深深懷念 永恒友情 鮮花芬芳 美麗旋律 神祝福

Teresita Okihara, Asian Community Leader

passed away peacefully at Malachi House on January 28th following a courageous battle with cancer.Tess was born on July 15, 1940 in Manila, Philippines to Manuel and Magdalena Umali.She was the third child in a family of eight children.? She graduated from the Mapau Institute of Technology in Manila, Philippines with a Bachelor of Science in Textile Engineering.In 1965, she joined her parents in Saigon, Vietnam and worked as a payroll ac-

Teresita U. Okihara, 65, countant for Raymond Morrison Knudsen/Brown Root & James character that was greatly where she met her husband, Ralph Okihara. They were married on June 19, 1971 at Christopher's Church in Saigon, Vietnam. From there, they moved to Hawaii where Tess worked as a Legal/Executive Assistant for a local law firm. She left the law firm to start her own company, Teresita Okihara Realty Co. in Honolulu. In 1985, she and Ralph moved to Ankara, Turkey where she worked as a Program Status Review Manager. She followed her husband again to Boise, Idaho where she worked as a Legislative Attach for the State of Idaho Legislature. From there, they moved to Cleveland where Tess worked as a Conflicts Clearance Assistant, Legal Assistant and Office Coordinator at various law firms. Her most recent position was as Office Administrator at McIntyre, Kahn & Kruse Co., LPA.

Tess had a passion for community service, volunteering for charitable organizations, and providing financial support for those in need. She served as the President of the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Chairperson of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, and was a Board Member and/or active member of several non-profit organizations in Hawaii. In Cleveland, Ohio, she served as the International Children's Games Community Ambassador for the Philippines Delegation and was Entertainment Chairperson for the Great Lakes Science Center's Gala Event for the China: 700 Years Discovery Exhibition. In addition, she served as a Base 4 Commander for the Cleveland Police Auxiliary, was a graduate of the 2002 F.B.I. Citizens Academy, was a member of the Northern Ohio Hate Crimes Group and sang the National Anthem two years in a row for the F.B.I. Director's Community Leadership Award Ceremony. In addition, Tess was a member of the choir at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

Tess was blessed with a generous heart and strength of

admired. She always volunteered her talent and skills to help others in need. Her favorite motto

was, "To do all I can, for whomever I can, whenever I can, wherever I can, for as long as I can, to the Glory of our Lord.'

She is survived by husband Ralph, son Alexander and his wife Lorene and grandson Joshua of Hawaii; siblings Ed and Angelita of California; Ramon of Florida, Manuel, Norberto, and Barbara of Manila, Philippines; sister Loretta, and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Tess will be dearly missed by her adopted sister, Nila Brown, her family, Reynaldo, Marica, Josephine, Rafael, Erneiliza, Maya, Jaycyll and many other close friends.



TESS祖籍菲律 賓,先生日本人。她 曾經開過餐館,做過 房地産代理人,長年 來她熱心社區公益 事業。因先生的工作 需要,一九九五年來 到克里夫蘭。

一九九六年七 月十四日, 受獎于 OHIO 州長 George Voinovich 爲克里 夫蘭顯著的慈善工 作者。2003年2月 1日,克里夫蘭的越 南的社團給予優秀 領導人榮譽稱號。

2003 年她被選 上克城大湖科技館 中國文化科技展覽 會的董事會成員。後

任克城婦女聯誼會副主席,俄州中國 餐飲業協會董事會,她爲中國餐飲業 協會的創立立下了汗馬功勞。

由於她的熱心和愛心, 在克城她 脫穎而出,再一次被市長點名,選爲 03年世界少年運動會籌委會人員,當 她得知菲律賓因爲經濟原因不能支持 世界少年運動會後,她自己出錢,發 信給了近兩千在全美的菲律賓僑民, 她說只要每一個菲律賓人出\$5 菲律 賓少年運動員就能來美國參與這項有 意義的運動

TESS 是一位熱愛生 活, 充滿活力的善良人,哪 里需要幫助,哪里就能見到 她的身影,華報在這里代表 所有她的親朋好友向她祈 福,TESS 安息吧!



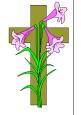


牧士爲 TESS 祈禱

TESS 最親密的朋友 Nila Brown 陪 TESS 走了人生最後一程







大大大三 都是從一個小火花開始......

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