

MANZANAR HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

Monday September 24, 2001
Fremont Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada
7:00 to 11:00 P.M.
(Dress Code.....Casual)

AFTER DINNER MIXER PROGRAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES	Bruce Kaji
WELCOME	Ray Onodera
MANZANAR HISTORICAL SITE	Mr. Frank Hayes, Superintendent
FUN TIME	Bruce Kaji, Jun Okimoto & Sam Ono, Directors
Not necessarily in order shown.	
Pictograph Contest:	Audience
Vocals by:	Mary Kageyama Nomura "Cabbie" Iwasaki Bruce Kaji
Skits by:	Committee
YOUR TIME	Munch and Mix
DANCING & MUSIC	Seigo Yoshinaga, DJ

TUESDAY MORNING SLOT TOURNAMENT:

Location: Mezzanine floor at the California Hotel & Casino
Starting Times: 8:15 A.M. and 9:00 A.M.
Entry Fee: \$15.00
Awards to the winners at the Tuesday night banquet

REUNION COMMITTEE

Co-Chairman	Sam Ono
Co-Chairman	Ray Onodera
Secretary	Sumi (Nakashima) Hayamizu
Treasurer	Arnold Maeda
Reunion Coordinators	Bruce T. Kaji
	Rosie (Maruki) Kakuuchi
	Steve Nakaji
Committee Members	Jun Okimoto
	Tosh Sedohara
	Seizo Tanibata
	Lillian (Uyemura) Yano
	Seigo Yoshinaga
	Sus Ioki
	Nori Kuroyama
	Kunio Maeda
	Archie Miyatake
	Take (Maeda) Miyatake
	Kazic Nagai

MANZANAR HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

Tuesday September 25, 2001
Fremont Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada
6:00 to 10:00 P.M.
(Dress Code.....Casual)

AN EVENING DEDICATED TO SHIRO "SHI" NOMURA

PROGRAM

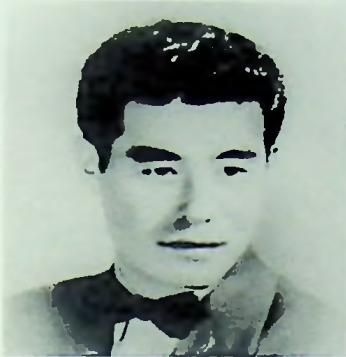
MASTER OF CEREMONIES	Bruce Kaji
WELCOME	Sam Ono
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Nori Kuroyama
INVOCATION	Jun Okimoto
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS	Bruce Kaji
SLOT CONTEST AWARDS	Jun Okimoto

BUFFET DINNER

SLIDE PRESENTATION	Alan Nomura
SONGS DEDICATED TO DAD	Norman Nomura Lisa Nomura Ishibashi
PRESENTATION	Bruce Kaji
ANNOUNCEMENTS	
DANCING & MUSIC	Seigo Yoshinaga, DJ

Please remain after conclusion of program for picture taking session by class. Archie Miyatake will accept special request for group pictures.

SHIRO "SHI" NOMURA
and
The "MANZANAR PROJECT"



Manzaknight 1943

Shiro was the youngest of six children born to Hachizo and Tsuru Nomura and spent the first five years of his life in Berkeley, CA. The disastrous 1924 fire in that community devastated the family's livelihood and prompted a move to southern California. Father Nomura started a truck farming business and began life anew in the Keystone area, now known as Carson.

Shiro, affectionately known as "Shi", graduated from Banning High School in 1937 where he was a very popular student. He loved competition and excelled in all sports participating in high school football and in track where he set a school record for the shot put. After high school, Shi worked on the family farm until the outbreak of WWII and the eventual evacuation.

When Manzanar concentration camp was established, Japanese Americans and their Issei parents were relocated primarily from three Pacific Coast states: California, Oregon and Washington. The young male teenagers in camp tended to congregate with friends from their own geographical community and sought identity by forming youth groups or clubs. Shiro Nomura became an advisor and member of the "Manzaknights", a group from the Los Angeles area, composed of approximately 50 males ranging in age from 15 to 25. The various groups or clubs participated in team sports and under the coaching and leadership of older members like Shi Nomura, the youngsters were kept occupied and out of trouble.

