



Toyoko Baranowski

January 21, 1930 - December 24, 2024

Toyoko “Terry” Baranowski, age 94 of St. Anne, IL passed away on December 24, 2024 at Citadel of Bourbonnais. She was born January 21, 1930 in Tsuruoka City, Yamagata Japan, the daughter of Toji and Kayo (Yano) Nakajima. Toyoko married Richard Baranowski on September 6, 1956 at the American Consult in Koba, Japan. They were married until 1976. Richard preceded her in death.

Toyoko received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Foreign Language and English Literature from Baika University in Osaka, Japan. She worked several years for KDD Company in Japan in Teletype Translation and Overseas Telephone Communications before moving to the United States.

Toyoko later worked for W.R. Grace Co. (Baker and Taylor) in Momence, IL as a Check Auditor, Invoice Processor, until she retired in 1988.

Throughout her working years Toyoko continued to utilize her skills as interpreter/translator, working from 1976 – 2010 as liaison for Mr. David Pepin of To Nihon Ltd. (arts and antiques gallery).

Toyoko enjoyed figure skating and was an avid equestrian while growing up in Japan.

She enjoyed spending time with her 3 sons and their families, many times joining them on trips to Florida and resorts in Minnesota.

She enjoyed the opera and ballet and had a circle of women friends that attended events regularly.

Toyoko had a close group of international women friends who got together

regularly and spent time cooking, laughing and enjoying each others' company.

Toyoko's love of travel extended through Asia, Europe, and the US with her longtime companion Bob Bush.

Toyoko was of the Christian faith.

Surviving are three sons, Michael and Paula (Hoekstra) Baranowski of St. Anne, IL, Wayne and Lori (Gubbins) Baranowski of Bourbonnais, IL, Gary and Nancy (Salm) Baranowski of Otsego, MN; one sister, Miyoko (Nakajima) Irie of Osaka, Japan as well as her remaining family in Japan; five grandchildren, Ryan Baranowski of St. Anne, IL, Chad Baranowski of St. Anne, IL, Megan (Baranowski) and William Pearl of Spring, TX, Allissa and Brandon Miller of Batavia, IL, Lucas Baranowski of New York, NY; and six great grandchildren. Toyoko is preceded in death by her parents; her ex-husband, Richard; one sister and two brothers-in-law, Kazuko (Nakajima) and Satoru Aogaki of Kyoto, Japan, Shinzaburo Irie of Osaka, Japan; and longtime companion, Bob Bush of Canandaigua, NY.

Cremation rites will take place and a private family service will be held.

Arrangements are by Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Bourbonnais.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Terri gave so much of herself with anyone she associated with. She made Yuri (our exchange student) feel safe in a different country. She was a blessing to me and our family
Donna Stoner

Donna Stoner - April 24, 2025 at 11:53 AM

CT

“ Cathy Tooper lit a candle in memory of Toyoko Baranowski



Cathy Tooper - January 05, 2025 at 01:42 PM

KL

“ Kathy&Kenny Luedtke lit a candle in memory of Toyoko Baranowski



Kathy&Kenny Luedtke - January 02, 2025 at 07:34 PM

LH

“ Wayne and Families.... May God comfort you at this time.

Lori Morrival Hoekstra - December 31, 2024 at 08:28 AM

RB

“ My sympathy to you, Wayne, and your family. Your mom was so helpful to me in preparing me for my visit to Japan in 1997. I truly appreciated her patience in having me learn some of the language. I saw her a few other times in St. Anne. She always was pleasant with me and I loved to see her smile. I'm so glad that I got a chance to meet her.

Roy Bernard - December 27, 2024 at 09:46 PM

CW

“ As a young boy and friend of Gary her son I spent a lot of time at there home she always made me feel welcome cooking us boys lunch and making sure we were dressed warm before going out hunting or fishing my favorite memory was opening the fridge and seeing octopus for dinner lol she was always upbeat and happy making us boys feeling loved she made our youth pretty special when we went there Terry was special

Chuck Williams - December 27, 2024 at 03:12 PM

DD

“ I spent time with her while we both worked for David Pippen. She has given me so many good memories. Thoughts and prayers to her family.

Diann Stevens Denton - December 27, 2024 at 10:36 AM

TS

“ Wayne only. Met Mom one time but a very gracious lady when meetibg Hene & myself. Sorry for your loss

Tomaszewski Sharon - December 27, 2024 at 09:00 AM

KG

“ *My only memory of Miss T is when Wayne married my cousin Cheryl & I was invited to their wedding & met Wayne's mother ,very sweet woman!*

kay graham - December 26, 2024 at 03:55 PM

MA

I worked with Toyoko at Baker & Taylor in the 70s. This were wonderful times and she made it fun. My blessings to her family.

Marilyn Albers - December 27, 2024 at 02:35 PM