



Mae Ellen Takahashi

September 13, 1937 - August 27, 2026

Bismarck, North Dakota

Mae Ellen Takahashi died in Bismarck on August 27, 2026. She was 88. Born on September 13, 1937, with Japanese-American roots that shaped the table more than the flag. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She watched bin temperatures like a doctor watches fever. Dust and numbers shared her days; growers trusted her chalk marks. Colleagues still mention a chalkboard of bin temperatures.

She married Harold in 1962. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two daughters through public schools and ordinary weather. After Harold died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember someone who knew every child's name on the block. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Bismarck, among streets she never needed to explain. The chair by the window still holds the shape of a habit.

Services

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

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