Mr. Louis Frizzel, a gifted music and drama teacher, also kept the youth involved in healthy and enjoyable activities related to music such as choir, orchestra, operettas and glee club. One of his students was Mary Kageyama. Under his tutelage Mary became the pre-eminent vocalist of Manzanar earning her the title of the "Songbird of Manzanar". Shi met Mary Kageyama on a blind date at a Manzaknight's Thanksgiving "Turkey Trot". The meeting led to a romance that culminated in marriage six months after Shi and Mary left Manzanar. They were wed in Pasadena with Kow Maruki, the "baishakunin" or go-between, standing in as best man. Shiro never outwardly expressed ill feelings toward internment. Instead, when asked about camp by his children, he would reply, "if it weren't for camp, I would never have met your mother". Shi and Mary lived with relatives until finally settling in their first real home in Norwalk. By this time the family included Shi's mother and father, son Alan, daughter Mallory and with daughter Lisa on the way. Norman and Nina were soon to follow.

Shi's business ventures were varied and innovative. With two business partners, Three Crown Furniture Store was started in Los Angeles and the public was offered discount warehouse buying. He also helped introduce and demonstrate Pfaff sewing machines to the West Coast. In the early 1950's, Shi was employed as produce manager for the All American Market chain, now known as Albertson's Market. Initially working for the Downey store, he was later transferred to the market in Garden Grove where Shi and Mary eventually moved their family. With the responsibility of a family of five growing children and aging parents Shi ventured out seeking a business of his own. In late 1959, acting on his spirit as an entrepreneur, Shi decided that Orange County needed a Japanese food market. With Mary's support and blessing, "Shi's Fish Market" was opened. The store was well received by the public and largely due to the personalities of Shi and Mary, it soon expanded to double its original size offering merchandise such as Asian delicacies and giftware. The market provided a novel Orange County shopping and meeting place.

Returning from a vacation in Lake Tahoe in the early 70's, Shi and family stopped at Independence to visit the Inyo county Eastern California Museum and were surprised to discover a small display of artifacts from Manzanar donated by residences from the area. With the encouragement of the museum director, Henry Raub, Shi began what was to become a labor of love, the "Manzanar Project". He dedicated the next 17 years spending countless hours and traveling many miles to collect artifacts, information and personal treasures for the museum. Shi also wrote a continuing serial account of camp life for the museum newsletter sharing with everyone memories of Manzanar. As word spread of his willingness to make public his knowledge of Manzanar, students of all ages visited the Normura home. They came away with first hand information regarding evacuation and internment and often used these facts in school reports and research papers. Shi volunteered to guide the students or any other interested party around the overgrown campsite so they could better comprehend the entire internment experience. He believed that if people were made aware of what happened to a selected ethnic minority after the outbreak of WWII, then perhaps such an injustice will never be perpetrated against any people.

Shiro Nomura's impassioned work with his "Manzanar Project" at the Eastern California Museum garnered numerous honors and the attention of an award winning author and University of California professor, Dr. Jerry Stanley. In 1994 Shiro Nomura became the subject of Dr. Stanley's book "I Am an American" with his life as the basis for chronicling the larger story of the internment of people of Japanese descent. The book is currently being used as a textbook in many secondary schools.

Shiro "Shi" Nomura quietly passed away on July 17, 2000, two weeks short of his 81 birthday. His position at the Eastern California Museum has been assumed by Mr. Mas Okui.



*Senior Picture
Banning High School 1937*



*Baseball 1946-47
Decca Records Company*



Shi and Mary 1991



*Shi and Manzanar Photo Exhibit
Eastern California Museum*



Miya Iwasaki at the 1986 Manzanar Pilgrimage presenting Shi a Certificate of Appreciation from Congressman Mervyn Dymally to the applause of Sue Embry, Pilgrimage Committee Chairperson.

