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## A good marriage with his mother's blessing

Tai Chiang Ching's mother died early, and it was the most sorrowful memory for him. It was also the reason why he especially cherishes his marriage.

## Deeply longing for his mother

Tai Chiang Ching's mother died when he was an eleventh grader in I-Ning High School, and his younger brother was only a seventh grader. Since Tai's father was busy working on the farm and had no time to take care of his brother, Tai Chiang Ching took care of him. Tai had his brother transferred to the junior division in I-Ning High School. They rented a room and lived in Taichung together.

At that time, Tai Chiang Ching asked his younger brother to write a daily diary. However, the boy often felt asleep while writing the diary, so it took more than one hour to finish the task every day. Therefore, the two usually argued about it. Whenever Tai Chiang Ching argued with his brother, he would remember his mother. He remembered that his mother always had a lot of chores to do. Not only farm work, she also had to clean the house, feed the pigs, chickens, ducks, etc. She was indeed a traditional woman from the country, and also a good mother who loved her children.

Tai Chiang Ching's mother, Tai Lin Chai-lian, died at the age of 39.

She had gotten married to Tai Rong-hui at the age of 19. In Tai Chiang Ching's memory, his mother was not literate. Therefore, when they had to hire temporary workers for harvest seasons, his mother would keep accounts by drawing circles, symbolising the number of days the workers worked and the amount she should pay them. She also recorded people's names using drawings. She was certainly a virtuous, industrious, and caring mother.

One of Tai's recollections was that, when he was a junior high student, he wanted to buy a pair of new trousers. However, his grandfather controlled his family's finances. His grandfather said, "The trousers are still usable, so you don't need to buy new ones." However, Tai Chiang Ching was very sad when he was told this wanted to cry. His mother knew he was really sad, so she used her own savings to order a pair of new trousers for him. Tai Chiang Ching was deeply impressed and had warm feelings towards his mother for this act of kindness.

On one occasion, Tai Chiang Ching's little brother wanted to eat canned pears, so he pretended to be ill and did not go to school. His mother went out and bought him the canned pears he wanted. Although Tai Chiang Ching and his younger brother both thought that their littlest brother was too "crafty," they still remember it as a sweet moment whenever they think about their childhood memories.

## A marriage of destiny

After Tai Chiang Ching started his own enterprise, his father often urged him to get married. He told Tai Chiang Ching, "You must get married before undertaking your business, so your wife can help you to guard what you have earned." =hen Tai Chiang Ching first went back to his hometown to start his own enterprise, his family situation was becoming difficult. They were already in debt because they had borrowed money from banks, relatives and friends to pay Mrs. Tai's medical bills. Therefore, they were not able to help Tai Chiang Ching in business. Besides, Tai also wanted to help his father pay off the debts. He had no more savings left as he had established own enterprise. Nevertheless, he knew that getting married and raising a family was going to cost money. He also worried that he couldn't find the right woman to be his wife.