

In MEMORIAM

(Note: Boldfaced names in blue in the PDF version of this are active hyperlinks.)



Adachi, Michael Raymond Naoki, 43, Cleveland, OH, March 10.

Aoyama, Aiko, 93, Lodi, CA, Feb. 6.

Arakaki, Wayne, 70, Kapaa, HI, April 25.

Erabi, Sachie, 98, San Francisco, CA, May 22.

Fukushima, Marvin Dell, 70, Lemon Grove, CA, Aug. 9.

Hakozaki, Junko, 52, Honolulu, HI, June 9.



Hayakawa, Pauline Iyoko, 98, Torrance, CA, Jun 21.



Hayashi, Shiro Roy, 90, Woodinville, WA, June 29.



Horiye, Charlie, 97, San Diego, CA, Dec. 11, 2025.

Ikeda, Tok Hui, 78, Smyrna, DE, April 3.



Jitchaku, Barbara 'BJ' Emiko, 87, Hilo, HI, Sept. 7.

Kanemoto, Marion Masako, 98, Sacramento, CA, July 29.



Katayanagi, Natalie, 99, Richmond, CA, June 18.

Koyama, Robert, 69, Lodi, CA, July 17.



Kiyota Kulp, Yasuko, 89, Blaine, MN, July 24.

Kunitomi, Dale, 83, Camarillo, CA, Aug. 29.



Kurokawa, Timothy James, 78, Wolf Point, MT, Sept. 16.

Mizono, Dorothy, 97, Walnut Creek, CA, Sept. 4.

Moritsugu, Ruiko, 92, Mineola, NY, May 22.

Nitz, Yoshiko, 85, Maple Valley, WA, Aug. 20.

Niwa, Ujinobu, 99, Santa Barbara, CA, April 11.

Saito, Kiyoko Okinaka, 95, Kahului, HI, May 12.



Takahashi, Hiroshi, 72, Ridgewood, NJ, June 21.

Takahashi, Hisae, 77, Madison, WI, April 13.

Tomikawa, Myron Masato, 83, Los Angeles, CA, March 27.



Tominaga, Ray, 68, Blackfoot, ID, March 12.

Tsuchikawa, Pete Katsumi, 73, Seattle, WA, April 18.



Watanabe, Nancy, 93, Torrance, CA, July 16.

Yamada, Magdalena, 92, Yuba City, CA, April 22.

Yamane, William Tadamasu, 90, Torrance, CA, July 23.

Yoshimura, Hisako, 98, Pahala, HI, March 29.

News Briefs

Former JACL Executive Director Tateishi Among Cohort Saluted by Japan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan announced that John Tateishi, (see March 6, 2020 *Pacific Citizen*, [tinyurl.com/2b2pzk6n](https://www.pacificcitizen.com/2020/03/06/jaccl-executive-director-tateishi/)), who served the Japanese American Citizens League as executive director, National Redress Committee chair and National Redress director, was among the many who will be awarded Foreign Minister's Commendations on Oct. 1 for his "promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S.A." The commendations are awarded to individuals and groups with "outstanding achievements in international fields, in order to acknowledge their contributions to the promotion of friendship between Japan and other countries and areas." For FY 2026, there were 159 individuals and 67 groups recognized. The complete list of awardees is at [tinyurl.com/3jfpn5hv](https://www.pacificcitizen.com/2026/09/25/jaccl-awardees/). In related news, on Sept. 18, Principal John Hopper of Colorado's Granada High School was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Silver Rays, from the Consulate General of Japan in Denver. He founded and has served as the president of the Amache Preservation Society. During WWII, a War Relocation Authority Center, also known as Camp Amache, was located near Granada, Colo. Between 1942-45, it incarcerated 7,318 people of Japanese heritage, including U.S. citizens. It was named a National Parks Service National Historic Site in 2024.

George, Brad Takei Pledge to Bequeath Estate Valued at \$21M to JANM

The Japanese American National Museum has announced that George Takei and Brad Takei have pledged that the museum will be the sole beneficiary of their estate, presently valued at more than \$21 million. "It is an honor for the Japanese American National Museum to be the sole beneficiary the Takei estate," said JANM President and CEO Ann Burroughs. "George's and Brad's commitment to our mission and their iconic leadership in tackling the toughest civil rights issues in our country continue to inspire the work we do every day." Best-known for being a member of the ensemble cast of the original "Star Trek" TV series, actor George Takei (see Dec. 19, 2019, *Pacific Citizen*, [tinyurl.com/ybm5dj9r](https://www.pacificcitizen.com/2019/12/19/george-takei/)) has a résumé that also includes books and graphic novels, as well as movies and live theater. Read more at [tinyurl.com/bdhh936u](https://www.pacificcitizen.com/2026/09/25/takei-estate/). In related news, on Oct. 7, the Los Angeles Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists will present its Freedom of Information Award to JANM CEO and President Ann Burroughs. Among the six journalists to be awarded 2026 Distinguished Journalists Awards are ESPN's Mina Kimes and *Gardena Valley News* and *Culver City News* editor Gary Kohatsu.

Duly Noted: OC Black Chamber to Honor Past JACL Nat'l Prexy Ken Inouye

On Oct. 1, the Black Chamber of Orange County will honor Kenneth Inouye with its 2026 Distinguished Service Award at its 42nd annual banquet for his years-long record of exceptional leadership. It will take place at 5:30 p.m. at the Costa Mesa Hilton. TV director Hiro Murai won an Emmy in the category Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series at the 78th Emmy Awards on Sept. 14 for an episode of Apple TV's "Widow's Bay." On the technical side, winning an Emmy in the category Outstanding Stunt Coordination for Drama Programming for the Prime Video series "The Boys" was supervising stunt coordinator John Koyama. Other Emmy winners: character designer Takashi Okazaki for Outstanding Individual Achievement in Animation for "Star Wars: Visions" (Disney +); producer Claire Tadokoro for Outstanding Short Form Comedy, Drama or Variety Series for "Colbert Before Air" (YouTube); and key costumer Kellie Ishisaki for Outstanding Contemporary Costumes for a Limited or Anthology Series or Movie for "Beef" (Netflix).

— P.C. Staff

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'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 \$25/column inch.

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