

Chien-Shiung Wu

(May 29-31, 1912-
February 16, 1997)

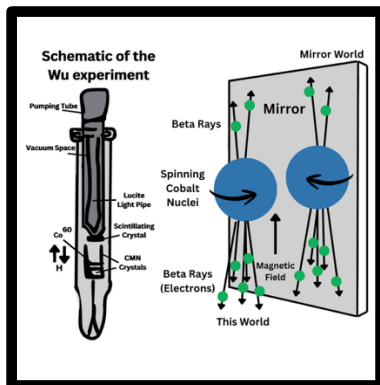
Nuclear Physicist

Chinese American

Place of Birth: Liuhe,
Jiangsu, China

Place of Death: New York
City, New York

Invention: Wu Experiment
That Disproved Parity Law



Kouji Agcaoli (SFSU 2024)

Chien-Shiung's mother was a teacher, and her father was an engineer. She was deeply influenced by her father, who advocated women's education and founded a school for girls. In 1936, Chien-Shiung moved to pursue her doctorate in physics at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1956, Tsung-Dao Lee and Chen Ning Yang asked for Chien-Shiung's help to disprove the Parity Law that states the laws of physics should be the same for a system and its mirror image. She invented the Wu Experiment that shattered the Parity Law. The two men received the Nobel Prize in 1957 for their work but not Chien-Shiung. Today, she is recognized as the First Lady of Physics.