



Mr. Jimmy Wong, President of  
 USA Chin Woo Federation and  
 2006 Taiji Legacy International Martial Arts Championships  
 honors the memory of Madame Wang Jurong as

緬懷王菊蓉大師

武林泰斗

"Wu Lin Tai Dou",  
 (the Leading Authority of Chinese Martial Arts)  
 in America.

二〇〇六年太极瑰宝国际武术锦标赛  
 美国精武会长王国强敬赠

丙戌年季夏

# A Legend, Madame Wang Jurong, Will Be Missed

by Grace Wu-Monnat



*Madame Wang, 1960*

Participating in the Taiji Legacy this year without the presence of my mom, Madame Wang Jurong, will be a difficult and different experience for me. For years, during this spirited international event, when you would look up at the stage, you could always see Madame Wang sitting still at the official's long table and overseeing the tournament's progress with or without company. As she did at many national and international tournaments, she attentively watches the competitors perform, views the judges scoring closely, and nods politely with a dignified smile to reciprocate greetings from athletes, judges, and anyone who sends over a salute. To me, seeing her sit there not only made me feel proud, but also brought an undeniable comfort and security to my heart. I knew if I or anyone in the event ran into an obstacle or a question, whether in competing or judging, she would be there for us. She would provide us with her wisdom and suggest an option as a solution. Yes, she was performing her duty as Referee General for the tournament, and by doing so she

was dedicating her time, knowledge, and passion to this unique art and culture – Chinese Martial Arts. Promoting Chinese Martial Arts in China, the United States, and abroad had been Madame Wang's life long career.

It all began with the family. Madame Wang was the only daughter of the legendary grandmaster, Wang Ziping. He was known throughout China for his extraordinary martial arts skills and physical power. His patriotism made history when he soundly defeated foreign boxers, wrestlers, and Karate challengers for the nation. He is the most recognized and respected martial artist in the Chinese martial arts world. Madame Wang started her Kungfu training at the age of five under the tutelage of her father. He loved his daughter, and did not think one should raise a girl any differently than the boys. So the young Madame Wang went to school daily and practiced hard with her Kungfu brothers afterwards. Like her father, when she was just a teenager, she was able to out weightlift her older and bigger

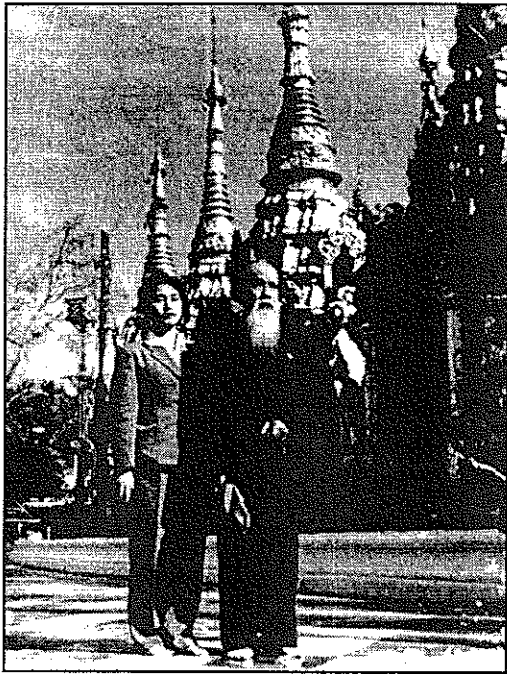


*Madame Wang, 1954*



*Grandmaster Wang Ziping*

Kungfu brothers. In 1946, Madame Wang won the Women's Guo Shu Championship at the 7<sup>th</sup> National Athletic Games in China. In 1953, she was twice gold medalist in the Chang Quan and Sword divisions by competing with Fifth Cha Quan and Green Dragon Double Sword routines at the First New China National Athletic Games. Madame Wang graduated from the Education Department of the Aurora University in Shanghai and worked in the Department of Education of the Eastern Region of China. Then she accepted the invitation to teach at the Shanghai Physical Education Institute (formerly



**Madame Wang & Wang Ziping in  
Burma, 1960**

the Eastern China Physical Education College). She became a first generation professor and served for thirty-six years thereafter. She taught martial arts and archery in both traditional Chinese and Western styles. She also lectured on Pedagogy and Psychology. She was the only teacher who coached two college teams, Wushu and Archery, simultaneously throughout the years. With her vast knowledge, she wrote, edited and published several Wushu text books for academic courses and developed the first Masters Degree of Arts program for Taiji Quan in the nation.

