

Remembering the late Ray Chen

The island of Jamaica and the Chinese Jamaican community in Toronto have lost one of their most notable photographers… Raymond Anthony Chen (Ray Chen), known to many as “Uncle Ray”, passed away surrounded by family members on February 7, 2016.

Ray was a successful commercial photographer in Montreal. He conquered cancer in the 80’s - this sparked his passion to return to Jamaica to photograph its beauty of the land and the wonderful people. He published his first book on the island he loved so much… JAMAICA - The Land and The People (1984). Ray was happiest with camera in hand. He has been quoted as saying, “Photography...it’s in your blood and you can’t get it out.” During his odyssey, he always looked to capture the spirit of the moment. The timeless, enduring beauty of the people he met and the splendor of the iconic landmarks he visited live on through his photos. Ray’s keen and discerning photographic eye was able to capture enough of those moments to fill at least 3 books. Ray’s books overflowed with the warmth of the Jamaican Spirit. Ray is survived by his beloved wife, Linette (Lin). He is lovingly remembered by Roderick (son), Stephanie (daughter), Jerry (son-in-law) and his four grandchildren. He was predeceased by Wellington (brother). He will be deeply missed by Washington (brother), Roger (brother) and Lilly (sister) and by all other relatives, extended family and friends. Come celebrate his life. Visitation and a Funeral service will be held at the Elgin Mills Cemetery and Visitation Center: 1591 Elgin Mills Rd E, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1M9 The Visitation will be on Friday, February 19th between 4 - 8 pm. A Funeral Service will commence on Saturday, February 20th at 10:30 am. In lieu of flowers, please honor Ray by contributing to the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation in his name.