



Akimasa Roy Sawamura

November 7, 1943 - September 22, 2021

Akimasa Roy Sawamura of Columbia, Maryland passed away peacefully on September 22, 2021.

He was born on November 7, 1943, at the Manzanar War Camp in California to Satoko

(Nozawa) and Kakugoro Sawamura. This experience, at the Japanese American internment

camp during WWII, had a very influential impact on Roy and his family. After receiving a

sponsorship from a family in Denver, they made Colorado their new home.

Roy grew up in the

Denver area, graduated from Manual High School, and attended Metropolitan State University

of Denver. For many years, he was a member of the Denver Buddhist Temple.

Through friends,

Roy met Kayoko (Itokazu) Fellows and he immediately knew he was destined to care for her

and her young daughters. Roy and Kayoko were married in 1976 and soon after he adopted

Cynthia and Lynn.

Roy was the manager of APCOA Parking in the Denver area for 20 years and then moved his

family to Columbia, MD, where he retired from managing Prince George's Parking Authority in the Baltimore area after 19 years. In his younger days, Roy loved riding his motorcycle, camping, and fishing. Later he enjoyed playing golf and making friends of all ages. He was genuinely interested in the knowledge and experiences of others. Roy was very proud of his Japanese American culture, fluent in both Japanese and English, relished sharing his personal experiences and opinions, and valued the importance and respect of family above all. He was a fierce protector of Kayoko and his girls, but always generously opened his arms to his extended family. Akimasa Roy Sawamura "Papa," a strong, honest, and loving son, husband, father, brother, uncle, and friend, will be missed by many.

Roy is survived by his wife Kayoko Sawamura, daughter Cynthia Sawamura (Richard Alexander), daughter Lynn Sawamura, granddaughter Tiffany (Joshua) Gorham, grandson Akira Alexander, great-grandson Akeem Kobe Alexander, sister Joyce Yoshiko Fukasawa, brother Jerry Kingo Sawamura, nieces Mariko Kathryn Fukasawa, Noriko Lisa Ichimura, Tomi Judith Yamamoto, and numerous nephews, nieces, and extended family.

Roy is preceded in death by his parents Satoko and Kakugoro Sawamura, sister Amy Emiko Yamamoto, and brother Ben Manabu Sawamura.

A private family celebration of life will be held at a later date in the mountains of Colorado.

Tribute Wall

DG

“ Thinking of you during your time of bereavement. I will say prayers for the progression of his soul. Doris Genus and family

Doris Genus - September 30, 2021 at 06:05 PM

DP

“ My sincere sympathy,

Dave Poletti - September 29, 2021 at 03:14 PM

JS

“ I worked with Roy for a number of years at Electronic Security Services. Everyone here enjoyed working with Roy. He was dedicated to his work and had a wonderful spirit and great compassion for others. Roy will definitely be missed here at ESSI.
Jennifer Shannahan

Jennifer Shannahan - September 29, 2021 at 02:40 PM

DP

“ Roy and myself have been best friends for over 60 years. Roy and myself fished all over the state of Colorado when he lived here. Everyone of my family and friends loved Roy. Roy's wife Kayoko, and both of their girl's Cindy and Lynn are the best. Roy will be missed by everyone who knew him. What a great guy. Rest in peace my friend. Dave Poletti, Highlands Ranch, Co.

Dave Poletti - September 29, 2021 at 12:32 PM

KM

“ *Dearest Papa, I will never forget the family trips and how you welcomed me into your family. I will always remember the love you had for us and the patience and kindness you always gave to us as children. That carried over to adulthood. I feel very blessed to have reconnected with you this year and had some long talks revisiting those days, so long ago. Sending you all the love and best of memories. Rest In Peace. Until we meet again. Love ~ Kim (aka Tah)*

Kimberly Meagher - September 28, 2021 at 02:27 PM

AS

“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Simplicity Cremation & Funeral Services*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Akimasa Roy Sawamura - September 26, 2021 at 01:45 PM