

Expression of Condolence for David Tsao by Toronto City Council

Moved by: Councillor Mike Colle

Seconded by: Councillor Jaye Robinson

The Members of Toronto City Council are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of David Tsao on May 26, 2023, at the age of 96.

Born of the Tsao clan of Jiaxing, Zhejiang province, David was born in Peking on July 7, 1927. He and his family returned to Shanghai where David spent his formative years. A proud graduate of St. John's University Shanghai, David would always call Shanghai home.

David lived through the hardships of the Japanese occupation of Shanghai. Following the communist revolution in 1949, he and his family fled to Taipei, Taiwan where they would rebuild their lives and help rebuild the country following the devastation of the Second World War. David would serve in the United States Army in the Korean War, and on his return to Taiwan he married Connie, started a family, and become an accomplished international businessman working in sales for Ford Motor Company and as a long-time employee of Caldbeck Macgegor & Co. He also enjoyed building and selling pleasure crafts and other boats around the world.

David was a master of words and languages, always ready with a quote from Shakespeare, Churchill, or John F. Kennedy. He was fluent in many languages including English, Mandarin, Cantonese, and Shanghainese and, when asked which Chinese dialect he spoke, he would answer, "all of them". He loved good food and exploring the world and throughout his life he always inspired others to be their best and be proud of who they were. A lover of the best that life and the world have to offer, David's final words of encouragement were to "enjoy life".

David is now reunited with his wife Constance, and his memory is cherished by his children Robert (Mabel), John (Judy), Joe (Colleen); his grandchildren Matthew, Jonathan, Sarah (Chris), Mark, Ian, Grace, Elliot; and his great-grandchildren Layla, Ava, Benjamin, Carter, and Emilia.

The City Clerk is requested to convey, on behalf of the Members of Toronto City Council, our sincere sympathy to David's family.

June 14, 2023