



# Khen A. Chen

FEB 12, 1941 - MAR 22, 2026



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Events</b> .....	Page 5



## **Khen A. Chen**

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**W**ith deep love and sorrow, we remember our mother, Khen Chen, whose life was defined by compassion, truth, and devotion to family.

Some may know her through her work—those who search her name will discover her groundbreaking career as a broadcast journalist at the Voice of America, where she used her radio name, Ang Khen. Mom spent more than 40 years reporting on her homeland, becoming one of the most respected figures in the Khmer diaspora and a voice of hope to those trapped in the country during the darkest days of the Cambodian genocide. She inspired three generations of Khmer journalists, who speak of her prose and delivery as a model for their own styles.

But to us, she was so much more: a devoted wife, a loving mother and a loyal friend. She carried herself with grace and diplomacy, always choosing kindness, always seeking peace. In her heart, there was room for everyone. If she could bring comfort or happiness to another, she would give whatever she had. She worked tirelessly to help others, sponsoring and supporting many Khmer families on their journey to safety and a better life.

Born in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in 1941 to Ang Kheao and Penn Sin, both scholars, she inherited a deep respect for education and knowledge. She continued her studies in Oregon before answering a calling to journalism that brought her to Washington, D.C. in 1962. There, she met the love of her life, Chun Chen, and they were married in April 1967.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, she found her greatest joy in family and in the simple beauty of everyday life. At their farm in Virginia, she created a place of warmth and peace—raising chickens and peacocks, and tending to fruit trees. She retired from the Voice of America on December 31, 2006, leaving behind a legacy of integrity and dedication.

Khen Chen is survived by her beloved husband, Chun Chen; her daughters, Samini Chen Harris and Cynthia Chen White; her grandsons, Salim Proctor, Koliyan Harris, and Jake Harris; her



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brother, Norecar Ang; her sister, Rasmi Ang; and many extended family members and friends who were touched by her kindness.

She passed away on March 22, 2026, at the age of 85. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. A Celebration of Life will be held on April 25, 2026, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at Lyon Park Community Center, 414 N Fillmore St, Arlington, VA 22201

We invite you to [ [share](https://my.guestpix.com/guest/access/138735/ID58v6lN) ](https://my.guestpix.com/guest/access/138735/ID58v6lN) a memory or photo of Ang Khen



# Events


**Khen A. Chen**

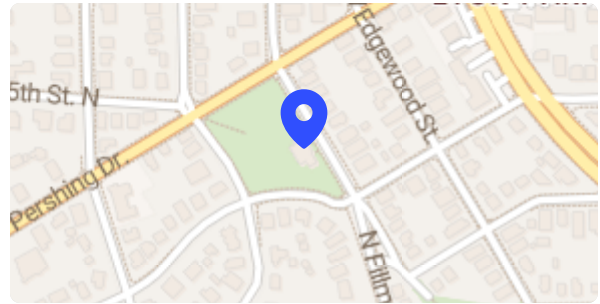
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## Celebration of Life

 **Saturday**, April 25, 2026

 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

 **Lyon Park Community Center**  
414 N Fillmore St., Arlington VA 22201





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Khen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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