



## Fumi Hara

August 6, 1931 - March 22, 2016

Fumi (Nitta) Hara, 84, passed away of natural causes on March 22, 2016 at her home in Moses Lake, Washington. She was born August 6, 1931 in Vale, Oregon. She was the first child of Nobuichi and Yoshiko Nitta and was known throughout her life as “Sis” to her younger siblings, Yoshimi, Kathy (Sayoko), Nancy, Bob, and Jack.

Fumi graduated from Vale High School in 1949 and worked at Holy Rosary Hospital in Ontario, Oregon. In 1951, Fumi met Don Hara. His charm and great smile convinced her to see the movie “Rommel – The Desert Fox.” They had a whirlwind romance and, unbeknownst to Fumi, Don borrowed some money to drive them to Winnemucca, Nevada, where they were married on November 27, 1951.

They began their life in Moses Lake with their three-month-old daughter Karen and eventually the still growing family moved to the “basement house” on Saunders Road (later Road L-NE). Throughout the years they had six more children and many friends, they passed many evenings with their children’s classmates or Japanese agricultural exchange students seated around the dinner table. Fumi was an excellent cook and used to amaze people with her ability to chop vegetables like a rapidly firing machine gun.

Fumi always loved to garden and often left half-filled coffee cups scattered around the yard. She enjoyed making corsages and participated in the garden club with friends. The Hara family participated in various Buddhist Church and Japanese Basin Club activities, including Grange Hall Christmas parties and Fourth of July barbeques. Fumi was also active in the Nisei Women’s Club.

In 1975, the Hara family moved into their current home that Don and their sons built. Over her many years there, Fumi established one of the most beautiful flower gardens in the area, complete with fish ponds and trees. She climbed these trees every year to trim and shape them in the Japanese tradition she learned from Mr. Kobata. Besides gardening and taking care of her own family, Fumi also cared for her parents on their farm in Moses Lake. Fumi was known throughout the community, especially at Safeway, her daily social

outlet for years. We will remember her incredible meals, snicker doodles, cowboy cookies and fresh strawberry jam.

Over their fifty plus years of marriage, Don and Fumi raised seven children and Fumi loved boasting when they were all home to visit. She enjoyed their grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her more recent pastimes included watching the Mariners, watching Gonzaga's basketball team, and reading.

Fumi is survived by the following children and their spouses: Karen & John Weidert, Don Hara, Jr., Geri Gilbert, Douglas & Tamara Hara, George Hara, Susan & Russ Beard, and daughter-in-law, Michele Hara. Her grandchildren are Jessika Hara, Craig Weidert & Carol Feucht, AJ Hara, Bryan & Melinda Hara, Harrison Gilbert, Sean Weidert, Samantha Hara, Hayden Hara, and Nicholas Hara. Her great grandchildren are Memphis, Keaton, Laynee, and Midori. Fumi's siblings and their spouses are Yoshimi Ott, Kathy & Tom Mayeda, Nancy Nitta, Jack & Toshie Nitta, and sister-in-law, Barbara Nitta. Survivors also include numerous cousins, in-laws, nephews, nieces, and extended family and friends.

Fumi was preceded in death by her parents, husband Don, son Mark, and brother Bob Nitta. A memorial celebration will be held at Kayser's Chapel of Memories in Moses Lake, Washington, on April 15 at 1 PM. A reception will follow at Lin's Restaurant.

# Cemetery

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## **Pioneer Memorial Gardens**

14403 Rd. 2 Ne

Moses Lake, WA,

# Comments

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“ Mrs. Hara welcomed me into her home when I was young, she was a loving wife, mother and a wonderful cook. She introduced a little Irish girl to wonderful Japanese dishes. Thank you so much for sharing your family with me. It taught me many things I would use in my future.  
Lea Cuffe Ludington

Lea Cuffe-Ludington - April 16, 2016 at 01:53 PM

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“ Clay & Ronda Caballero lit a candle in memory of Fumi Hara



Clay & Ronda Caballero - April 06, 2016 at 09:55 PM

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“ So sorry for your loss. Sending our condolences. The Enokizono Family.



Makoto Enokizono - March 27, 2016 at 10:14 PM

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“ To the Hara Family.....we loved Fumi. She was a special gift for all of us who knew her. Fumi loved unconditionally, always with a smile on her face, and compassion in her heart. When I was the Activity Director at the Hearthstone Inn, she would invite our residents out to see her gardens, serve us cookies, and told us about each and every flower. Her radiant smile , sparkle in her eyes, and her tireless energy, brought sunshine into every room she entered, and a smile on every person's face with whom she came in contact with. Although she has been called home, she will never be forgotten-her spirit is with us each and every day. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Sincerely, Cathy and Paul Kersey



“ We'll miss her bright smile. Bill Dress

**Bill Dress** - March 24, 2016 at 08:17 PM



“ I always looked forward to seeing Fumi come into Safeway where I was the Floral Dept Manager for quite a few years. We always had wonderful conversations about her family..and what she was going to fix everyone for lunch that day. We also talked about life and things we didnt get about it..she was a very wise woman..and I will treasure her memory. RIP my dear friend. You are with your Don and your Mark now. Condolences to the family in this loss of such a special woman

**Amy Downie** - April 14, 2016 at 10:08 PM