



Yasutaka Sibuya

October 16, 1930 - April 20, 2021

Yasutaka Sibuya

Professor Emeritus Yasutaka Sibuya, age 90, mathematics expert on ordinary differential equations, died peacefully at home on Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

Born in Kyoto, Japan, he earned his PhD from UCLA as a Fulbright Scholar and DS from the University of Tokyo. He began his teaching/research career at the University of Minnesota in 1962 and retired in 2001. He held visiting positions at many institutions, including Keio University, Ochanomizu University, NYU, MIT, University of Edinburgh, UW–Madison, University of Strasbourg, USC, University of Ulm, and University of Groningen. He shared his mathematics expertise through writing 4 books, publishing 100+ research articles, and speaking at conferences and seminars. In 1984, he received a Senior Alexander von Humboldt Research scholarship.

He married his wife, Yasuko, in 1962 and was devoted to her until her death in 2017. With their four children, they traveled together on his many visiting appointments in the US and Europe. He kept close contact with his family in Japan till his final days. He adored his four grandchildren, keeping up on the significant details of their lives until the end. "G-pa" was known for his humor and the entertaining stories he shared. He loved travel, fishing, history, a wide variety of music, sports on TV, mystery films and books, and quirky toys that moved or made funny sounds.

Professor Sibuya made many longtime friends throughout his career and received happy 90th birthday wishes from all around the world. He is

remembered for his warm hospitality and academic excellence as well as for his good-natured humor and story-telling. Over the last few years, he was especially grateful for his wonderfully kind and experienced home care staff, physical/occupational therapists, and nurse care advocate.

The family extends a special thank-you to Touching Hearts At Home, Living Life Home Care, Pathfinder Care Management, Brighton Hospice, and Above & Beyond Senior Services for their invaluable support and care for Yasutaka over the past several years.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Yasuko Sibuya; parents, Ryutaro and Ayako Sibuya; brothers, Kazutaka, Masataka, and Hidetaka Sibuya; and son Miki Sibuya. He is survived by his sister, Mitsuko Sibuya; niece, Miyoko (Hisashi) Sibuya; children, Takasi Sibuya, Atsuko Sibuya, Maki (Kenneth) Wiering; and grandchildren, Stella (Shane) O'Neill, Anatole Wiering, Ambrose Wiering, and Colette Wiering.

Visitation 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 26, Washburn-McReavy Hillside Chapel, 2610 19th Ave. NE, Mpls., MN 55418. Celebration of Life service will take place at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 27, River of God Church, 2490 7th Ave. E., North St Paul, MN 55109, with visitation prior at 9:30 a.m. Due to COVID restrictions, and for the safety of all our guests, we request that you please RSVP to attend this Visitation. Go to Washburn-McReavy.com, search for the obituary and follow instructions to RSVP. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Masks are required and social distancing will be practiced. No reception following, due to COVID. Private interment Hillside Cemetery, 2600 19th Ave. NE, Mpls., MN 55418. The family plans to record the service; if it can be streamed, the link will be posted and shared.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

2600 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-3391
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **26**. 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
2610 19th Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-1999
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Visitation

APR **27**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

River of God Church
2490 7th Ave E
Saint Paul, MN 55109

Church Service

APR 27. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

River of God Church
2490 7th Ave E
Saint Paul, MN 55109

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Yasutaka Sibuya



Washburn-McReavy - April 26, 2021 at 09:47 AM

*Tribute Video Captions**left to right*

1. (:39) Dad, Takasi (son), Atsuko (daughter), Stella (granddaughter), Shane (Stella's husband)
2. (:50) Maki (daughter), Anatole (grandson), Ambrose (grandson), Dad, Atsuko, Kenneth (Maki's husband)
3. (1:04) Dad and granddaughter Colette exchange gifts, Christmas 2019
4. (1:17) Dad holding souvenir from Maki's family's trip to France, spring 2019
5. (1:24) Dad, Atsuko, Ambrose, Stella
6. (1:34) Granddaughter Stella, Dad
7. (1:49) G-pa's signature
8. (1:55) Dad and Takasi—89th birthday?
9. (2:07) Dad and Atsuko share a birthday cake
10. (2:18) Birthday cards
11. (2:27) Dad and Peter Wiering (Maki's father-in-law)
12. (2:35) Dad enjoys a photo gift from grandson Anatole
13. (2:46) Maki and Dad
14. (3:01) Dad reads book by granddaughter Colette
15. (3:10) Colette and Dad
16. (3:23) *Power Series Solutions of Algebraic Differential Equations*, Yasutaka Sibuya and Steven Sperber
17. (3:30) *This is how a grandfather welcomes first grandchild, part 1* (granddaughter Stella)
18. (3:43) Dad and Mom at Maki and Kenneth's wedding
19. (3:50) *This is how a grandfather welcomes first grandchild, part 2* (granddaughter Stella)
20. (4:01) *Symposium on Ordinary Differential Equations*, edited by William Harris and Yasutaka Sibuya; *Linear Differential Equations in the Complex Domain: Problems of Analytic Continuation*, Yasutaka Sibuya
21. (4:15) *Uniform Simplification in a Full Neighborhood of a Transition Point*, Yasutaka Sibuya
22. (4:23) *Global Theory of a Second Order Linear Ordinary Differential Equation with Polynomial Coefficient*, Yasutaka Sibuya; *Basic Theory of Ordinary Differential Equations*, Po-Fang Hsieh and Yasutaka Sibuya
23. (4:35) *Proceedings United States – Japan Seminar on Differential and Functional Equations*, edited by William Harris and Yasutaka Sibuya
24. (4:43) Atsuko, Takasi, Dad, Maki
25. (4:51) Dad with gift "Instant Potato Couch"
26. (5:04) Dad and Atsuko, 2011
27. (5:15) Dad, 89 years
28. (5:24) Dad is in the middle, Pr. William Harris is right of him
29. (5:40) Dad with grandson Anatole (13) in 2010.

