



Kenji Takeshi Yamamoto

May 25, 1937 - August 21, 2026

Lexington, Kentucky

Kenji Takeshi Yamamoto died in Lexington on August 21, 2026. He was 89. Born in Lexington on May 25, 1937, raised among Japanese-American manners that never needed a speech. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He read grain before he cut it. A faded measuring tape still hung in his shop; waste offended him more than noise. Colleagues still mention a measuring tape faded to illegibility.

He married Lois in 1960. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two daughters through public schools and ordinary weather. After Lois died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a rake leaned against a shared fence after a storm. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Lexington, among streets he never needed to explain. The porch still expects a returning step.

Services

A memorial gathering in Lexington with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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