



Takeo Utsumi

February 5, 1938 - September 21, 2022

Takeo “Toc” Utsumi, 84, of Grand Island, died peacefully at home on Sept., 21st, 2022 with his wife and best friend, Kathleen Kamper, at his side. Toc is formally from Lincoln, Nebraska where he and his family owned and operated Azalealand Floral and Greenhouse which was founded in 1942. Toc was the front man and has always been a people person. He was an influential floral designer and his arrangements won many awards. Toc loved NFL football, reading his many newspapers, cooking, gardening, and playing poker when he had the chance.

In 1986, Toc and Kathleen met at Dreisbach’s Steak house in Grand Island where he was a manager for Pat Dowd. The couple moved to Denver, Colorado in 1987 where they owned and operated a Greenhouse and Janitorial business. They resided in Colorado until moving to Kathleen’s home town of Grand Island, Nebraska in 2012. Following this move, Toc’s jobs included working as a janitor at the Grand Generation Center, prep cook at Nathans Detroit’s and at the Central Nebraska Humane Society where he processed the laundry for all the beloved animals. He continued to work until he contracted covid in February of 2022.

Kathleen would like to sincerely thank all of the people who considered Toc as their friend/family, as he thoroughly enjoyed each and every one of you!

Toc is survived by his wife Kathleen, sisters-in-law; Joleen Carrillo; Colleen (Pete) DeLeon; Arleen (Payday Galvan) Kamper, all of Grand Island; Dorleen Kamper Jakubowski (Chuck) of Ashton, Ne., Gayleen Kamper Bjerke (Greg)

of Colorado and many nieces and nephews.

Toc was preceded in death by his parents Masami and Harve (Motoya) Utsumi; his only sibling Hitoshi "Tosh" Utsumi and Tosh's wife Lynn. Also, his father-in-law and mother-in-law, George and JoAnn Kamper; brother-in-law Victor Carrillo and nephew Terry Jo Martin.

All Faiths Funeral Home was in charge of the cremation. Private family services will be planned at a later date.

Memorials are suggested to the Central Nebraska Humane Society in Toc's name.

Tribute Wall

PA

“ *First time I met Toc he reminded me of "Chief" in the movie, "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest". His heart was as big as his stature. Kathleen and Toc became the best of friends over the years. I remember the visits, great food, (cottage cheese pancakes) conversation, flowers, roof garden, kindness and friendship. So sorry for your loss Kathleen. Love, Paulette*

Paulette - January 14, 2024 at 01:10 PM



“ *Takeo Utsumi*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Takeo Utsumi.*



October 06, 2022 at 04:44 PM

RM

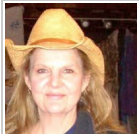
“ *I'm very sorry to read about Toc's passing. It was always a pleasure to know he was in the kitchen at Dreisbach's when dining there. Plus just about the nicest guy I've ever met. My thoughts and prayers are with you Kathleen. It is a long road but he is with you.*
Ron Mills

Ron Mills - September 26, 2022 at 07:52 PM

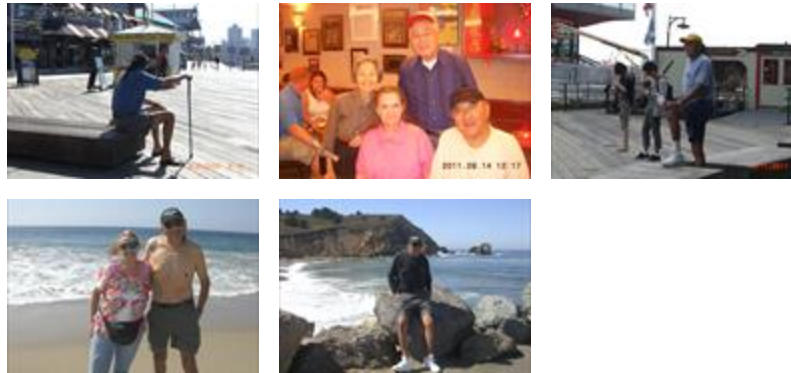
GA

“ Kathleen,
Words cannot express our sorrow for your loss. Toc was such a good man with a big heart and will be missed many. We are so thankful for all the wonderful memories we have of him. All of our vacations together and the good times we have had! We will cherish them forever! The world is a better place for having known someone so special... God bless you and may he bring you peace and comfort during this difficult time. We love you sister.
Gayleen & Greg

Gayleen - September 25, 2022 at 05:39 AM



“ 9 files added to the album Toc and Kathleen through the years

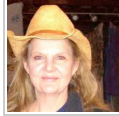


Kathleen K Kamper - September 24, 2022 at 01:43 PM

SM

“ My condolences to Kathleen and her family on Toc's loss. He was such a kind and generous person who was loved by so many. The world is a sadder place without him.

Susan McAdam - September 23, 2022 at 04:19 PM



He was a very nice man to everyone and a good husband! Always had a smile on his face, I miss him...

Kathleen K Kamper - September 27, 2022 at 10:16 PM

RS

“ Kathleen - I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your dear, Tok. Peace is his now in a place of love and lots of flowers! God bless you today and always!



Roxanne Shuman - September 23, 2022 at 02:14 PM