. thank you, thank you, thank you!

Our generous donors!

Tommy Ajisaka
Mary Fujimoto
Bob Hayamizu
Sumi (Nakashima) Hayamizu
Meito Hori
Miye Ioki
Sus Ioki
Bruce Kaji
Frances (Tashiro) Kaji
Shiz (Yoshii) Kamiya
Buddy Kasai
Fumi (Tachibana) Kasai
Harry Kikuta
Judy Kikuta
Irene (Kusayanagi)
Kinoshita

Jennie (Noda) Kuroyama
Nori Kuroyama
Akiko (Sakamoto) Mitsui
Yoshiko (Kusunoki)
Nakamura
Tad Nakashima
Mary (Kageyama) Nomura
Sam Ono
Mieko (Hanada) Onodera
Ray Onodera
Mas Saita
Tomiko Saita
Bo Sakaguchi
Ikuyo Sakaguchi
Diane (Tani) Shigeta

Fumi (Nakano) Shikami
Reggie Shikami
Bernice Shoji
Tetsuko (Murakami)
Takahashi
Bill Taketa
Doris (Nitta) Taketa
Hideo Toma
Terry (Kuwata) Tsubota
George S. Uchida
Leo Uchida
Grace (Maruki) Wertz
Atsumi Bert Yamamoto
Alice (Araki) Yamazaki
Seigo Yoshinaga

until we meet again

Necrology

Aihara, Karie
 (Shindo) (43)
Aiso, James (43)
Akashi, Thelma (44)
Akiyama, Florence
 (Ban) (43)
Akiyama, Naruye
 (Hasegawa) (44)
Ban, George (43)
Ban, Ryoko (Yano) (45)
Fujihara, Harumi
 (Ogawa) (45)
Fujii, Hiro (45)
Fujii, Osamu (44)
Funakoshi, Lillian
 (Igasaki) (44)
Hara, Tosh (43)
Harada, Kiyomi
 (Sugimoto) (44)
Hashimoto, Hisao
 "Shorty" (45)
Hayashi, Teddy (45)
Higashi, Chieko
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Higashida, Roy (43)
Higashiyama, Kathleen
 (Yoshizawa) (45)
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Hutton, Patricia
 Shizuye (Kuse) (43)
Ikeda, Jack (44)
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Iriye, Hiroko (44)
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Iwasaki, Tillie
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Okamoto Wataru (43)
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Osajima, Paul (44)
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Ryono, Tazuko
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Sakamoto, George (45)
Sakata, Tsugimaro (44)
Sakino, Masako
 (Terada) (44)
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Sato, Yuji (43)
Sawamura, Shigeo (44)
Seko, Saburo (44)
Shigura, Irene
 (Morimoto) (44)
Shimizu, George (43)
Shimizu,
 Tatsuhiko (44)

Shintani, Sachio (45)
Shintani, Tadao (44)
Shishido, Yoshio (45)
Suzuki, Joe (44)
Takahashi, Tomi
 (Yonemoto) (43)
Takahashi, Peggy (43)
Takaki, Hiro (43)
Takemiya, Mitsuye (43)
Takeuchi, Paul (43)
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 (Ogi) (44)
Uyeno, Tats (43)
Watanabe, Yoneko
 (Ikeda) (43)
Yamane, Kazie
 (Yamanouye) (45)
Yamashita,
 Hiroshi (45)
Yamazaki, Hiroto (43)
Yasuda, Hitoshi (43)
Yasuda, Masako (43)
Yogi, Tokiko
 (Kuniyoshi) (44)
Yokomizo, Virginia
 (Kikuta) (45)
Yokoyama, Jane (Tsuda)

Please forgive errors or omissions. It is requested that you contact any member of the committee with information that will make the necrology current and correct.

. let's get reacquainted!

<i>name</i>	<i>address</i>	<i>phone no.</i>

notes