**Who is the Chinese American who will be featured on our American quarter?**

**Most people were very surprised that Chinese American female actress, Anna May Wong, was announced to be featured on the future edition of our American quarter.**

**I**t is indeed an honor for a Chinese American to be honored on our American quarter. **Anna May Wong** was an actress who was featured in a number of American films almost a hundred years ago. Other than some of our seniors, few people, including most Chinese Americans, may not recall her. I had to Google her name to refresh her name and history. Here is a video on her career:



We read much about the sexual harassment of women in Hollywood, including many famous actresses. We can assume that Anna May Wong, a beautiful Chinese woman, also received a lot of attention from lecherous Hollywood barons. At home in America, Anna May Wong, was featured in stereotypical roles as an Asian female. That inspired her to travel to Europe where she had the opportunity to play lead roles and was successful, and that helped to gain additional attention back in America. Wong was born in Los Angeles, so she was a Chinese American, not an immigrant. She was just 61 years old when she died of a heart attack. Our congratulations to Anna May Wong for her selection to soon be in the pockets of most Americans.

We are all appreciative of the honor rendered in the recognition of Anna May Wong, but IMO, there are a number of other Chinese Americans who also deserve national recognition and be feature on American coinage and/or currency.

Anyone one of our dozen Nobel prize winners could/should receive national attention and recognition on our currency. We have a number of medical professionals who have made national level contributions. An considering our American military personnel, there are several including Army Captain **Francis Wai**, Navy Admiral **Gordon Pai-ea Chung-Hoon** , (and two Cathay Post members) Army Major **Kurt Lee** and Air Force Colonel **Richard Hum**. Two exceptional female military heroes include Army pilots **Maggie Gee** and **Hazel Ting Lee.**

But one exceptional Chinese American should not be overlooked for his major contributions, IMO that is Chinese American Astronaut Leroy Chiao.

Dr. **Leroy Chiao** was an American chemical engineer, retired NASA astronaut, entrepreneur, motivational speaker, and engineering consultant.

Astronaut Chiao flew on three Space Shuttle flights, and was the commander of Expedition 10, where he lived on board the International Space Station from October 13, 2004 to April 24, 2005

Among our Chinese American veterans, WWII Army pilot **Maggie Gee** also should be recognized for her exceptional contributions. During the War, as a female pilot, the Army was reluctant to send females into dangerous aerial combat, so they used her great flying skills to tow targets for male pilots the practice shooting at airborne targets. Seems to me that could be extremely dangerous too.

After the war, Maggie Gee studied Physics at the University of California, Berkeley and later conducted nuclear research at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. There is a movement to honor her with the renaming of the the Oakland California Airport. The petition and donations are ongoing.

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**SOURCES:**

**Anna May Wong, Wikipedia**

 

**Anna May Wong**

1905-1961

By Kerri Lee Alexander, NWHM Predoctorate Fellow in Women's History | 2018-2019

**Anna May Wong**

Appearing in over sixty movies throughout her career, Anna May Wong was the first Chinese American film star in Hollywood. In addition to her roles in silent films, television, and stage, Wong landed a role in one of the first movies made in Technicolor. Internationally recognized, her legacy continues to influence entertainers around the world.

Anna May Wong was born on January 3, 1905 in the Chinatown area of Los Angeles, California. The second child of eight children, her birth name was Wong Liu Tsong, which means “Frosted Yellow Willows.” She was given the English name Anna May by her family. Her family was originally from Taishan, China, but her grandfather emigrated to the United States in the 1850s. He opened a store in California near the area where gold had been discovered in 1848. In 1858, Wong’s father, Sam Sing, was born in California.

Soon after, Sing’s father died while he was trying to rescue a woman that fell into a well. Sing returned to China, but came back to the United States after his first marriage. Sing married Gon Toy Lee, who had also been born in California. The couple opened a laundry mat on North Figueroa Street in Los Angeles. When Wong was born, the family lived in a diverse neighborhood and the children attended California Street public elementary school. However, Wong and her older sister were teased and bullied because of their race. Wong’s parents later moved them to the Chinese Mission School in Chinatown where they were welcomed.

