

# **In MEMORIAM**

**Honkawa, Yukinori, 98**, Los Angeles, CA, Jan. 11; survived by son, Tom (Suzanne Iwamura) Honkawa; brother, Yoshiharu (May) Honkawa; also survived by many nieces, nephews and relatives.

by her husband, Dick Kizuka; and son, Terry Kizuka; she is survived by her son, Gary Kizuka; she is also survived by other relatives.

**Kizuka, Fujiko, 97**, Los Angeles, CA Jan. 3; she was predeceased

**Kobayashi, Kendal, 20**, Corvallis, OR, April 5.

**Kobayashi, Ruth Chizuko, 92**,

Torrance, CA, Feb. 10; she was predeceased by her husband, George Hiroshi Kobayashi; she is survived by her children, Dani, J. D. and Kipp; daughter-in-law, Marta; gc: 2.

**Kobayashi, Yumi, 69**, Hillsborough, CA, April 5.

**Kubota, Miyeko, 98**, Fresno, CA, Jan. 6; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Heart Mountain WRA Center in WY; she was predeceased by her husband, James Kubota; and sisters, Shizue Horiuchi and Delmar Gotanda; she is survived by her children, Russell, Debbie, Marshall and Barton; gc: 8; ggc: 6.

**Kubota, Lawrence Yukio, 80**, Garden Grove, CA, Feb. 21; he is survived by his sister, Dianne Hamano and her family; he is also survived by many relatives.

**Kuge, Melba, 82**, Torrance, CA Jan. 17; and **Kuge, Vernon Kingo, 86**, Torrance, CA, Feb. 23; they are survived by their children, Kenneth Gregory Kuge and Carole Lynn (Derek Masato) Kawamura; gc: 3.

**Kurihara, Kei, 86**, Los Angeles, CA, Dec. 22, 2020; an Air Force veteran; he was predeceased by his wife, Hatsue; he is survived by his sons, Clifford Kurihara and Dale Kurihara; siblings, Frank Kurihara and Shirley Harada; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

**Kurihara, Patrick, 71**, Orosi, CA, Nov. 9, 2020; he is survived by his wife, Pattie Kurihara; sons, Jason, Tom and Michael; sister, Ellen Laines (Donald); and 2 nephews.

**Kuwata, Patsy, 86**, Torrance, CA, Jan. 6; she was predeceased by her husband, Frank Kuwata; son, Dean Kuwata; and sister, June Shishido; she is survived by her son, Kevin Kuwata; siblings, James Akiyama, Carol Akiyama and Amy Sagawa; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

**Miyamura, Masaru, 85**, Patterson, CA, Nov. 21, 2020; he is survived by his wife, Aurora; children, Rudy, Michael, Martha (Jerry), Nancy (Lorin) and Laura (Steven); sister, Hideko Murakami; sisters-in-law,

Sally and Saeko; gc: 9 ggc: 10.

**Morita, Fusako, 94**, Gardena, CA, Dec. 25, 2020; she is survived by her children, Ann Shima (Mike) and Barry Morita (Diane); gc: 4.

**Morita, Hatsumi, 93**, Los Angeles, CA, Dec. 19, 2020; she was predeceased by her husband, Katsuto Tom Morita, daughter, Margaret Haruye Abo, and son, Ken Kenji Morita; she is survived by her children, Don Shigeru (Linda) Morita and Barbara Michiko (Ken) Masuyama; she is also survived by many gc and ggc and nieces, nephews and other relatives.

**Nishiyama, Mary T., 92**, Denver, CO, Dec. 4, 2020; she was predeceased by her husband, Massey Nishiyama; and siblings, Ken and Fumi; she is survived by her daughter, Julie Cleary (Andy); siblings, Dr. Harry Hatasaka (Sadako), Lorena Kawamura, Sam (Pat) Hatasaka, Stanley Hatasaka and Sharon Hatasaka; gc: 2; ggc: 1.

**Nishiyama, Soichiro 'Swiss,' 90**, Pasadena, CA, Jan. 17; he was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth "Bette" Nishiyama; he is survived by his children, Kirk Nishiyama (JoAnne) and Michele Nishiyama Esbenshade (Andrew); gc: 4.

**Nomura, Florence, 99**, Sierra Madre, CA, Jan. 11; she was predeceased by her husband, Sho; and son, Robert; she is survived by her children, Ann, Nancy, Lynn and Tim; gc: 5; ggc: 3.

**Oyama, Mieko, 94**, Montebello, CA, Jan. 4; she is survived by her husband, William; children, Joy (Paul) Middo and Ken (Vanessa) Oyama; brother, James (Yuri) Segawa; gc: 5.