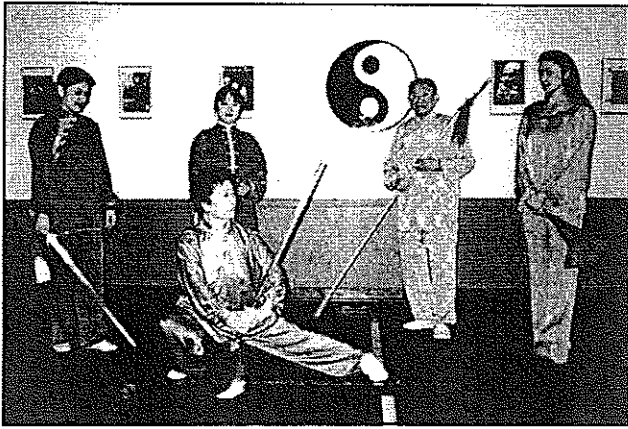
Besides teaching college, Madame Wang spent a great deal of time helping train the Shanghai Wushu team. When New China's first Wushu team traveled to Burma in 1960, under head coach Wang Ziping, Madame served as the team's first female coach. Madame Wang was the first woman certified as a national ranking judge for both wushu and archery. She served as the head of the National Referee Committee and the Shanghai Judges Committee. She served as the Director of the China Wushu Association, the president of the Chinese

Wushu Research Institute, a committee member of the National Association of Chinese Wushu, Vice-Chairman of the Shanghai Wushu Association, Vice-Chairman of the Shanghai Archery Association, an advisor to the Wu Dang Research Association and Shanghai Qi Gong Research Association, General Judge, Vice-General Judge, and Honorary Advisor to National and International Wushu competitions. She was a member of both the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the Shanghai People's Political Consultative Conference. Madame Wang wrote numerous books, *Chinese Boxing 20 Postures; Dragon & Phoenix Double Sword, Wushu, Youth Sport - Wushu, Wang Ziping & Wushu*, to name a few. She edited and revised the *National Wushu Competition Rules and Encyclopedia* on Wushu and was instrumental in the development of the standardized Taiji Quan routines, such as the 24, 48, 88 postures, 32 sword form and the Wushu compulsory competition forms. She was recognized as the People's Republic of China's first generation female martial artist and was the recipient of the Excellence Award from the Department of Sports of China for her years of serving as wushu referee.



**Madame Wang at  
1999 Taiji Legacy**

As a true master, Madame Wang was a kind and humble person. She answered any request from the martial arts world. One thing I remember vividly since childhood is that Madame Wang was a renowned wushu event announcer because of her oratorical, sonorous voice, and her vast martial arts knowledge. She announced all-levels of wushu events more than a thousand times. Whether it was a small local wushu demonstration or a national competition, when she was a Referee General, if she was asked, she would sit by the microphone with her deck of index cards and be a most capable announcer. For a long while, it was unusual if mom was home in the evening. In fact, my Dad, my sisters, Helen Wu



**Madame Wang with Wu XiaoPing, Helen Wu, Dr. Wu Chengde, and Grace Wu-Monnat, 1999**

and Lucy Xiaoping Wu, and I were the loyal fans of my mom and all the martial arts performers, regardless whether they were kungfu lovers, professional athletes, or masters. We attended almost all those martial arts programs my mom spent the evenings announcing.

