



Opal Jean Yamaguchi

March 18, 1939 - September 3, 2026

Orlando, Florida

Opal Jean Yamaguchi died in Orlando on September 3, 2026. She was 87. Born in Orlando on March 18, 1939, 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 plated banquets that had to look inevitable. A whisk bent from decades of sauce still lived by the stove. Colleagues still mention a whisk bent from decades of sauce.

She married Clarence in 1965. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised three children through public schools and ordinary weather. After Clarence died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember coffee offered before questions. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Orlando, among streets she never needed to explain. The recipe card is still stained in the useful places.

Services

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

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