



## Thomas Shimura

March 22, 2026

Thomas Shimura

1937- 2026

Thomas Shimura was born in Yakima, Washington in 1937 and died in Moses Lake, Washington in March, 2026 at the age of 89. His parents were Kunigi “Jack” Shimura and Chiyoko Shimura. He met his wife Yoriko “Dora” Minegishi in Seattle, Washington, and they married February 17, 1973. Two children, a son Thomas H. Shimura and a daughter Gail Shimura-Brightbill, completed the family.

Thomas’s family lived in the Yakima area until World War II when the family was interned at the Heart Mountain Wyoming Internment Camp. Thomas was five years old at this time, and he lost his older brother Akio, “who succumbed to illness while interned via medical misdiagnosis.” While in the Internment Camp Thomas participated in Boy Scouts.

After the war the family settled in Moses Lake and began farming. As a boy Thomas would deliver water and food to his family in the fields. At Moses Lake High School Thomas was a three-time state wrestler making him one of the first at MLHS to letter in the sport. After High School he attended a technical school for Radio and Television in Chicago where he earned an Associate Degree in Electronics.

After his time in Chicago, Thomas proudly served in the Army. He was assigned to Germany as a radio technician. He served from July, 1959 to July, 1965. After the military he returned to Moses Lake to continue farming from 1965-1993 and, also, working for Japan Airlines at Grant County International Airport from 1969-2008. In retirement Thomas was active with the Senior Center, the American Legion, and Lakeview Missionary Church in Moses Lake.

Thomas was preceded in death by his wife Dora, by his brother Akio Shimura, and by his parents. He is survived by his son Thomas H. Shimura, his daughter Gail Shimura-Brightbill and son-in-law John Brightbill; his sister Kazuko Tanji and nephews Wesley and Mathew Tanji.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Moses Lake Senior Center at

608 East Third Ave, Moses Lake, WA 98837.

Services will be held at Kayser's Chapel of Memories, Moses Lake on April 24, 2026 at 10:00 am

# Cemetery Details

## Pioneer Memorial Gardens

14403 Rd. 2 Ne  
Moses Lake, WA

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

APR **24**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

Kayser's Chapel & Crematory  
831 South Pioneer Way  
Moses Lake, WA 98837  
(509) 765-7848  
kayserschapel@gmail.com

# Tribute Wall

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“ *A good man, friend, and confident. I remember Tom and Dora and pray for their peace and love forever. God bless all of you forever. Carolyn Schell. Lakeview Missionary Church.*

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**Carolyn Schell** - April 13 at 03:46 PM

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“ *Thomas was also involved in O’Sullivan community and was a volunteer firefighter with Company 11. He always had such a great and caring heart for his family and community. May he find rest in God’s faithfulness, find strength in His promises and be comforted by His love. With heartfelt sympathy. Sally Schwab*



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**Sally Schwab** - April 08 at 04:52 PM



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**Kayser's Chapel of Memories** - April 08 at 01:33 PM