



Benjamin Ping Cheng Wang

JUN 7, 2024



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Benjamin Ping Cheng Wang

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Benjamin Wang passed away at his home in San Francisco on June 7th, 2024. It was his birthday. He was 96.

Ben (王秉成) was born in 1928 to Wang Bu Dan 王步丹 and Lu Zhi Zhen 陸志珍 in Chi-Lin village 麒麟鄉, Haiman, Kiangsu Province, 江蘇省海門縣 Republic of China. He hailed from a small landowning farming family, the 3rd of 6 children. His father was a farmer, shopkeeper, and local magistrate.

His formative years were colored by the Japanese invasion into China. He attended 5 different schools, each progressively more distant from home; finally graduating from high school shortly after the Japanese surrender in 1945. After army training in 1946, he worked as a Radio Tactical Officer in the Chinese Air Force. In 1947, civil war broke out with the communist uprising. Already crippled by nearly two decades of war, the Nationalist forces succumbed to the communist advances and in 1949, the embattled regime retreated to Taiwan. Their plan was to return to the mainland in a few years after recuperating military strength; reclaim the homeland and restore the Nationalist government. History did not bear that out. Ben left with the Air Force units, leaving behind his family. It would be 40 years before he finally returned to his ancestral village in 1989. He never saw his parents again.

After the unrest of his early years in war-torn China, Ben lived a charmed life. In 1963, he married Lilian Chiang 姜玲玲 in Taiwan. His career as diplomat for the Republic of China (ROC) brought him around the world, from the United Nations in New York, to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of China to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, and to the Embassy of the Republic of China to the Imperial Court of Iran, in Tehran. He and his wife, Lilian raised 3 daughters, each born on different continents; Joy in Asia (Taipei), Sophia in Europe (Vienna), and Alice in North America (San Mateo).



Obituary

Benjamin Ping Cheng Wang

In 1971, the United Nations adopted Resolution 2758, which officially recognized mainland China's communist regime as the legitimate representative of China to the UN. With all ROC representation expelled from the UN, Ben began to transition from diplomatic life in Vienna, Austria. He immigrated to the United States in 1975 and became a naturalized US citizen in 1981; nearly 20 years after he first set foot in America in 1962, as a delegate of the Republic of China to the 17th General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. Here, in this great land of opportunity, he studied to become a computer programmer and worked in that capacity for the City of San Francisco until his retirement in 1998.

A lifelong student, Ben excelled academically, earning several degrees at universities around the world. From the School of Diplomacy at National Cheng Chi University 國立政治大學 in Taiwan, he earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees (LL.B 1960 and M.A. 1963). His masters thesis, "International Control of Narcotics" was subsequently published and distributed worldwide. He later added Law and Political Science (Rechts und Staatswissenschaftlichen) from the University of Vienna and American Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. He spoke Chinese, English, French and German.

After his retirement in 1998, Ben and Lilian traveled extensively – visiting over 50 countries. Despite circling the globe, he insisted he was a homebody, preferring San Francisco to any place on the planet, except perhaps Vienna. Ben was never without his Chinese newspapers, practiced Tai Chi, and kept in touch with friends and family via email.

He lived his life based on Confucian principles -Discipline, Honesty, Patience, Routine

Benjamin Wang
An Ordinary fellow
An Extraordinary life

Ben is survived by 2 granddaughters - Alexandra and Vivienne;
3 daughters- Joy, Sophia (Dennis Jang) and Alice (Maria Delao)
and his wife of 61 years, Lilian Chiang Wang



Obituary

Benjamin Ping Cheng Wang

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Benjamin's memory to the Alzheimer's Association.

[https://act.alz.org/site/SPageServer?
pagename=digital_wallet_donations&df_id=32112&cybba=true](https://act.alz.org/site/SPageServer?pagename=digital_wallet_donations&df_id=32112&cybba=true)

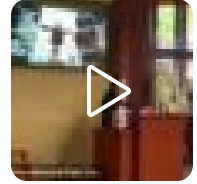


Tribute Wall

Benjamin Ping Cheng Wang



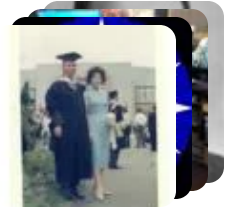
Alice Wang shared a video to the **Ben** album.



