

懷念高曉光女士

In Memory of Ms. Doris Caldwell Rhoades



高曉光女士
Ms. Doris Caldwell Rhoades
1918-2016

本會第二任總幹事高曉光女士 (Ms. Doris Caldwell Rhoades) 於 2016 年 3 月 19 日在摯愛的家人及美國克萊蒙特市「朝聖之家」的朋友陪伴下安息主懷，享年 97 歲。

Ms. Doris Caldwell Rhoades, our 2nd Chief Executive, died on 19th March, 2016 at the age of 97. She was in the presence of loving family and friends at Pilgrim Place in Claremont, where she had been a resident since 1992.

高女士生於 1918 年 10 月 28 日，在美國賓夕凡尼亞州中部一個名為 Caldwell Homestead 的乳牛場出生，其父親為 Frank Caldwell，母親為 Elizabeth Caldwell，她是長女，下有三個妹妹。高女士在基督教長老會長大，自小已立志委身事奉那些被褫奪投票權的人士，在獲得社會工作碩士學位後，她被長老會的海外宣教會派往中國服侍。1947 年，她由三藩市出發，經海路到達中國。一抵步，她便立即學習普通話，並到蘇州鄉村工作。其後因戰爭爆發，她如眾多傳教士一樣被勒令離開中國，而教會工作人員訓練中心亦關閉了。

She was born in 1918 on the Caldwell Homestead, a dairy farm in central Pennsylvania, to Frank and Elizabeth Caldwell. She was the eldest of four daughters. Nurtured in the Presbyterian Church, she was early on inspired to commit her life to serving disenfranchised people.

After earning a master's degree in social work, she was called to service in China by the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church. In 1947, she set sail to China from San Francisco. Once there she studied Mandarin and went to work in the rural province of Soochow, but within six months she was 'liberated' by young soldiers of the Red Army and the Church Workers' Training Center was closed.

In 1951, Ms. Rhoades returned to the United States where she did graduate study at Cornell University and became the director of Christian education in the Presbyterian Church in Dobbs Ferry, New York. Still, she longed to return to China. When in 1957, she was asked to work with Chinese refugees in Hong Kong, her first reaction was, 'No, I don't want to work in a colony.' As she mulled it over, however, she realised that those she would be serving wanted to return to China as badly as she did. She agreed to go for 'a year or two' and ended up staying for 26 years.

Ms. Rhoades was sent to replace Miss Muriel Boone as the 2nd Chief Executive of Christian Family Service Centre in 1957 and dedicated herself to the Agency's development until 1983. During her 26 years tenure, Ms. Rhoades has laid a solid foundation for the development of the Agency by providing material assistance to refugees, proactively addressing the needs of the grassroots and striving to carry out various new services.

高女士於 1957 年接替文美莉女士的工作，成為基督教家庭服務中心第二任總幹事，並一直工作至 1983 年。在任 26 年間，高女士積極關心難民和回應基層市民的需要，不斷開拓新服務，為基督教家庭服務中心的發展打下良好基礎。

高女士在港事奉期間，一直參與國語堂聚會，她關心姊妹間的互助成長，啟發青年人的個人發展，帶領活在苦難世界的人認識主耶穌基督的愛，於 1972 年 7 月按立為國語堂第三屆執事。

Ms. Rhoades actively participated in the congregation of Mandarin Church, The Church of Christ in China during her ministry in Hong Kong. She cared for the mutual development among the sisters, inspired personal development of youths and lead people in the suffering world to understand the love of God. Ms. Rhoades was ordained as a deacon of the 3rd Committee of Mandarin Church, The Church of Christ in China in July 1972.



▲ 1957 年，高曉光女士被派接替文教士工作。
In 1957, Ms. Rhoades was sent to take up Miss Muriel Boone's duties.

▶ 與服務使用者在總部大樓空地前合照
Ms. Rhoades and service users taking photo in the garden of CFSC Headquarters



◀ 探訪調景嶺受助者
Visited service users in Tiu Keng Leng



▲ 1965 年，本會位於觀塘的總部大樓舉行啟用典禮。
The Opening Ceremony of Kwun Tong new headquarters of CFSC in 1965.



