



Dr. Okagaki

December 22, 2010

Okagaki, Dr. Takashi age 77, of Edina, MN passed peacefully surrounded by his family on Dec. 18, 2010 after a long struggle with cancer. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Joanne; his children, Daniel, Peter and Laura Okagaki; sisters, Midori and Akemi, in Japan, and many beloved nieces and nephews; brothers - and sisters-in- law. Born in Tokyo, Takashi came to the United States as a young doctor on a Fulbright scholarship. He graduated from University of Tokyo Medical College, and completed residencies and research and teaching fellowships in both obstetrics/gynecology and clinical pathology at the medical schools of Tokyo University, University of Washington, Harvard University, and Columbia University. He was on the faculty of all those medical schools. For the past 40 years, he has been a gynecological pathologist as Stone Professor of Cancer Research at University of Minnesota. He was responsible for teaching medical students and residents, carrying out research in gynecological cancer and quality control in cytology, and directing the gynecological diagnostic laboratory. Besides his MD and PhD degrees, he earned a Masters in Public Health. His work was his joy; his passion was to add to an understanding of cancer in women and pass this to his students and colleagues. Takashi was devoted to family and home. He was proud of his three children and loved to spend time with them, skiing, fishing, and traveling. He had a remarkable relationship with his cat, Emma, who watched intently over him throughout his long illness. He loved to garden, taking pains to save and nurture every plant in his garden, especially the sick ones. He enjoyed

building and improving his homes. He especially loved to talk with his friends and colleagues about anything and everything. He was a gentleman and a scholar in every sense. Memorials preferred to University of Minnesota Women's Health Fund, PO Box 64001, St. Paul, MN 55164. A memorial service will be held on Monday, Dec. 27 at 2 PM with visitation 1 hour before service all at: Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 W. 50th St. & Hwy. 100