

In MEMORIAM



Adachi, Eric Akio, 61, Chula Vista, CA, March 23.

Arakaki, Geraldine Itsumi, 76, Hilo, HI, Feb. 8.

Arakaki, Roy Nobuo, 79, Hilo, HI, Feb. 28.

Ishibashi, Tadao, 96, Los Angeles, CA, June 3.

Kikekawa, Nobuko, 45, Sierra Madre, CA, July 12.



Kobayashi, Barbara, 86, San Francisco, CA, June 6.

Kobayashi, Betty Sachiko, 85, Honolulu, HI, March 9.

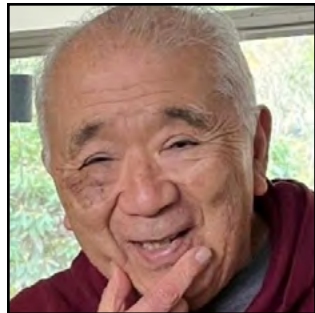
Matsunaga, Mabel Chin, 92, Clovis, CA, March 1.



Matsuura, Betty Hinako, 92, Sacramento, CA Feb. 28.

Mikami, Shirley, 79, Torrance, CA, May 8.

Mikuni, Betty, 91, Pasadena, CA, June 5.



Miura, Neal, 86, San Mateo, CA, April 25.

Miyamoto Jr., Thomas Akira, 41, Kahului, HI, Jan. 21.

Mukai, Shizue, 98, Fowler, CA, Jan. 28.

Morita, James Susumu, 93, Honolulu, HI, Feb. 9.

Nakagawa, Craig, 65, Hilo, HI, April 1.

Nakagawa, Maurice, 80, Cypress, CA, June 27.

Onishi, Katsuhiko, 79, Oakland, CA, Nov. 29, 2023; veteran, Navy (Vietnam); he is survived by his wife, Mieko Anne; son, Christopher (Jaclyn); gc: 2.

Otsuji, Elaine Keiko, San Diego, CA, May 15; she is survived by her husband, Dennis; brother, Dick Yamane (Judy); and many nieces and nephews, and other relatives.

Oye, Leah Kujubu, 70, Los Angeles, CA, March 9.



Shiba, Misayo, 99, Los Angeles, CA, Dec. 27, 2023.

Shiraiwa, Josephine, 89, Porter Ranch, CA, Dec. 27, 2023.

Suzuki, Arnold M. 'Bubba,' 71, Sheboygan, WI, Dec. 31, 2023.

Takahashi, Hiroko, 90, San Jose, CA, Jan. 19.

Takahata, Lucille Ruriko, 96, Redmond, WA.

Takeuchi, Bessie Shizuko, 92, Torrance, CA, March 31.

Taniguchi, Marie, 89, Fresno, CA, March 13.

Tsuda, Christine, 94, Orange, CA, March, 13.

Yamada, Kelvin, 65, Sacramento, CA, April 26.

Yamamoto, Lorraine, 75, Willowick, OH, Dec. 15, 2023.

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas Dies

By Associated Press and JACL

Longtime U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas, who helped lead federal efforts to protect women from domestic violence and recognize Juneteenth as a national holiday, has died. She was 74.

Lillie Conley, her chief of staff, confirmed that Jackson Lee, who had pancreatic cancer, died in Houston on July 19 with her family around her.

Jackson Lee was "a towering figure in our politics," President Joe Biden said in a statement Saturday. "Always fearless, she spoke truth to power and represented the power of the people of her district in Houston with dignity and grace."

In a joint statement, the National JACL and the JACL Houston chapter stated being "deeply saddened" to learn of Jackson Lee's death.

JACL worked most closely with the Jackson Lee on the issue of Black reparations, specifically with

regard to HR40, which seeks to establish a commission to study reparation proposals for descendants of formerly enslaved Americans of African heritage.

"Congresswoman Lee was a very strong advocate, champion and leader for the people of Houston for many, many years, particularly communities of color and the marginalized. She will be very much missed," stated JACL Houston Chapter President Colleen Morimoto. "Regarding JACL Houston, Congresswoman Lee was always very gracious, expressing her appreciation for JACL standing by the Black community through HR40."

