

In MEMORIAM



Asing, Shyoko (Kurasaki), 80, San Jose, CA, Sept. 1; she was predeceased by her sisters, Sayo Nakamura, Sumi Shiraki and May Sueki; she is survived by her husband, Darrell; children, Tiffany and Chris (Sarah); sisters, Sets Otani, Ruby (Sab) Kobashi; gc: 3.



Ikemiya, Carolyn Akiko, 93, Fresno, CA, Aug. 5; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at a WRA Center; B.S., UC Berkeley; activities: Sierra Kings Hospital Auxiliary, the Reedley Buddhist Church, Buddhist Women's Assn. and JACL; she was predeceased by her husband, James; she is survived by her children, Carol Akiyama (Robert), Janet Ikemiya (Michael Lombardo), Stephen Ikemiya (Sonia), Kenneth Ikemiya (Lori) and Cheryl Ikemiya (Alden Bagnall); gc: 11.



Nakashima, Fujiye Jean, 95, Fresno, CA, June 6; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Jerome and Rohwer WRA Centers in AR; activities: Bowles Buddhist Church, Bowles Shinwakai, Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple, Fresno Betsuin Senior Club and Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Women's Assn.; she was predeceased by her husband, Masao; she is survived by her children, Mitchell (Lynn) Nakashima and Elaine (Jun) Tamura; gc: 3; ggc: 3.



Tamura, Haruko, 83, Spokane, WA, Sept. 13; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Puyallup (Camp Harmony) Assembly Center and the Minidoka WRA Center in ID; she was predeceased by her husband, Jim; she is survived by her children, Jim Jr., Patti and Rod; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives gc: 3; ggc: 3.



Yamaoka, Misako, 99, Sunnyvale, CA, May 6; before WWII, she attended Mt. Diablo High School in Concord, CA, and in Spring 2022 received a belated honorary diploma because she and her family were forcibly relocated and incarcerated at the Gila River WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her husband, George; she is survived by her children, George T. Yamaoka, Larry (Vickie) Yamaoka and Bonnie Yamaoka; sister, Evelyn (Ted) Komaki; gc: 4; ggc: 4. ■

Ushiyama, Marcia S., 97, Honolulu, HI, June 19.

TRIBUTE

MARION SUZUKI



Hatasaka, Harry Hideo, 93, Palo Alto, CA, June 12; B.A., University of Colorado; D.D.S., Northwestern University; M.S.D., Orthodontics, University of Washington School of Dentistry; activities: JACL (governor, NCWNPDC); Optimist Club; he is survived by his wife, Sadako (Matsushita); children, Leslie Lynne (Stuart) Blackburn, Harry (Julia) Hideo Jr., Mark Teizo and Kimberley Anne (Matthew) Ainsley; siblings, Lorina, Sam, Stanley, Sharon; gc: 5.

Inouye, David G., 68, Westminster, MD, July 1; he was predeceased by his sister, Carol Ward; he is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Christopher Inouye and Jeffrey Inouye (Hannah Mumbert); uncle, George Kobayashi; aunt, Hester Kobayashi.



Katsumoto, Malcolm Tsuneo, 93, Mercer Island, WA, April 23; B.A., University of Hawaii; veteran (USAF); activities: board, Japan-America Society; he is survived by his wife, Chizuko; children, Diane, Kenneth and Jean; son-in-law, Paul; gc: 4.



Obana, John, 62, Walnut Creek, CA, July 13; B.S., UC Berkeley; he was predeceased by his father, George; aunt, T. Miriam Tani; he is survived by his wife, Crysti; mother, Mary Obana; and siblings, Kathryn Obana, William Obana, Mary Obana-Lannon and Stephen Obana.

Hirano, Sally Mitsuko, 83, La Palma, CA, June 15; she was predeceased by her husband, Kenneth Tamio Hirano, and sister, Shirley Matsumoto; she is survived by her son, Kelly Saburo Hirano (partner: Lupe De Los Angeles); siblings, Harriet Dunn, Janet Terri (Paul) Ogasawara, Wilfred (Jean) and Earl Kuroyama; she is also survived by grandnieces and grandnephews.

Muench, Beverly Miyamoto, 72, Altadena, CA, July 20; she is survived by her husband, Bob; sisters, Madeline Dwyer and Karen Sasaki; brothers-in-law, Stephen Sasaki, Thomas Oshita and Richard (Suzy) Muench; she is also survived by nephews, nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces.

Shimabukuro, Dean Koki, 58, Vienna, VA, March 29; he was predeceased by his brother, Daryl; he is survived by his parents; brother, Earl; and sister-in-law, Fun.

Tamakawa, Justin T., 47, San Francisco, Aug. 17; B.S., UCLA; he is survived by his son, Kai; sisters, Kerri and Coryne; parents, Thomas and Faye; he is also survived by nieces and a nephew.

Marion Tami Suzuki passed peacefully on Oct. 10, 2022, at the age of 97. Marion was the sixth and youngest child of Tokutaro and Toyo Oishi. Her immigrant father and his brothers were pioneers in the nursery business, with floral and nursery operations in San Jose, Richmond, Oakland and San Francisco.

Marion grew up on Blossom Street in the Fruitvale District of Oakland. From 1942-45, the Oishis were held at the Tanforan temporary detention center and then incarcerated at the Topaz concentration camp in the Sevier Desert, Utah. Marion was a member of the first Topaz High School graduating class, in 1943. With assistance from the American Friends Service Committee and the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council, she left Topaz to attend the University of New Hampshire. The Oishis were released in the summer of 1945 and returned to Oakland. Marion graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1951, and completed certificate work in physical therapy at UC San Francisco.

In 1953, she married Frank Suzuki, a Nisei farmer from Cressey in Merced County. Marion moved to the country where they raised five girls. She worked as a physical therapist, working with students with cerebral palsy and other disabilities at the Sonoma School in Modesto until she was 76 years old. Marion served as a mentor to Hmong students in her community, and on the local scholarship committee of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund which benefits deserving Southeast Asian American students.

Marion was active in the Livingston United Methodist Church, Livingston United Methodist Women, Livingston-Merced Japanese American Citizens League and the Nisei Bowling League. In 2012, Marion and Frank moved to Alameda to be near their children. Marion is remembered by her family as kind, gracious, fun, fashionable, engaged, ever-optimistic mother of deep spiritual faith who was committed to peace with justice. Marion was an avid sports fan as well as a political activist.

Upon being belatedly awarded a high school diploma from the Alameda County Board of Education, she gave this message to the 2004 Oakland Technical High School graduates:

"I wish to impress upon you to always be aware of the fragility of our civil liberties. Let us affirm our faith in our country by upholding its wonderful principles of justice for all. Let us each be a fearless ambassador for everyone."

Marion was predeceased by her beloved husband, Frank; dear siblings, Ben, Tatsuya, Sada (Mori) and Junko; and extended family, including her 27 Oishi/Sakai/Shimizu cousins of California and Japan. She is survived by her daughters, Lori Suzuki (Dean Ito Taylor), Wendy Horikoshi (Peter), Heidi Suzuki (George Oyama), Tami Suzuki (Rich Eijima) and Teri Suzuki; grandchildren, Steven and Kevin Horikoshi, Masao Ito Taylor, Derek Oyama and Riki and Tomi Eijima.

A service to celebrate the life of Marion Suzuki will be held on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2022, 2 p.m. at Livingston United Methodist Church, 11695 Olive Ave., Livingston, CA. Those attending should be fully vaccinated and wear masks. In lieu of flowers or koden, donations may be made to Buena Vista United Methodist Church, Livingston UMC, Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach, or the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund.

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