



Julia Yoshika Richards

April 14, 2004

Julia Yoshika Richards died on Wednesday, April 14, 2004, at the Fairhaven Continuing Care Community, Sykesville, Maryland. She died of complications related to a long history of metastatic breast cancer. She was 78 years old at her death.

Mrs. Richards was the daughter of the Rev. Yoshisaburo Matthew Tatsumi and his wife, Mitsue Mary Nishikawa Tatsumi, both deceased. She was the sister to Yuriko Mary Tatsumi, MD, who practiced as a pediatrician in Japan, during World War II and thereafter, also deceased.

Mrs. Richards spent her childhood in Tokyo, Japan, where her father was the Rector of Grace Church, and a priest of The Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan). After secondary school, she attended undergraduate studies at Tokyo Hobosenshyuka, completing 2 years at the nursing school, and gaining a Teaching certificate for pre-school and kindergarten aged children. Her studies were cut short by the bombings of Tokyo by the Allies during World War II, and by illness.

She met and was later married to the late Rev. Earnest D Richards on May 04, 1952. Father Richards was a priest of the Episcopal Church USA and missionary during the period of time (1947-1959) following WW II. He preceded Mrs. Richards in death in 1997. Surviving are her daughter, Janet

Ruth Richards and Shio Oikawa, of Reston, VA; her son, Henry M. Richards, MD, of Lambertville, NJ and five grandchildren, Naomi A., Mari L., and David K. Oikawa and Allison T. and Valorie M. Richards.

Mrs. Richards was a Practical Nurse and a pre-school teacher prior to her marriage to Father Richards. In 1959, she moved to the United States, residing in Denver, CO, where she became a permanent United States citizen. She moved, in 1967, to Massey, Maryland, where Father Richards was the Rector of North Kent Parish, of the Episcopal Diocese of Easton. In 1979, Mrs. and Father Richards moved to, Stevensville, Maryland, and lived in retirement there until his passing. In the year 2000, Mrs. Richards became a resident of the Fairhaven Continuing Care Community, in Sykesville, Maryland. She lived there until her death.

While raising her family, she was active in the Episcopal Church, and remained THE constant supporter of Father Richards' ministry. Later, she became the sole caretaker for Fr. Richards, who suffered from advancing Alzheimer's Disease during his final five years.

Mrs. Richards was active in the graphic arts, becoming an accomplished painter, and was a member of the Kent Island Federation of Art. She was active in music, as an alto voice in various choirs of sacred music. She was well known as a devotee of Japanese gardening and art, as well as of Japanese cuisine & social ceremony.

A Memorial Liturgy and Requiem Eucharist will be held on Saturday, April 17th, 2004 at 11:00 a.m. in the Christ Episcopal Church, Stevensville, MD. The Right Reverend James Shand, Bishop of the Diocese of Easton will be the celebrant. The inurnment will be at Old Wye Parish Cemetery, Wye Mills, MD.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations, in Mrs. Richards' name, be sent to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Maryland Affiliate, 200 E. Joppa Road, Suite 407, Towson, MD 21286.

Tribute Wall



“ *Julia Yoshika Richards*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Julia Yoshika Richards*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Julia Yoshika Richards*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM