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## Robert Togasaki, 87

Nov 26, 2019



Robert Togasaki

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BLOOMINGTON — Robert Kiyoshi Togasaki, 87, passed away Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at Garden Villa in Bloomington.

He was born on July 24, 1932 in San Francisco, California the son of George Kiyoshi and Misu Kanamori Togasaki. The family moved back to Japan in 1933. After finishing Shakujii Elementary School in Tokyo in 1945, he attended Gakushuin High School in Tokyo, where he became a classmate and lifelong friend of the Japanese Emperor Emeritus Akihito. Bob returned to the United States to attend Phillips Exeter Academy from 1949-52, then Haverford College, from where Bob graduated in 1956. In 1959 Bob would marry the love of his life Fumiko Tomoyama. They were married for fifty-five years. He obtained his PhD in Biochemistry in 1964 from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. In 1964 they would move to Cambridge, MA where Bob began his postdoctoral work at Harvard University.

In 1968 the Togasakis moved to Bloomington, where Bob joined the Botany Department as a Biology Professor until he retired in 1997. He loved people, and biology, and was a volunteer teacher at the Harmony School in Bloomington. He also taught Biology at WonderLab and loved spending time teaching the children there. He was on the Board of Directors for Area 10 Agency on Aging in Bloomington. He also enjoyed listening to Rakugo Japanese Comedy. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Bob leaves behind his sister, Betty Emiko Shibata of Tokyo, Japan, three nieces Taeko Togasaki of Washington DC, Sumiko Togasaki and Emily Ayako Sato; and a nephew, Mark Makoto Shibata all of Tokyo, Japan; and many cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents, wife Fumiko, and brother Gordon Togasaki.

A celebration of life service will be held at a later date. Cremation Rites have been accorded.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos, and memories may be shared with family and friends at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com).