▲ 高女士與早期同工合照
Ms. Rhoades and CFSC colleagues

退休後，高女士於 1984 年回到紐約，並於長老會的職業訓練中心擔任兼職工作。至 1986 年後期，經過幾年學習適應美國的生活後，她遇上了 Benton Rhoades，他當時為 Agricultural Mission 的主管，該組織與美國基督教聯合會有密切關係。他倆於 1988 年 1 月 3 日結婚。高女士曾經這樣說：「我這個新家庭與香港的那個大家庭很不一樣，但卻一樣有趣。」她在 70 歲仍然充滿活力，成為了她丈夫的四個子女的母親，以及十個孫兒的祖母，深受尊敬和愛護，而高女士與丈夫在「朝聖之家」的那些日子，家中亦再增添十二名曾孫。高女士在她不同的家庭崗位上皆勝任有餘，兼備受愛戴。

高女士在兩位妹妹 Marge 及 Peg，以及許多非常疼愛她的姪女侄兒的陪伴下安息主懷。*

After retiring in 1984, Ms. Rhoades returned to New York, where she took a part-time job with the Vocation Agency of the Presbyterian Church. There in late 1986, after several years of trying to get used to living in the United States she met Benton Rhoades, director of Agricultural Mission, related to the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. They were married on 3rd January, 1988.

She later recalled that, 'My new family is quite different from my large Hong Kong family, but no less interesting.' At the spry and youthful age of 70, Ms. Rhoades became the loving and dearly adored 'mother' to Benton's four children and ten grandchildren. During their years together at Pilgrim Place they added to their family twelve great-grandchildren. Doris was a natural in her various family roles.

She is survived by two of her three sisters, Marge and Peg, and many adoring nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held at Pilgrim Place's Decker Hall on 22nd March 2016.*

* 本部份由中華基督教會國語堂（國語堂）甄妙琴姊妹翻譯自 'Doris Caldwell Rhoades: Missionary, world traveler, loving wife' 一文，並經由本會及國語堂補充資料而成。

* Article: Courtesy of Claremont Courier / 'Obituaries' - Friday, 25th March, 2016 with supplementary information by Christian Family Service Centre and Mandarin Church, The Church of Christ in China.

高曉光女士追思禮拜

Memorial Service of Ms. Rhoades

本會於 2016 年 5 月 7 日，與中華基督教會國語堂合辦「高曉光女士追思禮拜」，一同緬懷、追悼高女士豐盛的一生。追思禮拜上，本會董事會主席趙世存先生 BBS, MBE, JP 追憶高女士與本會的淵源，讚揚高女士在任內積極為難民和基層市民提供各方面的物資援助，開展了多項服務，為本會多元化服務立下了廣闊及良好的基礎。而於 2004 年本會慶祝成立 50 周年時，高女士遠道從美國回港參與，並在晚宴上致辭。趙主席親身感受到高女士對服務仍然充滿熱誠和好奇，對別人充滿熱情和關心。

A memorial service of Ms. Rhoades was held on 7th May, 2016 in Mandarin Church, The Church of Christ in China and CFSC for us to gather and mourn the loss of Ms. Rhoades. On the service, our Board Chairman, Mr. Nicholas Chiu Sai-chuen, BBS, MBE, JP, recalled the long and close relationship of CFSC and Ms. Rhoades and commended Ms. Rhoades for her effort in providing material assistance to refugees, proactively addressing the needs of the grassroots and striving to carry out various new services, whereby laid a solid foundation for the development of our multi-services. When Ms. Rhoades returned to Hong Kong in 2004 to join our 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and gave speech at the dinner, Mr. Chiu personally experienced her enthusiastic and curious about our services, as well as her passion and concern for others.



五十周年大會上與出席嘉賓及董事會成員合照。
Ms. Rhoades with our board members and guests in the 50th Annual General Meeting.



三任總幹事與主席趙世存先生 BBS, MBE, JP
Chief Executive, Chairman of Board of Directors and
Two Former Chief Executives of CFSC



高曉光女士在晚宴上致詞。
Ms. Rhoades delivered speech in our 50th Anniversary
Celebration Dinner.



2004 年，本會慶祝成立 50 周年，特別邀請高曉光女士從美國回港。
Ms. Rhoades returned to Hong Kong and joined our 50th Anniversary
Celebration Dinner in 2004.



本會董事會主席趙世存先生 BBS, MBE, JP 感謝高女士對本會的貢獻。
Mr. Nicholas Chiu Sai-chuen, BBS, MBE, JP, our Board
Chairman, commended Ms. Rhoades' dedication to CFSC.



高曉光女士追思禮拜
Memorial service of Ms. Rhoades