Growing up, Wong worked in her family’s laundry mat and attended Chinese language classes after school. When film production moved from New York to California in the 1910s, Wong started visiting movie sets. She would often skip school and use her lunch money to go to the movies. At the age of nine, she decided she wanted to become a movie star. She came up with her stage name, Anna May Wong, at the age of eleven by combining her English and Chinese names. In 1919, a casting call went out for Chinese women in the new film called The Red Lantern. Without her father knowing, Wong asked her father’s friend to introduce her to the assistant director of the movie. She was then cast as an extra and was asked to carry a lantern in one of the scenes. This was Wong’s first movie role, but it would not be her last.

Wong continued to work as an extra in many movies while still attending school. In 1921, Wong dropped out of Los Angeles High School to become an actress full-time. That same year, she landed a role as Toy Ling’s wife in the film Bits of Life. At age seventeen, Wong landed her first leading role in The Toll of the Sea (1922), the first feature length film made by Technicolor. This movie was a silent version of a movie called Madame Butterfly.

Wong continued to audition for lead roles, but she was always cast as a supporting character or as typical “Asian characters.”[1] Anti-miscegenation laws in the United States at the time prevented interracial marriages and even prevented interracial actors from kissing on-screen. This prevented Wong from landing some leading roles in romantic movies. In March of 1924, she created her own production company called Anna May Wong Productions, so she could make her own films about her culture. However, the company closed after her business partner was caught using bad business practices.

After many years trying to work in American films, Wong left Hollywood due to the constant discrimination. She moved to Europe where she starred in many plays and films including; Schmutziges Geld in 1928, Piccadilly in 1929, and her first talking film in 1930 called The Flame of Love. She also starred in the operetta Tschun Tschi in fluent German, and in the play A Circle of Chalk with Laurence Olivier. In the 1930s, Paramount Studios in the United States contacted Wong and promised her leading roles upon her return. Wong returned to the United States and starred in the Broadway production of On the Spot. In November of 1930, Wong’s mother was hit by a car in front of the family’s home. The rest of her family stayed in the family home until 1934 when they returned to China.

While working on films in the United States, Wong was still asked to play stereotypical Asian roles. When the director of the film Dangerous to Know asked her to use Japanese mannerisms when playing a Chinese character, Wong refused. Wong later accepted another stereotypical role in Daughter of the Dragon because she was promised that she would be able to appear in a Josef von Sternberg film. She later appeared in one of her most famous films, Shanghai Express, with her friend Marlene Dietrich. After this movie in 1932, Wong spent the next year touring China. She returned to the United States in the 1950s and became the first Asian American to lead a US television show for her work on The Gallery of Madame Liu-Tsong. Wong was also planning to return to film in the United States.

Wong died on February 3, 1961 of a heart attack. She was 56 years old. After her death, the Asian-American Arts Awards and the Asian Fashion Designers group named annual awards after her.

**SOURCES:**

**Leroy Chiao - Wikipedia**



**Leroy Chiao** (born August 28, 1960) is an American [chemical engineer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical_engineering), retired [NASA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA) [astronaut](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astronaut), entrepreneur, [motivational speaker](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motivational_speaker), and engineering consultant.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-3) Chiao flew on three [Space Shuttle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Shuttle) flights, and was the commander of [Expedition 10](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expedition_10), where he lived on board the [International Space Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Space_Station) from October 13, 2004 to April 24, 2005.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1) He is also a co-author and researcher for the [Advanced Diagnostic Ultrasound in Microgravity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advanced_Diagnostic_Ultrasound_in_Microgravity) project.



