

Juko Shigeyuki Otsuki

September 26, 1921 – August 4, 1988

Birth Location:

New Westminster, BC

Death Location:

Atlanta, GA

Worked For:

Avro Aircraft

Position:

engineer

Other:

Juko Otsuki

He was born on 26 September 1921. His name is also listed as Shigeyuki Otsuki.. He was a student at the University of British Columbia. His family includes Hisa Otsuki (mother; nee Hisa Matsuzaki) and Nihei Otsuki (father). 505 Scott Road, Rural Route No. 1, New Westminster, BC is listed as a former address. He was forcibly uprooted to Oak Bluff, MB.

https://landscapesofinjustice.uvic.ca/archive/C-9431_15561.html

"McGill University's Racial Exclusion of Japanese Canadians ...

<https://escholarship.mcgill.ca/downloads/9p290g07z?locale=en>

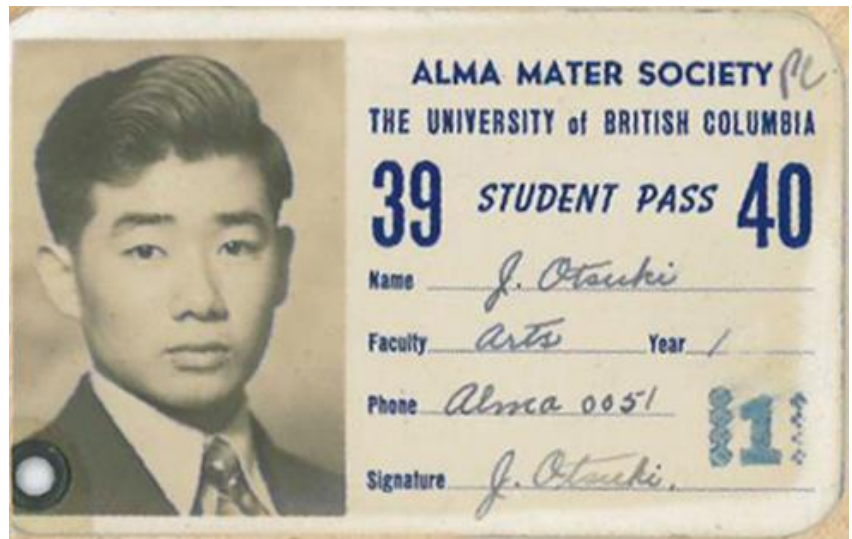
National Association of Japanese Canadians

Looking for former UBC JC students, 1941/42

<https://najc.ca/looking-for-former-ubc-jc-students-194142/>

UBC Spring Convocation Japanese Canadian Students 2012.pdf

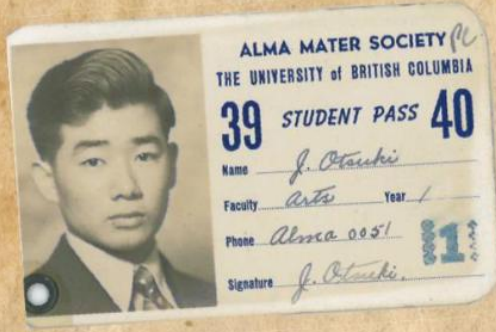
https://japanese-canadian-student-tribute.ubc.ca/files/2012/05/ubc_spring_convocation_japanese_canadian_students_2012.pdf



Researched by: Barry Copp (2023)

Shigeyuki Juko Otsuki

BORN September 26, 1921 DIED August 4, 1988
OCCUPATION Engineer



SHIGEYUKI JUKO OTSUKI

was born on September 26, 1921 at the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, BC to parents Nihei and Hisa Otsuki.

We don't know much about his life while he attended UBC, as he never spontaneously talked about school or the war. We gleaned that he had been a member of the Officers' Training Corps and that this was of no consequence in protecting him from the fury of the war.

Dad eventually graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics. Soon thereafter he received a Master's degree from

the University of Toronto. He dreamed of becoming a physician, but Japanese-Canadians found it difficult to gain admission to Canadian medical schools at the time.

