

Rose Mok



Rose was born into an educated family in Hong Kong in 1927. She began her education at The Diocesan Girl's School in Kowloon and first came to Canada in 1953, when she was accepted as a foreign student by the University of Toronto. She eventually started her Canadian university experience in Hamilton, Ontario at McMaster University alongside her husband Henry.

Rose and Henry's early life together, with a young family in tow, criss-crossed the country a number of times following Henry's career in the financial sector. After an additional stint relocating to Hong Kong in the early '60s, the family, then with three young children, returned to Canada to stay. They finally settled in Vancouver, where Rose volunteered with the Women's Auxiliary of The Chinese United Church in Chinatown.

In the late 1960s, Rose returned to university, obtained a B.A., and following in her father's profession, received a LL.B. from UBC. She articulated at Bull Housser and was called to the bar on June 26, 1974. She practised at Bull Housser for three years in real estate and wills. Her mentor at Bull Housser was the late William Bice, Q.C., who, in Rose's words, was "one of the kindest men I have ever met."

In 1977, Rose left Bull Housser to practise with Burns, Fitzpatrick Rogers & Schwartz or its predecessor firms, until her retirement in 2005 at age 78. Rose's practice centred on wills, estates and trusts. In her words: "I enjoyed listening to the life stories of my clients as to how they had accumulated their wealth. They liked being listened to and I guided them through the distribution of their life savings upon death."

Rose was one of the earliest Chinese-speaking female lawyers to graduate from the UBC Faculty of Law. She spoke several dialects and lectured at the Vancouver People's Law School. She practised law with the strictest of integrity. She was a mentor to many. Rose lived life with great determination and penned her memoir at the age of 87. She lived the mantra to "Never Put Off Till Tomorrow What You Can Do Today" and no challenge was too great.

She was buoyed by the kindness, generosity and encouragement of many friends and relations over her final years. Rose led an extraordinary life blessed by God's grace and the friendship and community of those who sur-

rounded her. She lived a life based on faith, love and charity. She touched the lives of many.

Rose Tsz-Yuk Mok, née Woo, died at Vancouver General Hospital on August 23, 2015, peacefully, with family at her side.

Rose was predeceased in 1999 by her husband, Henry Man-Lit Mok, and in 1994 by her son, Dr. David Y. Mok. Rose is survived by daughters Margaret Mok and Patricia Luk, son-in-law Dr. David Luk, granddaughters Caroline and Samantha Luk, brother Edward, sisters Nellie, Katie, Victoria and Gladys, and by many nephews, nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces.

Patricia Luk