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Early life[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Leroy_Chiao&action=edit&section=1&editintro=Template:BLP_editintro)]

Chiao was born in [Milwaukee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milwaukee), [Wisconsin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wisconsin) and raised in [Danville, California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danville,_California).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1) His parents were originally from [mainland China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_of_China_(1912%E2%80%931949)) and met while studying at a university in [Taiwan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taiwan) before immigrating to the U.S.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-4)[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-SCMP_2017-5) Chiao graduated from [Monte Vista High School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monte_Vista_High_School_(Danville,_California)) in Danville in 1978. In 1983, he earned a [B.S.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bachelor_of_Science) in [chemical engineering](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chemical_engineering) from the [University of California, Berkeley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_California,_Berkeley).[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-bluecloud-6) He later earned an [M.S.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_of_Science) and a [Ph.D.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doctor_of_Philosophy) in chemical engineering from the [University of California, Santa Barbara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_California,_Santa_Barbara) in 1985 and 1987, respectively.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-bluecloud-6)

Chiao's parents were both chemical engineers who immigrated to Milwaukee from [the Republic of China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taiwan) in the late 1950s for graduate school. Stressing a high doctorate level science education, his parents encouraged him to follow their lead and become an engineer.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-bluecloud-6) Chiao's [Aviator call sign](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aviator_call_sign) is "[Shandong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shandong)," the name of the Chinese province where his parents grew up.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-7)

**Pre-NASA career**

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Nasa_leroy_chiao_Salizhan_S._Sharipov.jpg)

NASA astronaut Leroy Chiao, left, and Russian cosmonaut [Salizhan Sharipov](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salizhan_Sharipov" \o "Salizhan Sharipov) served on [Expedition 10](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expedition_10) in the [International Space Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Space_Station).

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Leroy_Chiao_working_on_Space_Station_Remote_Manipulator_System.jpg)

Astronaut Leroy Chiao works with the controls of the [Canadarm2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadarm2)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:ISS-10_Leroy_Chiao_wearing_a_Russian_Orlan_spacesuit_during_EVA1.jpg)

Astronaut Leroy Chiao, Expedition 10 commander and NASA ISS science officer, wearing a Russian Orlan spacesuit, participates in the first of two sessions of extravehicular activities (EVA) performed by the Expedition 10 crew during their six-month mission.

Upon graduation, Chiao joined the [Hexcel Corporation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hexcel) in [Dublin, California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dublin,_California) from 1987 to 1989.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1) He was involved in process, manufacturing, and engineering research on advanced [aerospace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aerospace) materials, and worked on a joint NASA-[JPL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jet_Propulsion_Laboratory)/Hexcel project to develop a practical, optically correct, precision segment reflector made entirely of advanced polymer composite materials for future [space telescopes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_telescope), as well as working on [cure](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curing_(chemistry)) modeling and [finite element analysis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finite_element_method).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1) In January 1989, Chiao joined the [Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lawrence_Livermore_National_Laboratory) in [Livermore, California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Livermore,_California), where he was involved in processing research for fabrication of filament-wound and thick-section aerospace composites. Chiao also developed and demonstrated a mechanistic cure model for [graphite fiber](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon_fiber_reinforced_polymer) and [epoxy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epoxy) [composite material](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Composite_material) (see [Graphite-reinforced plastic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphite-reinforced_plastic)). An instrument-rated pilot, Chiao has logged over 2500 flight hours in a variety of aircraft.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)

NASA career

At age 29, Chiao was selected by NASA in January 1990 (the youngest in Group 13) and became an astronaut in July 1991. He qualified for flight assignment as a [mission specialist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mission_specialist). His technical assignments included: [Space Shuttle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Shuttle) flight [software](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software) verification in the [Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shuttle_Avionics_Integration_Laboratory) (SAIL); crew equipment, [Spacelab](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spacelab), [Spacehab](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astrotech_Corporation" \o "Astrotech Corporation), and [payload](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Payload) issues for the Astronaut Office Mission Development Branch; training and flight data file issues; and [extravehicular activity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extravehicular_activity) (EVA) issues for the EVA Branch. Chiao also served as Chief of the Astronaut Office EVA Branch.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)

