

美洲同源總會 Chinese American Citizens Alliance

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

National Lodge ESTABLISHED 1895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE: December 29, 2019 CONTACT: <u>info@cacanational.org</u>

C.A.C.A. Mourns the Passing of National Executive Francis Camille Gong

San Francisco, December 29, 2019 — Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) National Lodge mourns the passing of National Executive Francis Camille Gong on Christmas Day, December 25, from complications related to a heart ailment. She was 69. Ms. Gong was involved in San Antonio Chapter of C.A.C.A., serving as lodge vice president. At the 55th National Convention held in Boston this past Summer she was elected as a National Executive in the current C.A.C.A. National Board under National President Melanie Chan.

Kin Hui, C.A.C.A. National vice president of Membership and currently president of C.A.C.A. San Antonio, said: "Camille loved her family very much. She touched many lives from every segment of the diverse San Antonio community. As a high school teacher in one of the poorest neighborhoods, Camille dedicated herself to enriching the lives of her students. In retirement, she was committed and fearless in protecting the civil rights of Chinese Americans. She tirelessly walked the halls of Congress and local legislative offices to advocate for legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Chinese American Veterans of World War II. While we mourn Camille's untimely passing for all the wonderful things that she has done for the community; we mourn mainly because we have lost a truly beautiful friend."

Ms. Gong was born in Duncan, Mississippi, and was a graduate of the Mississippi State College for Women (now Mississippi University for Women) with a degree in Music Education. She was a teacher with the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) from 1986 until her retirement and was so very proud of SAISD's mariachi program. In addition to C.A.C.A., Ms. Gong was involved with the San Antonio Red Hat Society and the San Antonio Retired Teachers Association.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, December 30, 2019, 2:00pm (CST), at Porter Loring Mortuary, 1101 McCullough Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78212.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association at www2.heart.org/site/SPageNavigator/donatenow_heart.html or the San Antonio Independent School District Foundation at www.saisdfoundation.com/donate/. Sign and leave a message in the guestbook: https://porterloring.tributes.com/obituary/show/Frances-Camille-Gong-107945981

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> 1044 Stockton St. San Francisco, CA. Web: <u>www.CACAnational.org</u> Chinese American Citizens Alliance

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), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), 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.