Jackson Lee graduated from Yale and earned her law degree at the University of Virginia. She was a judge in Houston before she was elected to Houston City Council in 1989, then ran for Congress in 1994. (To read the JACL's statement regarding Jackson Lee's death, visit tinyurl.com/3p2ewmhx.)

SJSU Judoka Yoshihiro Uchida Dies at 104

By P.C. Staff

Yosh Uchida died June 27 at his home in Saratoga, Calif., about 13 miles San Jose State University, where he put his mark on American sports — and where in 1997 SJSU feted the 10th-dan judo sensei by naming a building after him: Yoshihiro Uchida Hall. He was 104.

Some press reports listed his height as 5 feet, 2 inches. Others added three more inches. It almost doesn't matter: By any yardstick, Yosh Uchida was a sequoia, judo's Japanese American Johnny Appleseed, a San Jose community businessman-turned-benefactor, and a much-honored icon.

Uchida was born April 1, 1920, in Calexico, Calif., to Suye and Shikazo Uchida. Like the chili peppers, lettuce and tomatoes his farm family cultivated on leased land, he grew up Garden Grove, Calif. At his parents' insistence, he and his brothers began training in judo.

After completing high school, Uchida attended Fullerton Junior College, transferring in 1940 to San Jose State College to study chemical engineering and help coach the school's judo students. He would also receive his draft notice prior to his nation's Dec. 8, 1941, declaration of war on his parent's homeland following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. In the Army, Uchida would eventually be assigned to Fort Meade, S.D., where he trained to become a medical lab tech.

After serving, Uchida rematriculated to SJSU and earned a degree in biology in 1947. He also returned to judo, now as a coach. But before he could begin his push to have the Amateur Athletic Union to recognize judo as a collegiate sport, he needed a job.

Enter San Jose wrestling coach Sam Della Maggiore — later a City

of San Jose councilman and Santa Clara County supervisor — who helped him land a job at a local hospital. That would lead to him later becoming San Jose Hospital's manager of medical technology — and by 1956, set the stage for his wife and he to found what would become Laboratory Services Inc. In 1989, the Uchidas sold it for \$30 million.

In 1964, when Japan was the host nation for the Summer Olympic Games and judo was introduced as an Olympic sport, Uchida coached the U.S. team, a duty he would repeat on several more occasions.

Uchida's judo résumé led to several honors, including entry into the San Jose Sports Authority Hall of Fame and SJSU's Legends Hall of Fame, the Tower Award — SJSU's highest award — for his decades of service to SJSU and from the Japanese government, the Order of the Sacred Treasure with Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon.

The sale of Uchida's Laboratory Services Inc. led to him forming with other investors the San Jose Nihonmachi Corp., which went on to develop housing and commercial buildings in a drive to revitalize San Jose's Japantown.

In addition to being predeceased by his wife, he was also predeceased by daughter Janice Uchida and siblings Isamu (Sam), Suehiro (Henry), Shikao (George) and Kazuko. He is survived by daughters Lydia Uchida Sakai (Steve Sakai), Aileen Uchida (Steven Shimizu), grandsons Michael Sakai and Kyle Sakai (Anh Thu Tran) and granddaughter Amelia The Sakai, many nieces and nephews and grandnieces and grand-nephews, as well as judo students, alumni and friends.

A public memorial is being scheduled for early fall. To view a video about Uchida, visit tinyurl.com/4bx7z4vp.

TRIBUTE

VIOLET TANAKA

Violet "Vi" Tanaka passed away peacefully in July 2024 at the age of 97 in Los Angeles.

After being interned at Tule Lake during WWII, she settled in San Francisco, where she lived for over 50 years. Vi loved dancing, baking, dining with friends and family and frequenting casinos. She cherished playing cards with friends and was a longtime member of the Buddhist Church and The Center.

Preceded in death by her husband, Minoru "Min," and son, Steven, Vi is survived by her daughter, Diana. In lieu of koden or flowers, donations can be made to "The Center" at jccnc.org in Vi's memory.

A celebration of her life will be held later this year at The Center in San Francisco. Vi's kindness, generosity and Bishop's Bread will be missed by all who knew her.

PLACE A TRIBUTE
 'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tribute Ads honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$25/column inch.
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