A veteran of four space flights, Chiao flew as a mission specialist on [STS-65](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/STS-65) in 1994, [STS-72](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/STS-72) in 1996 and [STS-92](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/STS-92) in 2000. Chiao had logged over 36 days and 12.5 hours in [space](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outer_space), including over 26 EVA hours in four space walks, prior to his mission aboard the [International Space Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Space_Station).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)

Chiao is fluent in [Mandarin Chinese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandarin_Chinese). Additionally, Chiao also learned [Russian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_language) to communicate with Russian cosmonauts as part of the [International Space Station program](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Space_Station_program). On November 2, 2004, Chiao voted in the [2004 United States presidential election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2004_United_States_presidential_election) from aboard the International Space Station, making him the first American to vote in a presidential election while in space.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-8) McDonald's presented Chiao with a Big Mac and French Fries at their branch in Star City as one of his first meals since returning to Earth after his ISS assignment.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-mcd-9) Among the souvenirs he brought into space in his previous space flights were a Chinese flag and a quartz-carved rose from [Hong Kong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hong_Kong).

Chiao was the inadvertent developer of the procedure to use the IRED (Interim Resistive Exercise Device) to excite the solar arrays of the ISS. During an exercise session of squats on the ISS, Chiao sent a vibration through the space station that caused the solar arrays to ripple – a low amplitude frequency response. When Chiao did this, the response from Mission Control was "knock it off." However, several years later during an ISS assembly flight in December 2006 (STS-116), German astronaut Thomas Reiter of the European Space Agency was told to do 30 seconds of robust exercise on the bungee-bar IRED machine to help retract ISS solar arrays, specifically to relieve tension in a wire system that was preventing the array from folding up like an accordion. An eventual unplanned spacewalk during the same shuttle mission managed to finally retract the array.

Chiao left NASA in December 2005 to pursue employment in the private sector.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-left-10)

**Spaceflight experience**

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:GWB_welcomed_the_crew_members_and_families_of_the_International_Space_Station.jpg)

President George W. Bush welcomed the crew members and families of the International Space Station expeditions 7, 8, 9 and 10 to the Oval Office in May 2005. From left: Lt. Colonel Mike Fincke, ISS 9; Dr. [Edward Lu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Lu), ISS 7; Dr. Leroy Chiao, ISS 10, and Dr. Michael Foale, ISS 8.

[**STS-65 *Columbia***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/STS-65) (July 8–23, 1994) launched from and returned to land at the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, setting a new flight duration record for the Space Shuttle program at that time. The STS-65 mission flew the second International Microgravity Laboratory (IML-2). During the 15-day flight the seven-member crew conducted more than 80 experiments focusing on materials and life sciences research in microgravity. The STS-65 mission was accomplished in 236 orbits of the Earth, traveling 6.1 million miles in 353 hours and 55 minutes.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-sts-65-11)

[**STS-72 *Endeavour***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/STS-72) (January 11–20, 1996) was a nine-day mission during which the crew retrieved the Space Flyer Unit (launched from Japan ten months earlier), and deployed and retrieved the OAST-Flyer. Chiao performed two spacewalks designed to demonstrate tools and hardware, and evaluate techniques to be used in the assembly of the International Space Station. In completing this mission, Chiao logged a total of 214 hours and 41 seconds in space, including just over thirteen EVA hours, and traveled 3.7 million miles in 142 orbits of the Earth.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-sts-72-12)

[**STS-92 *Discovery***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/STS-92) (October 11–24, 2000) was launched from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida and returned to land at [Edwards Air Force Base](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edwards_Air_Force_Base), California. During the 13-day flight, the seven member crew attached the Z1 Truss and Pressurized Mating Adapter 3 to the International Space Station using Discovery's robotic arm and performed four spacewalks to configure these elements. This expansion of the ISS opened the door for future assembly missions and prepared the station for its first resident crew. Chiao totaled 13 hours and 16 minutes of EVA time in two spacewalks. The STS-92 mission was accomplished in 202 orbits, traveling 5.3 million miles in 12 days, 21 hours, 40 minutes and 25 seconds.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-sts-92-13)

