

## **Chinese American Citizens Alliance**

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1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/Fax (415)829-9332

National Lodge ESTABLISHED 1895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE: April 23, 2020** 

**CONTACT:** <u>info@cacanational.org</u>

### C.A.C.A. Mourns the Passing of Decorated WWII Veteran Jack Lin Chew

Roswell, New Mexico, April 23, 2020 — The Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) mourns the passing of Jack Lin Chew, a decorated WWII veteran who resided in Roswell, New Mexico. He was 99.

Born December 13, 1920 in China, Mr. Chew enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II, serving from July 2, 1942, and was honorably discharged on September 30, 1945. While in the service, Mr. Chew was an Airplane Armorer Tail Gunner and carried an Airplane Armorer Qualification Badge. He was a prisoner of war after the B-17 he crewed was shot down over Germany in 1943. Mr. Chew had an outstanding military career receiving many decorations and medals, including the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Air Medal, and European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon.

Mr. Chew settled in Roswell and became successful businessman, who owned and operated the former Chew Den Restaurant, Chew's West Restaurant, and Chew's Oriental Gifts. As a local civic leader and a community philanthropist, he was involved in efforts benefiting children from the Shriner Children's Hospital and he was an active member of the Lions Club, Eagles, and Elks.

In recognition of his military service, his entrepreneurial achievements, and his civic contributions, Mr. Chew was the first recipient of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Albuquerque Lodge's "Spirit of New Mexico" Award.

He survived by his wife Susie, whom he married on June 1, 1947, two children, four grandchildren, one great-grandchild and his brother King Chew and various nieces and nephews. A Graveside Service was held on April 22 at General Douglas L. McBride Veterans Cemetery, Roswell. At a later date, Mr. Chew will receive the Congressional Gold Medal for Chinese American World War II Veterans posthumously.

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1044 Stockton St. San Francisco, CA. Web: www.CACAnational.org

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The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Orange County (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Sacramento (CA), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.