



Jimmy K. Kawabata

May 30, 1933 - January 16, 2025

Jimmy Katsumi Kawabata, 91, passed away peacefully on January 16, 2025 at 6:30PM in his sleep.

Jim was born on May 30, 1933 to Keizo and Sao Kawabata in Ventura CA. After graduating from Santa Rosa High School, he joined the US Airforce as an airplane mechanic. While in the service Jim earned a degree from Parks College studying Aviation and Electrical Mechanics. He received the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, and the U.N. Service Medal before he was honorably discharged in 1959.

After leaving the Airforce, he settled in Spokane WA working as an automobile mechanic. He was involved with Highland Park United Methodist church and enjoyed snow skiing, water-skiing, and boating.

In 1968, Jim met Patricia Nishiguchi in Vancouver, Canada while on a ski trip. Jim and Pat were married for 55 years and went on to have 2 children, Laurie and Mark, and three grandchildren, Benjamin, Emma, and Shelby.

In 1998, Jim retired and spent time with his wife going on cruises and traveling the world. They visited, Africa, China, Japan, Thailand, Russia, Panama, the Mediterranean , and all around the United States. Jim enjoyed tinkering in his workshop on anything broken, landscaping, and spending time with his grandchildren. Jim and Pat moved to Vancouver WA in 2016.

Jim was predeceased by his sisters, Sallie and Sachi. He is survived by his wife, children, and three grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held in Spokane, WA when the weather gets

warmer. No date has been set yet.

Tribute Wall

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“ Pat, Mark and Laurie, Jim was a great person and glad we had the opportunity of knowing him. Thinking of you. Greg, Isaac, Kim and Amanda

Anonymous - February 19, 2025 at 12:00 AM

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“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory

A Memorial Tree was planted for Jimmy K. Kawabata - February 18, 2025 at 12:00 AM