

Ching Hsiu Kung Obt.

DENVER, COLORADO — Mr. Kung passed away Thursday, Sept. 5, 2019, at his home in Denver, Colorado, with his wife by his side.

He was born Oct. 4, 1940, in Shandong, China — the birth place of Chinese philosopher, Confucius — and was the 73rd descendent of Confucius.

Immigrating to the United States in 1981, he moved to Cookeville, Tennessee, two years later and opened the China Garden Restaurant on Spring Street (later moving to S. Jefferson Ave.)

He was a renowned calligraphy artist in Korea, where he lived in his early adult life before moving to the U.S. He later became a member of the Cookeville Art Studio (CAS) in the Cookeville Senior Citizen Center where he met many fellow artists and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Meei Lih Kung and his three children, Nancy Brown of Cookeville, Mark Kung of Denver, Colorado, and Terry Kung of Allen, Texas. In addition, he is survived by his six grandchildren, Xavier Brown, Mac Brown, Julia Kung, Lucas Kung, Caitlyn Kung and Clarisa Kung.

The devoted grandfather bears the artist's signature of Xiao Ren, meaning "a person in good humor," in his calligraphy and paintings.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the Cookeville Art Studio (CAS), 186 S. Walnut Ave. #A, Cookeville, TN 38501.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 22 September 2019

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