**ISS**[**Expedition 10**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expedition_10) (October 9, 2004 – April 24, 2005), Chiao was the Commander of Expedition 10 on the [International Space Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Space_Station).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-exp-14)

Post-NASA career[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Leroy_Chiao&action=edit&section=5&editintro=Template:BLP_editintro)]

After leaving NASA, Chiao has become involved in entrepreneurial business ventures in both the U.S. and China.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-usaweekend-15)

In early 2006, he joined the Atlanta firm of [SpaceWorks Enterprises, Inc.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SpaceWorks_Enterprises,_Inc." \o "SpaceWorks Enterprises, Inc.) (SEI) as an affiliate and technical advisor (on a non-exclusive basis). Dr. Chiao assists the firm on space technologies and operating processes for future space exploration concepts and research on the [commercialization of space](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commercialization_of_space).[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-sei-16) In July 2006, Chiao accepted a position as the Executive Vice President for Space Operations and a Director of [Excalibur Almaz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Excalibur_Almaz) Limited.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-usaweekend-15) He was responsible for operational aspects of spaceflight, including training for both the capsule and space station.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-usaweekend-15) The company assembled a team from the Isle of Man, the United States, Russia, the Ukraine, and Continental Europe to begin work towards refurbishing and flying a capsule in space based upon the design of the Almaz capsules.

In March 2006, Chiao began an appointment in the Mechanical Engineering Department at the [Louisiana State University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louisiana_State_University) as the first Raborn Distinguished Chair [Max Faget](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Max_Faget) Professor.[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-la-17)

Chiao is also currently serving as the Chairman of the [National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Space_Biomedical_Research_Institute_(NSBRI)) User Panel, which is attached to the Baylor College of Medicine.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nsbri-18) The NSBRI, funded by NASA, is a consortium of institutions studying the health risks related to long-duration space flight. The Institute's User Panel is an advisory board composed of former and current astronauts and flight surgeons that ensures NSBRI's research program is focused on astronaut health and safety. In preparation for lunar and Mars exploration, Chiao and the User Panel will help align NSBRI's science and technology projects with the needs of astronauts on long missions.[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nsbri-18)

In July 2007, Chiao joined an expedition to visit [Devon Island](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devon_Island) and conduct 5 days of webcasts and other instructional activities spanning the period of 16–20 July 2007.[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-eaac-19) This activity was in collaboration with the Mars Institute, the [Challenger Center for Space Science Education](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Challenger_Center_for_Space_Science_Education), The [Explorers Club](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Explorers_Club) and SpaceRef Interactive, Inc. He conducted these webcasts from the [Haughton-Mars Project](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haughton-Mars_Project) Research Station and nearby locations to illustrate how NASA and other space agencies are learning to live on the Moon and Mars here on Earth.[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-eaac-19)

Chiao appeared in an episode of [MANswers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MANswers" \o "MANswers) in 2008 explaining how to neutralize an astronaut in space who has gone berserk. [[1]](https://web.archive.org/web/20090410071519/http:/www.spike.com/video/how-do-you/3067777)

In May 2009 Chiao wrote a few blog articles on Gizmodo.com detailing some of his space experiences.

In May 2009 Chiao was named as a member of the [Review of United States Human Space Flight Plans Committee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Review_of_United_States_Human_Space_Flight_Plans_Committee) an independent review requested by the [Office of Science and Technology Policy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Office_of_Science_and_Technology_Policy) (OSTP) on May 7, 2009.