June 28 at 12:19 PM



Sophia shared 11 photos to the **Ben** album.



June 25 at 12:33 PM



Media

Benjamin Ping Cheng Wang



Alice Wang shared a video to the Ben album.

June 28 at 12:19 PM



Skylawn Funeral Home Memorial Park Cre...

Funeral Service June 27, 2024



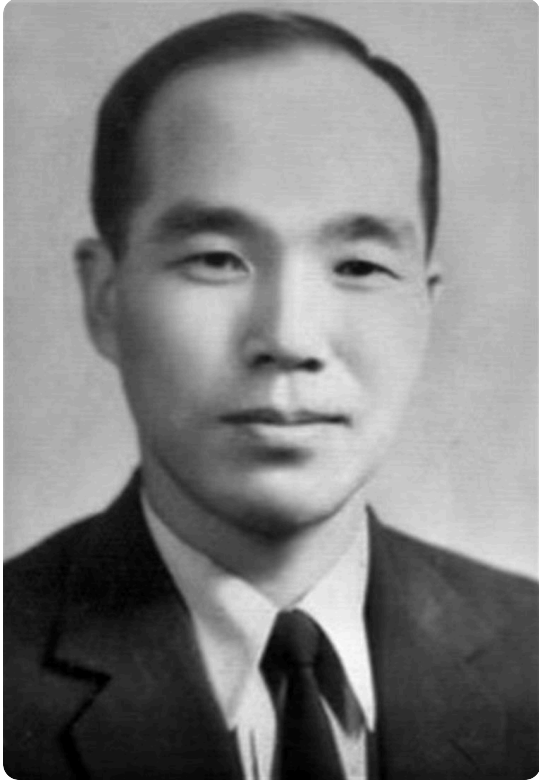
Media

Benjamin Ping Cheng Wang



Sophia shared 11 photos to the Ben album.

June 25 at 12:33 PM



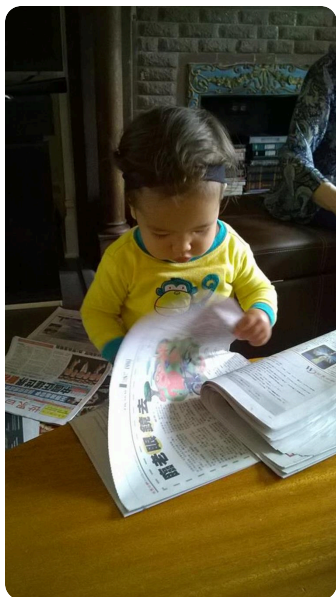
Dad's happy place



When we were young



Presenting Credentials to the Shah



Vivi with GonGon's newspapers



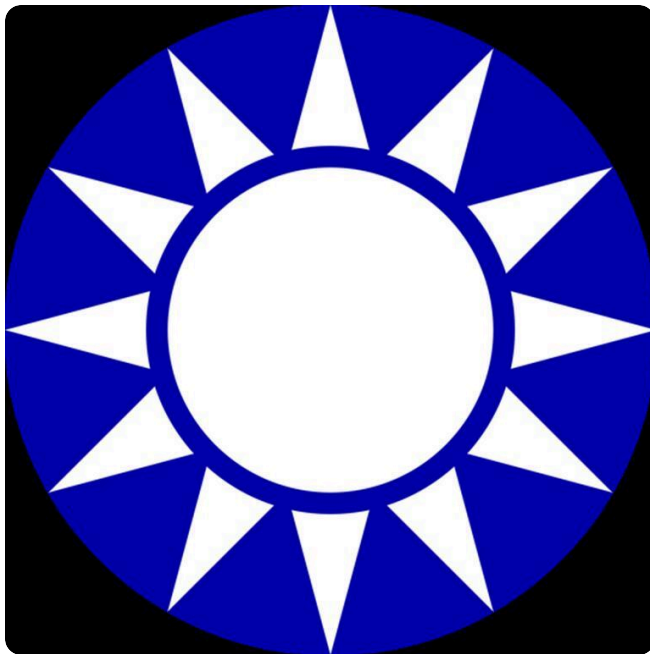
United Nations



SO



Happy Birthday Daddy!



Kuo Ming Tang



with Mom



Mom and Dad



Allie and Vivi



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Benjamin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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FUNERAL HOME, MEMORIAL PARK & CREMATORY