



Michael Masamichi Nakano

MAR 6, 1947 - JUN 22, 2024



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HAWAIIAN
MEMORIAL PARK MORTUARY
AT VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES

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Michael Masamichi Nakano

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Michael Masamichi Nakano, 77, passed away peacefully at home on June 22, 2024, with his loving wife at his side.

Michael was born on March 6, 1947, in Honolulu, Hawaii. He received his bachelor's degree in history, teaching certification, and master's degree in educational administration from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He started his teaching career on Oahu at Honowai Elementary and worked at various schools and for the Leeward District on Oahu as a music resource teacher. He then moved to Maui, where he worked at Princess Nahi'ene'ena Elementary (as founding Principal) and at Maui and Baldwin High Schools. He spent the last fifteen years of his career as Principal of Lahainaluna High School, which he loved dearly. Michael guided the creation of programs that have been incorporated across the state and fostered the formation of foundations at Maui and Lahainaluna High Schools that continue to benefit students. He retired in 2010 after four decades of service to the Department of Education for the State of Hawaii. Education was his passion, and he found joy in connecting with students and took great pride in their growth and achievements. He treasured the lifelong friends he made throughout his career.

Besides education, Michael was passionate about music and serving the Lord. He was a talented pianist and songwriter; his love of Lahainaluna High School will be forever memorialized in a song he wrote, "Ha'aheo O Lahainaluna". He played piano and organ professionally and used his skills to serve the Lord as a music minister in various churches. Highlights of his retirement years were a short-term mission trip to Japan and sharing his home for prayer, worship, and fellowship gatherings. His family finds peace in one of Michael's favorite verses, 1 Corinthians 2:9. "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him."

Michael is predeceased by his parents Stanley and Florence Nakano, and brother Vincent Nakano of Honolulu. Michael is survived by his wife Charlotte Nakano, sister Geraldine (Wesley) Wakuzawa of Mililani and family, hanai sister Jill (Scott) Matsumoto and family, and siblings by



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marriage Ronald (Betty-Lou) Nakamine and family, Patricia (Austin) Imamura and family, and Elizabeth (Stuart) Lopez and family.

In accordance with Michael's wishes, a private service will be held.

Mahalo Nui Loa:

Dr. Patricia Borman

Adelaida (Adolfo) Vicencio

Gilbert (Dina) Benson

Liberty Fresenius - Hawaii Kai Team

Kyle Pressley - Flex-Hard Pro Fitness

Lou's Quality Home Health Care Services

First Assembly of God - East Honolulu Ohana



Tribute Wall

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David Bolin posted:

Mike Nakano was one of my first Hawaii friends. He was the pianist at Waialae Baptist Church when I arrived in 1977 as the music minister. Ruth Smith, and later Ofelia Dirige, were the organists. and we met together weekly to rehearse the service music. Mike's kind, sweet spirit was always an encouragement to us. Mike and I had lunch together not long after his retirement in 2010. I remembered how important his friendship was to me. He is a "treasure laid up in Heaven" and I look forward to the day Mike, David, Ruth and Ofelia make music again before God's throne. David Bolin

July 22 at 4:46 AM



Roxanna Ching July 27 at 6:39 PM

You will be missed my sweet friend. You were one of my favorite people ♥ Roxanna



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Michael by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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