



Akie Makita Vance

July 7, 1927 - February 7, 2020

Akie Vance (nee Makita), Friday, February 7, 2020. Age 92.

Loving mother of her daughter Aiko (Ingo) Schneider, proud grandmother of grandson Aiki Schneider, step-mother to Carmen L. Vance and second mother to her nieces, Yoko Tanabe and Taeko Sakashita. She was born in Yamanashi, Japan.

She was predeceased by her husband Ira E. Vance, Jr. who passed on January 22nd, 1977. Treasured daughter of the late Masatoshi Makita and the late Kumiko (nee Furuya). Cherished sister of the late Toshinao, the late Sachiko (the late Takehiro), the late Yoshio, and the late Yoji who died in infancy.

Akie, or "Mrs. Vance," as everyone called her was so kind, extremely intelligent, responsible and strong. She had to raise her 3 siblings after the sudden passing of her mother when she was 17. Lived through the war. Continued to sacrifice in the name of family long after her siblings were adults.

Married an American who treated her like a queen, which she justly deserved. Unfortunately, the sudden death of her husband from a stroke left her to care for her young daughter and the difficult decision to keep the plan to move to the United States at the age of 50. She overcame numerous illnesses and

discriminations. Her inner strength was so strong that she never let on if she was facing any difficulties. She "ALWAYS" put others first.

Akie and Aiko moved from Tokyo, Japan to her late husband's hometown, St. Louis, Missouri in 1977. She made a home there for 28 years. Then she moved to Michigan in 2005 to live with Aiko and her family.

Akie joined the Soka Gakkai (SGI) on April 20, 1961 and became Buddhist. She introduced all of her family to this Buddhist practice, including her American husband. All continued to practice until their death. She was loved and revered by the SGI members.

Although Akie lived through many adversities, as a mother and grandmother, her life was and will continue to be perfection, filled with so much love.

Visitation will be held on Friday, February 21, 2020 from 2:00 - 8:00 pm at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 8459 Hall Road (3 blks E. of Van Dyke) Utica, Michigan 48317

A Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, February 22nd at 2:00 pm from the funeral home.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

FEB **21**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Funeral Services

FEB **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Wm Sullivan and Son Funeral Home
8459 Hall Road
Utica, MI 48317
(586) 731-2411
utica@sullivanfh.com
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Tribute Wall

TH

“ I have known Mrs. Vance since I met her daughter Aiko over 40 years ago in Japan. She was a very patient and caring wonderful woman. Aiko was always making sure she took care of her mom nicely. I'm sure Mrs. Vance was very happy to have such a great daughter. May her soul rest In Peace. Sending our Love, Tomoko & her family

Tomoko Hirakawa - February 21, 2020 at 12:00 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Akie Makita Vance.



February 21, 2020 at 11:32 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Akie Makita Vance.



February 20, 2020 at 08:16 PM

JL

“ Jina Ioduca purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Akie Makita Vance.



Jina Ioduca - February 19, 2020 at 09:03 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Akie Makita Vance.



February 18, 2020 at 08:36 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Akie Makita Vance.



February 16, 2020 at 02:54 PM

LJ

“ Love, Carmen and Jan purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Akie Makita Vance.



Love, Carmen and Jan - February 16, 2020 at 09:04 AM

SN

“ I have had the proud honor of getting to know your sweet , kind mother over the past several years and it has been a pleasure! She was a very proud and humble women who loved her family ! You have been the best daughter to your mother. She was very loved and will be very misses. Hold on to the great memories you have with her and know that her legend will live on through you, your sweet and beautiful son, you loving husband and everyone else who’s heart she touched. I will always remember your mother as she has a very special place in my heart. She will be looking down on you and your family until you all meet again one day. Thoughts and prayers to you and your family in this time of sorrow and my deepest sympathy 🙏❤️

Suzi Noel - February 13, 2020 at 09:52 PM

JW

“ There will always be a special place in my heart for Akie.

James Warunek - February 13, 2020 at 06:52 PM