 周基寶

孫 楊駿誠，楊時美，周德佩，周德勵，楊時菁，
周德建，周德貞

長女 周愛生

胞妹 黃徽宜（媳 鍾念慈誦讀）

“憑祢意行”

會众齊唱

信息

次子 周基立

“信靠耶穌真是甜美”

會众齊唱

祝禱

婿 楊震宇

周師母（周黃笑宜女士）於二0二三年七月三日在美國科羅拉多州長山市離世，享年七十六歲。她生於一九四六年七月七日，籍貫中國廣州，父親是黃樹人，母親是潘惠馨，在他們的七位子女中，周師母排行第四。

幼時，周師母患上了風濕熱，當時醫生並不看好她能存活。風濕熱損傷了她的心臟瓣膜，帶來了終生在健康上的挑戰。為了增強體魄，她在香港的海灘和叔叔的游泳池游泳鍛鍊，同時她立志追求學業上的卓越。她於一九六三年從香港歷史悠久的培正中學畢業；後於一九六七年，從香港中文大學獲得社會學和社會工作專業的學士，是該大學的第四屆畢業生。在高中時，她決志信主，並感受到了她畢生在事奉和家庭上的呼召。

在香港中文大學求學期間，周師母與周達恒牧師相識相戀，畢業後次年六月十五日，他倆在南卡羅來納州哥倫比亞市結為夫妻。當時兩人都在哥倫比亞聖經學院和神學院研讀研究生課程。夫妻倆曾居住在香港、安大略省的多倫多、艾伯塔卡爾省的卡爾加里， 以及科羅拉多州的波德，先後一同養育了四名子女。

周師母在波德山谷學區（Boulder Valley School District）任特殊教育助理逾二十年，一直是一位受人愛戴的工作者，直至二0一一年退休。此外，數十年來，她先後在卡城華人播道會（Calgary Chinese Evangelical Free Church）和報德華人播道會（Boulder Chinese Evangelical Free Church）服事，身爲教會的師母和同工，她孜孜不倦地忠心服事神，她参與的事工涵蓋了教牧輔導、婚姻輔導、團契和款待；她尤其重視兒童事工，既教導兒童，又培訓同工。

她喜愛與孫兒們相處、和家人及朋友聯繫、藝術和手工藝（摺紙、縫紉/織毛衣）、聆聽有聲書、閱讀聖經，和寫下鼓勵個人的話。

周師母身後留下了丈夫周牧師；長女愛生（夫楊震宇）和次女愛靈（夫何博文），長子基寶（妻鍾念慈）和次子基立；孫楊駿誠，楊時美，周德佩，周德勵，楊時菁，周德建，周德貞，Maia Snider （夫David），Gabriela Hoberman （夫Jason Avigan）；以及曾孫Noam Snider；她的胞弟黃耀銓（妻黃惠芬）；胞妹黃徽宜（夫John Thornberg）；夫胞妹周慧中；以及甥譚善康和侄黃頌文。

謝絕致贈鮮花，可以將慰問和紀念禮代替鮮花，寄至周牧師與周師母共同創立的Providential Missions Stewardship Foundation (2026 Alpine St. Longmont, CO 80504），以支持與他們價值觀相符的宣教工作。火葬工作委託Ahlberg Funeral Chapel and Crematory辦理。私人葬禮在Foothills Gardens of Memory舉行。

七月七日念盧溝,　干戈暫息百廢興,

頑疾纏繞幼兒身,　求醫無門葯不治 ,

待斃家中竟自愈,　蒙昧不識是神恩 。

智慧真理何處覓,　捕風捉影添煩愁 ,

仰望耶穌救贖恩,　認罪悔改歸真神 ,

修剪試煉憑父旨,　背架隨主踏征途 。

夫婦同蒙神感召,　養兒育女牧羊群 ,

七十春秋不虛渡,　五十寒暑志同心 ,

地上帳棚雖漸敗,　死蔭幽谷靠主行 。

殘軀被困莫歎息,　祈盼得贖享自由 ,

聖言甘美為靈食,　善終院內暫安營 ,

時窮路盡天家往,　儆醒預備候主臨 。

- 黃笑宜