



Maryko Shinagawa Deemer

March 5, 1929 - August 27, 2015

Maryko Shinagawa Deemer, age 86, passed away on Thursday, August 27, 2015 at her home in Nokesville, VA.

She was born on March 5, 1929 in San Francisco, CA to the late Matsuji and Matsuko (Mayehiro) Shinagawa. Maryko is predeceased by her husband of 61 years, Clair Leroy Deemer.

Survivors include six children: Donald and wife Cynthia, Richard and wife Shari, John and wife Yvonne, Dorene, Marlene and husband Erik & James and wife Barbara; brothers: George, Yoonori and Hitomu; Sisters: Miko and Akiko; 10 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held at Nokesville Church of the Brethren, 13002 Fitzwater Drive, Nokesville, VA 20181 on Saturday, September 5, 2015 at 11:00 AM with Pastor Angela Finet officiating. Mrs. Deemer will be laid to rest with her husband at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

In Lieu of flowers, the family asks that you pay forward an act of kindness in remembering their mother. Condolences may be sent to: www.piercefh.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Nokesville Church of the Brethren
13002 Fitzwater Drive
Nokesville, VA

Tribute Wall

HE

“ *Bachan was a perfect grandmother. She had enough love for all her grandchildren and never took for granted a minute of our visits with her. She would bake, cook, play, chat, and comfort us all endlessly. She had a wonderful smile and a contagious giggle. She always made goodie bags for each grandchild that visited. She loved spoiling us all as much as possible. She always made us feel wanted and welcome, even in her last few years, she would still smile and sometimes laugh at things we would say/do near her. She will be missed very much.*

Heidi - September 04, 2015 at 12:44 PM

JS

“ *My favorite memory is standing at the kitchen door watching her make cinnamon rolls. She was such a loving and caring mother not only to her kids but to me as well. She helped me through a really bad time as a teenager. She encouraged me when no one else could. Another memory was having dinner with the family it was as if I belonged there. When dinner was over she told Dorene to take me with her and get the dishes done. I know she is with Mr. Deemed I will miss her so very much. I grew up loving her as a mother I close my eyes and see her smiling face and hear her voice say hi Jeannie Dorene is in her room.*

Jean Smith - September 03, 2015 at 08:56 PM

KN

“ Although the Deemers lived on the East and I on the West end of the USA, I recall with fondness the far between times I saw Auntie Mari-chan. Always a big hug and her sweet voice, and what I remember the most is that twinkle in her eyes when she smiled and talked.

I can still hear her voice as she once told me about each of her children. She loved them so much and was proud of each of them. Since I didn't know them all, she told me a bit about them so I could know them from a distance.

She had a genuine lovely smile. Despite her failing health, last year, when Auntie Mari-chan smiled I could still see that twinkle in her eyes even with her eyes closed.

My deepest condolences to each of her children and their families. Your beautiful mother was a beautiful person through and through. May your faith hold you up during this very difficult time.

*With love,
Karen*

Karen Newquist - September 03, 2015 at 11:48 AM

CL

“ When I think of memories of Mrs. Deemer, I have to go back to the very first time I meet her. I had flown out to VA to visit with Dorene and she took me to a family dinner at her brother Don’s house, talk about baptism by fire, they have a BIG family! The expression on Mrs. Deemer’s face when Dorene tried to explain that she had met me on the internet was priceless. From that day on I became “Dorene’s Internet Friend.” But the wonderful thing about her was she always welcomed me with open arms from then on. She was that kind of person.

My next visit with her came a few years later when we went on a girls trip to Atlantic City. We all had a blast, okay, so there was that brief moment when someone lost Mom, but hey, when we found her she proudly professed she knew where she was all along! Smile She was an awesome person and had to have been amazing Mom because she raised some pretty great kids!

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Love, Cindy Luker, “Dorene’s Internet Friend” Smile

Cindy Luker - September 03, 2015 at 09:48 AM

“ Since mom had succumbed to Alzheimer’s disease, it is difficult to recall the vivacious, strong personality that she was. The disease is so devastatingly slow and takes everything from a person until nothing is left. Thank God for Dad’s love and the caregivers that took care of mom, especially Mia who loved mom. I am also thankful to Jim and Barb for opening their home. It could not have been easy to see mom waste away and know that she was in pain even when she couldn’t articulate it.

I want to remember that Mom had strong ideas and loved family more than anything. “Family first...they are the only ones you can count on,” she’d tell us. Mom loved entertaining and being the “hostess with the mostess.” Holidays like Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s were special because of mom. She would make elaborate meals, make sure that we set the table correctly, and then the fun part – enjoying each other’s company. Even clean-up was tolerable because we did it together.

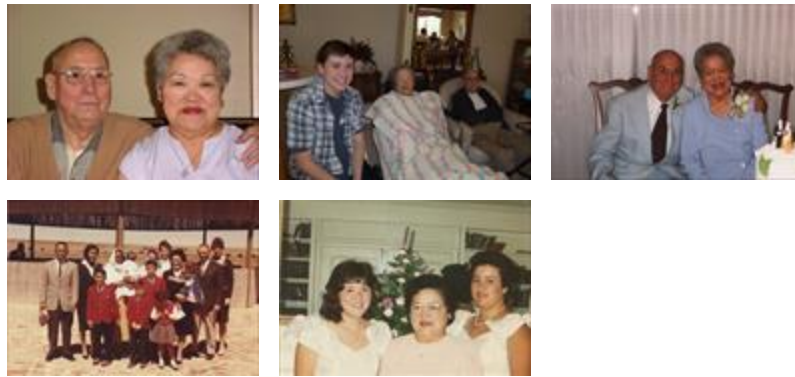
Mom made sure that we felt special and loved, especially on our birthdays by making a special meal and our favorite cake. She even took cake decorating classes so that the cakes were not only tasty, but beautiful. Mom was always so put together (hair done, lipstick on, dressed nicely). She made sure that when we went out “in public” that we looked our best too.

Mom was the driving force behind school work and made sure that we tried our best at whatever we did. Mom was so proud when I graduated from Maryland and again from Catholic. I never would have gone to grad school if mom and dad hadn’t let me live at home during those years. Would I be where I am today professionally if mom hadn’t pushed me? I can’t say for sure, but I’m glad she did.

It has always saddened me that my children never knew mom as she was. She started showing signs of forgetfulness when Joe was a toddler. My children never knew what fun it was to go to Bachan’s and Grandpa’s to just hang out and play. They never got hugs and

kisses along with the "goody bags" when they went home. It is such a shame. But I know if she could have, she would have done the same for my kids.

This is what the disease took from mom and us, but I still have my memories and am thankful that she is no longer trapped in a failing body. Her spirit is free and I believe that she is with Dad and Joe. Joe can finally know the woman that I knew and loved. Thanks Mom for everything. I love you.



Marlene Henrikson - September 02, 2015 at 05:36 PM