



Mei Ling Leung

November 9, 1955 - August 18, 2026

Oakland, California

Mei Ling Leung died in Oakland on August 18, 2026. She was 70. Born in Oakland on November 9, 1955, into a Chinese-American household that treated work as a language. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She sewed seams that held through wash and worry. A pincushion worn to the cloth sat by her machine; piece rates never made her rush a hem. Colleagues still mention a pincushion worn to the cloth.

She married Wei in 1977. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a son through public schools and ordinary weather. After Wei died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember someone who swept the sidewalk past the property line when weather had been unfair. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Oakland, among streets she never needed to explain. The chair by the window still holds the shape of a habit.

Services

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

NN-OBIT-2026-C352

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