In a special to CNN written by Chiao on 1 September 2011, he suggested that [China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People%27s_Republic_of_China) be permitted to join the [International Space Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Space_Station) program to remedy the issue relating to the limited options available for space travel, following the conclusion of the United States space shuttle program, and a failure of a Russian Soyuz spacecraft on 24 August 2011.[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-20)

From 2011–2016, Chiao served Epiphan Video as VP Aerospace. He currently serves as an advisor to the company. Based on NASA's space technologies, Epiphan Video produces high-resolution video capture, streaming, and recording products for the medical, educational, IT and industrial markets.[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-21) Chiao's role at Epiphan Video is to work with the aerospace industry to define the company's vision and achieve strategic goals in areas such as [air traffic control](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_traffic_control).[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-22)

From 2012–2016, Chiao was served as the special advisor – human spaceflight for the [Space Foundation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Foundation). He has been an advisor to the Houston Association of Space and Science Education since 2014. He is currently a co-founder and CEO of OneOrbit, a corporate keynote and training company, which also offers educational programs for schools and educators.

Personal life

Chiao married his wife, Karen, in 2003. She is a photographer, and her father is Dutch.[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-24) The couple has two children: twins Henry and Caroline.[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-25) Chiao enjoys flying his [Grumman Tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grumman_American_AA-5) aircraft, as well as downhill skiing.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1) He speaks English, [Mandarin Chinese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandarin_Chinese), and Russian.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-nasa_bio-1)[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao#cite_note-blog-26)

Awards and honors

[**NASA Distinguished Service Medal**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA_Distinguished_Service_Medal)(2005)

* [NASA Exceptional Service Medals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA_Exceptional_Service_Medal) (1996, 2000)
* NASA Individual Achievement Awards (2001, 2002, 2003, 2004)
* [NASA Group Achievement Awards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA_Group_Achievement_Award) (1995, 1997)
* [NASA Space Flight Medals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NASA_Space_Flight_Medal) (1994, 1996, 2000, 2005)
* [De la Vaulx Medal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_la_Vaulx_Medal) (1994)
* Induction into the [Space Technology Hall of Fame](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Technology_Hall_of_Fame) for Mediphan - DistanceDoc and MedRecorder[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leroy_Chiao" \l "cite_note-27)

**Maggie Gee Wikipedia**

Army Air Force Pilot, **Maggie GEE**

 

**Maggie Gee** (pilot)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the American aviator. For the English author, see Maggie Gee (novelist).

**Margaret "Maggie" Gee**

Born Gee Mei Gue

August 5, 1923

Berkeley, California

Died February 1, 2013 (aged 89)

Nationality American

Occupation Pilot, physicist and researcher

Known for One of two Chinese-American women pilots during World War II

Maggie Gee (August 5, 1923[1] – February 1, 2013[2]) was an American aviator who served in the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) in World War II. She was one of two Chinese-American women to serve in the organization, the other being Hazel Ying Lee.[3][4] As a WASP pilot, she helped male pilots train for combat, as female pilots were not allowed to serve in combat at that time. She also ferried military aircraft.[5]

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**Life**

Gee, one of six children, was born in Berkeley, California, August 5, 1923. She was a third-generation Chinese American; her maternal grandparents had moved to California from a village in Guangzhou. Her grandfather was a pioneer in the abalone industry on the Monterey Peninsula.[6]

In 1941, Gee enrolled at the University of California, Berkeley to study physics, but dropped out after a few months to work in the drafting department at the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, following the United States' entering World War II. Her mother Jung An Yoke also worked there, as a welder. Gee and two co-workers bought a car for US$25 and drove to Avenger Field in Sweetwater, Texas where she trained for six months to become a WASP.[6]

She later worked at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Gee also served for many decades as an elected member of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, supporting voter registration and fundraising. She also served for many years as a long-time Board member and Treasurer of the Berkeley Democratic Club in Berkeley, California. She has served on the California Democratic Party Executive Board and Asian Pacific Islander Democratic Caucus.

**Awards and recognition**

She is featured in a number of books, oral history projects, and documentaries. In 2009, a book was published about her life story called Sky High: The True Story of Maggie Gee, by Marissa Moss.[5] In 2010, she and all other living WASP pilots received the Congressional Gold Medal.[5][7]

She has received numerous awards and citations from the Democratic Party, including a posthumous award in March 2014 from the Asian Pacific Democratic Caucus of Alameda County.[citation needed]