**Suzuki, Terry, 71**, Dallas, GA, Dec. 6, 2020.

**Yamamoto, Lawrence Toshimichi, 91**, San Francisco, CA, March 18; during WWII, he was incarcerated at the Gila River WRA Center in AZ; he was predeceased by his son, Kenichi Yamamoto; Leo Yamamoto; he is survived by his wife, Judith; daughters, Omi and Ruth; siblings, Chitose (Chibi) Yasumoto and Stanley Yama-

moto; gc: 1.

**Yamamoto, Sueko, 91**, Las Vegas, NV, March 14; she was predeceased by her husband, Milton Yukio Yamamoto; and son, Milton Yukio Yamamoto Jr.; she is survived by her children, Lani Donnelly, Mona Kato and Randy Yamamoto; gc: 8; ggc: 6.

**Yamane, Felipa, 92**, San Diego, CA, March 19; she is survived by her husband, Bernabe J. Yamane; children, Joseph Yamane, Jesus Yamane, Renato Yamane, Antonio Yamane and Grace Yamane.

**Yamashita, Hisaye Judy, 82**, Visalia, CA, Feb. 27; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her sisters, Suzuko Sue Matsuda, Setsuko Betty Hasebe, Shizue Susie Yamashita and Katsuko Nancy Yamashita; she is survived by her siblings, Aiko Hasebe, Seiji Yamashita and June Yasuda.

**Yamazaki, James, 104**, White Salmon, WA, March 5; Army veteran, WWII, battalion surgeon for the 590th Artillery Battalion in the 106th Infantry Division who was captured at Battle of the Bulge, marched and bombed while transported in trains, hundreds of miles, to POW camps; he was predeceased by his wife, Aki (Hirashiki) Yamazaki; son, Noel; grandson, Masami; he is survived by his children, Paul (Sara), Katharine and Caroline (Brad) Roberts; gc: 5; ggc: 7. ■

TRIBUTE

**RONALD KATSUYAMA**



Ronald Katsuyama, 76, a lifelong member of JACL and former National Board member passed away March 2. With a "gambaru" spirit, he fought bravely for several months at Stanford Hospital against a sudden, aggressive lymphoma and was with his wife, Jane, and family at the end.

Ron valued the many friendships he made during his decades with the JACL. As president of the JACL chapter in Dayton, Ohio, he enjoyed planning gatherings and events to

bring the Japanese American community together. He also served as the Midwest governor (2007) and as JACL National Board VP of Public Affairs (2010).

During WWII, Ron, his parents (Harry and Alyce) and brother, Allen, were incarcerated at the U.S. government's WRA center in Minidoka, Idaho. Ron grew up in San Francisco, where he discovered a lifelong love for camping and basketball as a member of the Japanese American Boy Scouts Troop 12 and Japantown basketball league. He graduated from Washington High School and UC Berkeley before earning a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. Ron was honored as a professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Dayton in 2017 when he retired after 44 years of research in child psychology and social justice issues.

In Ohio, Ron was always working to build bridges and uplift the voices of AAPI communities.

He co-founded the Dayton Asian American Council and Ohio Asian American Health Coalition. He also served on the Ohio Governor's Asian Pacific Islander Advisory Committee for Govs. Strickland, Kasich and DeWine. In the arts, he served as a board member of the Victoria Theater Association and the Human Race Theatre, where he worked to bring George Takei to Dayton to perform the musical "Pacific Overtures." Ron also served as a Japanese American National Museum governor.

Ron found joy in running, completing the Columbus, New York and San Francisco marathons, always training to run the next one a little faster.

He is survived by his wife, Jane, children Sean (Hyunju) and Jana (Tito), grandchild Tatsuo, niece Kathy Brodowy (Bret) and many relatives. A celebration of Ron's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that remembrances be made to the National JACL designated for the "Ron Katsuyama Memorial Fund" <https://jacl.org/donate>.

**PLACE A TRIBUTE**  
 'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/ column inch.  
**CONTACT:**  
 Editorial@pacificcitizen.org or call (213) 620-1767 ext. 104

久保田日系葬儀社  
**KUBOTA NIKKEI MORTUARY**  
 Reliable, personalized care  
 日本語でも親切にお世話させていただきます。  
 T (213)749-1449  
 F (213)749-0265  
 911 VENICE BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA 90015  
 www.kubotanikkimortuary.com

**福井 FUKUI MORTUARY**  
 Five Generations of Experience FD #808  
 707 East Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 Gerald Fukui President  
 Ph. 213/626-0441 Fax 213/617-2781

**STACI TOJI, ESQ.**  
**TOJI LAW, APC**  
 Estate Planning for the Generations

3655 Torrance Blvd., Suite 300 | Torrance, CA 90503  
 (424) 247-1123 | [staci@tojilaw.com](mailto:staci@tojilaw.com) | [www.tojilaw.com](http://www.tojilaw.com)

**LIVING TRUSTS | WILLS | POWERS OF ATTORNEY**