In 1989, Madame Wang was invited to the U.S. by the director of the United States Martial Arts Council, Sifu Jeff Bolt, and immigrated to Houston. She was one of first wushu professors to venture into the U.S. from mainland China to teach since the U.S. and China had normalized diplomatic relations. To continue promoting Chinese martial arts in the

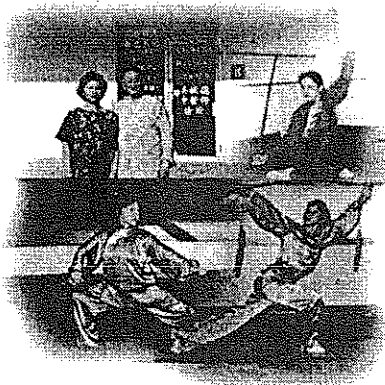
U.S. and the world, and bridge the Eastern and Western cultures, she actively served as a chief official and advisor for countless wushu competitions and organizations locally, nationally, and internationally for the last sixteen years. She traveled extensively to share her knowledge and teach seminars in the U.S. and Canada. She taught regularly in her Houston Taiji Kungfu Health Academy until shortly before her passing. She actively participated in the U.S. Wushu Team selection and traveled with the team to different parts of the world to attend the World Wushu Championships. She was an advisor to the U.S.A. Wushu Kungfu Federation, the U.S. Kuoshou Federation and the International Wushu Sanshou Dao Association. She served as an honorary advisor to the Chinese Wushu History Association, was a member of the U.S. Chinese Martial Arts Council, and was an honorary lifetime member of the Pacific Association of Women's Martial Arts. She was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the U.S. Association of Wushu Kungfu Federation, and she was twice voted the Woman of the Year by *Inside Kung Fu Magazine*. In 2002, at the 7th World Chin Woo Championships and Taiji Legacy, Madame Wang was awarded a Lifetime Achievement award for her countless years of selfless work and influence in the martial arts community.



**Madame Wang receiving Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002 from Sifu Jimmy Wong**

People loved Madame Wang for who she was, a kind, caring, and fun-loving person. Regardless of how much she accomplished, she remained courteous, and humble, treating everyone kindly. I wish Master Zhang

Luping would tell you the story of how my mom supported him on organizing wushu in Pinghu, a small town outside Shanghai. Madame Wang took a team of thirty-seven volunteers and traveled by boat on a weekend. In three days they performed martial arts five times in different locations. I remember my younger sister, Lucy Xiaoping Wu, was one of them. When they returned on a rainy day, everyone was exhausted and wet. I did not hear any complaints from my mom. On the other hand, I used to complain that we, the kids, did not have enough time to talk to my mom because her students, other martial arts lovers and friends would take up a lot of her time at home. "Why do they have to come to see her every week?" I would ask myself. Even out-of-town students would always make an effort to stop by when they were in Shanghai. I remember most Coach Chen and



**Madame Wang with family, 1999**

his daffodils. At the beginning of the school break, Madame Wang saw Chen eating alone in the cafeteria. "When are you going home?" she asked. "Hi teacher. I am not going home this year. I would love to. But," he hesitated, "my mom can't afford to send me a train ticket." Madame Wang asked, "What's the name of your hometown in Fujian? I'll get you a ticket." "Really?" his eyes brightened. "But, I can't let you do that. I don't know if I'll ever have the money to return to you." Madame Wang smiled, "Don't worry." The next morning, she handed Chen a train ticket, some extra money, and saw him leave for home. That was the year, he returned with the special daffodils that only bloom during the Chinese New Year. The daffodils came every year since. Once Coach Chen told me, "I'll never forget what Teacher Wang did for me. She taught me to be a better person. I'm grateful."

Anyone who visited Madame Wang once soon became a regular guest at our home. She would take time to listen attentively to all her visitors and help with their lives and careers if she could. Madame Wang's students in the US will agree that tradition was carried on here as well.

Madame Wang's life is as an example of what a wushu lover, educator, master, and true human being should be. She will be missed dearly by those she taught, trained, guided, loved and respected. I know it is different without her radiant presence here. But her spirit will always be with us to encourage us to strive for next height in martial arts, in life.



*Madame Wang with Wu XiaoPing, Grace Wu-Monnat, and their students at 2004 Taiji Legacy, Dallas, TX*



*Madame Wang with Dr. Wu Chengde, Sifu Jimmy Wong, & Madame Lu Lijuan, President of Shanghai Chin Woo at 1999 Taiji Legacy, Dallas, TX*



*Madame Wang with Dr. Wu Chengde and daughters, 2004*



*Madame Wang, 1928 - 2005*