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In Memoriam

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IN MEMORIAM

MASATO MATSUI, 1930-1998

Masato Matsui, the Japanese Specialist at the Asia Collection, University of Hawaii at Manoa, died in Honolulu on July 3, 1998, at the age of 68. He was diagnosed with a malignant tumor in his stomach in April after his return from the AAS meeting in Washington, D.C.

Born in Okayama, Japan, Dr. Matsui received his BA in 1953 from Doshisha University and his MS in Librarianship from Syracuse University in 1958. He worked at Harvard Yenching Library before returning to study at the University of Michigan. In 1961 he accepted a position at the University of Washington, Seattle and in 1964 joined the University of Hawaii East-West Center Library, now the Asia Collection, as Japanese Research/Acquisitions Specialist. He became head of the Japanese collection in 1969.

Dr. Matsui received his PhD in History in 1975 from the University of Hawaii. His dissertation was titled "Shimazu Shigeda, 1745-1833: a case study of Daimyo leadership." In 1983 he received the Willard Wilson Distinguished Award, an award given to "a person who has rendered distinguished service to the University of Hawaii," and in 1993 he was honored by his alma mater, Doshisha University, as a Distinguished Overseas Alumnus for his many contributions.

As a scholar-librarian Dr. Matsui worked to enhance the professional quality of East Asian librarianship in North America. He co-authored eleven bibliographies, published *Waga seishun no Amerika: chosen*, the first volume of his biography, and was working on a follow-up volume. He warmly encouraged junior librarians to engage in research and was mentor to dozens of graduate students now scattered all over the world. Most East Asian librarians who have attended AAS meetings will remember his hotel room "open house," which he generously provided as a gathering place for librarians, scholars, and vendors after a long day of meetings, and which gave an opportunity for professional and casual exchange for many years. A warm, spontaneous man of great energy, he had a talent for making each person with whom he came in contact feel very special.

Dr. Matsui is survived by his mother Fuyuko Matsui and his wife of thirty-six years Dr. Adelina V. Matsui. A memorial service was held July 12, 1998, at the Honolulu Myōhōji Mission.

(Compiled from contributions by Lynette Wageman, Sachie Noguchi, and Eizaburo Okuizumi)