Dad married Michi Yamanaka in 1951 in Toronto. Around this time he was admitted to a PhD program at Stanford University, but he decided to forgo the opportunity. Early in his career he co-founded Triad Instruments, which was a relatively short-lived venture. Subsequently he worked at Sangamo Company and Avro Aircraft as an engineer.

He eventually moved to the United States in 1963 for career

opportunities and the health of his son. His career included a job near Boston at Polaroid as an instrumentation engineer, and at Martin Marietta near Orlando, Florida as an optical engineer. He retired in 1987 to the Atlanta, Georgia area.

Juko had a daughter, Moira Hollowell, and three sons, Alan, John and David. His children remember him most as a loving but strict father who insisted that they do well in school.

Dad had his own drive to learn and experience the beauty of nature, and over the years took classes in glass blowing, telescope-making and watercolour painting.

We recall his work areas at home, which consisted of a potpourri of geologic specimens, functioning oscilloscopes and electronic or mechanical devices in various states of repair. He also dabbled in furniture-making and auto repair when needed. His greatest passion was gardening, which included working with flowers, Japanese maples, azaleas, fruits and vegetables. Of these, he had the greatest devotion to and expertise in growing rhododendrons.

Shigeyuki died on August 4, 1988 in Atlanta from complications of multiple myeloma.

—As remembered by his family



Otsuki, Juko Shigeyuki

Born: September 26, 1921

Passed: August 4, 1988

Occupation: Engineer

Otsuki, Juko Shigeyuki: Juko was born on September 26, 1921, at the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, British Columbia to Nihei and Hisa Otsuki. His father immigrated to Canada in 1906 at the age of nineteen, and eventually owned a large chicken farm in Surrey, British Columbia. We imagine that it was there that Dad learned the importance of hard work and developed his lifelong culinary ambivalence toward chicken. We don't know much about his life while he attended UBC, as he never spontaneously talked about UBC or the war. When we specifically asked him about his experience at UBC in 1941, he was generally very reticent on the topic. We gleaned that he had been a member of the Officers' Training Corps, and that there was no consequence in protecting him from the fury of the war.

On the one occasion that I really pushed him to talk about UBC and the forced relocation, he replied with a flash of anger: "What could we do, we couldn't do anything!" He told us that his family had lost everything. Dad had eventually graduated from the University of Manitoba with a bachelor's degree in Physics and Mathematics. Soon thereafter he received a Master's degree from the University of Toronto. His dream had been to be a physician, but at that time, Canadians of Japanese ancestry found it difficult to gain admission to Canadian medical schools.

Juko married Michi Yamanaka in Toronto in 1951. Around this time, he was admitted to a Ph.D. program at Stanford University, but decided to forgo this opportunity. Early in his career, he co-founded Triad Instruments, a relatively short-lived venture. Subsequently, he worked at Sangamo Company,

and then Avro Aircraft as an engineer. He eventually moved to the United States in 1963 for career opportunities and the health of a son. His career included jobs at Polaroid, near Boston, as an instrumentation engineer; and Martin Marietta, near Orlando, Florida, as an optical engineer.

Juko retired in 1987 to the Atlanta, Georgia area. He had a daughter (Moiria Hollowell) and three sons (Alan, John, and David). His children remember him most as a loving but strict father who insisted that we do well in school. He and his brother, Ryo, told us that no one can take your education away from you. Two of his children received Bachelor of Arts degrees from Yale, another from Harvard, and a fourth from the University of Massachusetts. Between them, they received graduate degrees from the University of Pennsylvania, Dalhousie, and Emory. They went on into careers in information technology, commercial real estate and medicine.

Dad had his own drive to learn and experience the beauty of nature, and over the years he took classes in glassblowing, telescope-making, and watercolour painting. We recall his work areas at home, which consisted of a potpourri of geologic specimens; functioning oscilloscopes; and electronic or mechanical devices in various states of repair. He also dabbled in furniture-making and auto repair, when needed. Dad's greatest passion was gardening—flowers, Japanese maples, azaleas, fruits, and vegetables. Of these, he had the greatest devotion to, and expertise in, growing rhododendrons. He died on August 4, 1988, from complications of multiple myeloma, in Atlanta. ❀