



Augustine Tadahiko Momiyama

January 3, 1933 - December 20, 2015

Augustine Momiyama left his native Japan to attend Northern Michigan College in Marquette, MI, where he received his Bachelor's degree in Sociology in June 1958. He then attended Wayne State University, Graduate School of Social Work, where he received a Master of Social Work degree in June 1960.

Upon completion of his college undergraduate degree, in September 1962, he volunteered for a social work career in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps, accepting the officer commission in the grade of First Lieutenant, serving for 23 years as a Regular Army Officer. He retired from the U.S. Army on September 30, 1985 in the grade of Lieutenant Colonel. LTC Momiyama's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal in Vietnam, three Campaign Stars, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Vietnam Civic Action Award, two Meritorious Unit Citations, Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, and Army Achievement Medal.

After retiring from the Army, Augustine continued with his direct patient-care social work career. From March 1986 to November 1988, he served as the Director of Social Services at St. Francis Medical Center in Honolulu, HI. He served the US Department of Defense from October 1988 to July 2004 as the Senior Social Worker/Senior Language Specialist.

From October 1991 to April 1994, he was the Chief Social Worker of Medically Related Services, U.S. Navy Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan.

In May 1994, Augustine then entered the cross-cultural language services career field where his social work, knowledge, and experiences were indispensable tools. Augustine accepted a position as the Senior Language Specialist at Logistics Directorate J4, functioning as the U.S. Forces-Japanese Government bilateral communication specialist at Headquarters, U.S. Forces, Japan (USFJ) in Yokota Air Base, Japan.

From November 2000 to April 2002, Augustine was selected as the Language Specialist at the Defense Attaches Office (DAO) under the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, Japan, where he heightened his linguistics skill in performing translations and interpretation of intelligence data of national interest during the disquiet period surrounding the attacks of September 11, 2001, and other events of importance impacting on bilateral alliance between the U.S. and Japan.

Due to the limited variety of language service tasks at the DAO, he then accepted the offer to return to the Headquarters, J4 Logistics, U.S. Force Japan in April 2002, where he remained until his retirement in July 2004. Augustine's total understanding of both his native Japanese language, history, customs, traditions, and political sensitivities, and his more than 30 years of total immersion in U.S. culture and the U.S. military gave him an unparalleled and unique understanding of both countries, and a perspective that enabled him to assist both governments in having meaningful, productive dialog, and resolving untold numbers of day to day operational as well as higher level challenges to the benefit of all concerned.

Committed, personable, and undaunted by the magnitude of any action or task he was asked to undertake or support, Augustine Momiyama was a devoted servant of both Japan and the United States. His ability to gain the respect and cooperation of senior leaders of both countries, both military and civilian, and to professionally interact with representatives of both governments in official and social settings was instrumental in enhancing the spirit of cooperation and camaraderie of all parties and ultimately leading to the myriad successes enjoyed by the U.S., the GOJ, USFJ, JSO, the J4 and

multiple other U.S. and Japanese government and defense organizations during his tenure at USFJ.

On Sunday, December 20, 2015, at the age of 82, Augustine passed away at his home in Lorton, VA. He was the beloved husband of Maria C. Momiyama; father of Matthew and Timothy Momiyama and Sherylann H. Bell; brother of Thomas Momiyama, Ikuko Muramatsu, and Fujiyo Yoshinaga; Grandfather of Angela, Joshua, Ashley and Timothy Momiyama, Jr. and Leilani Zaborac and Great-grandfather of Shai Momiyama. Relatives and friends may call at Jefferson Funeral Chapel, 5755 Castlewellan Drive, Alexandria, VA on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 from 3 to 7 pm. A mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Rd., Springfield, VA on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 11 am. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Tribute Wall



“ *Augustine Tadahiko Momiyama*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

Jefferson Funeral Chapel - January 28, 2019 at 09:24 AM