



Werner Hans Tanaka

July 3, 1942 - August 24, 2026

Dallas, Texas

Werner Hans Tanaka died in Dallas on August 24, 2026. He was 84. Born in Dallas on July 3, 1942, with German-Japanese roots that shaped the table more than the flag. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He measured loss without measuring people as numbers. A briefcase worn at the corners carried frankness and a spare pen. Colleagues still mention a briefcase worn at the corners.

He married Helga in 1966. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a son through public schools and ordinary weather. After Helga died in 2019, he 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. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Dallas, among streets he never needed to explain. The tools are still hung where a hand can find them in the dark.

Services

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

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