30. (5:47) Grandson Ambrose (11) with Dad in 2011.
31. (5:57) Dad celebrating 90 years, October 2020.
32. (6:09) Mom and Dad's wedding portrait
33. (6:17) Dad thinking about math at a conference
34. (6:34) Dad and Mom taking kids out for picnic dinner, early 70s.
35. (6:40) Very early photo of Dad lecturing
36. (6:48) Dad's mother holding Dad as a baby
37. (6:59) Dad portrait as small child
38. (7:10) Dad as small child on mother's lap
39. (7:22) Dad in school uniform
40. (7:32) Dad as young child
41. (7:44) Dad in typical pose, San Diego, CA, in the late 80s
42. (7:54) Dad meeting grandson Anatole
43. (8:03) Sister Mitsuko and Dad in late 90s; Dad is wearing favorite scorpion belt buckle
44. (8:13) Dad posing with grandchildren Anatole and Stella in late 90s.
45. (8:23) Dad is content watching Maki and grandchildren planting his garden
46. (8:32) Dad is showing Stella what to do with painted, dried gourds.
47. (8:42) Miki (son), Mom, Dad, Atsuko, Maki posing in front of Strasbourg cathedral in 1976.
48. (8:54) Left: Maki, Atsuko, Takasi, Mom, Miki in Holland; Right: Maki, Atsuko, Takasi, Dad, Miki
49. (9:04) Atsuko, Dad, Takasi, Maki, Miki, Holland
50. (9:14) Dad telling a joke at a conference

Maki Sibuya Wiering - May 15, 2021 at 05:27 PM

HM

Dear Takashi-sama, Atsuko-sama and Maki-sama,

Please accept our condolences on the death of your father, Professor Yasutaka Sibuya.

I am sore at heart.

I appreciate you to show us photos and videos. By watching them, I think that I was able to say eternal good-bye.

I met him at RIMS of Kyoto University in Japan at the first time. After that, I was living at Strasbourg between October 1978 and August 1980, as researcher at IRMA, where your family also were in some months. We discussed on math, especially on asymptotic analysis every week.

I was invited to the University of Minnesota for three months during spring season in 1983 as assistant Professor.

After that we joined in several symposia in France, Holland and United States of America.

In June 2000, Professor D. Lutz held a symposium on asymptotic analysis, where Professor Sibuya gave us a lecture and I recorded it by Video camera. Here is a photo from the lecture.

(I will add it later if possible.)

In 2001, I had an opportunity to publish some Japanese articles on asymptotic analysis in a commercial magazine, with an article on work of Professor Sibuya.

Here is the cover of the magazine entitled "a rich world of asymptotic analysis".(I will add it later if possible.)

Professor Yasutaka Sibuya liked very much funny cards and jokes. He loved his wife and children. I remember his beaming face talking about your family.

I miss him.

Hideyuki Majima

Hideyuki Majima - May 28, 2021 at 05:16 AM

HM

Dear Mari-sama.

I would like to tell you that Professor Sibuya talked about grandchildren with his beaming face.

I am praying from the bottom of my heart for the health and happiness of you and your family.

Hideyuki Majima

Hideyuki Majima - May 28, 2021 at 06:22 AM

MA

Thank you, Pr. Majima! I remember meeting you from time to time; I'm very glad you received the news of our father's passing. Thank you for your kind words.

Maki Wiering

Maki - June 10, 2021 at 10:20 PM

MA

And thank you for the photos!

Maki - June 10, 2021 at 10:22 PM



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Tribute Video in memory of Yasutaka Sibuya



Washburn-McReavy - April 23, 2021 at 02:36 PM

HM

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Hideyuki Majima - May 28, 2021 at 05:33 AM

TI

“ *The generosity of professor Yasutaka Sibuya has been mentioned by several people and generosity is also one of the qualities that spring to my mind when thinking of him. He was generous with his praise for the work of other people while being very modest about his own, generous with his time and attention, generous with his friendship. He was a kind and careful referee and a warm and considerate host. He seems to have always remained 'young at heart' as they say. Without him I might never have known Calvin and Hobbes or the blood-curling oeuvre of R.L. Stine. I have known him to be an original, funny but also deeply serious person whom I will miss dearly.*

Trudeke Immink

Trudeke Immink - April 30, 2021 at 06:22 AM

PH

“ *Dear Takasi, Atsuko and Maki;
It is so difficult to accept the fact that your beloved father,
Prof. Yasutaka Sibuya, is indeed past away
and no longer we can hear his lovely voice.
As his first Ph. D. student, I had the privilege
of long and inspirational relationship with him.
He was a kind man and generous in sharing
his idea with his colleagues, friends and students.
His sense of humor making us easy around him.
He was a great teacher, a kind friend and a trusty
colleague. I miss him tremendously.
In this difficult time, my wife, Emmy, joining me in
wishing you and family having the comfort and
strength from God with you.
Sincerely, Philip P. Hsieh*

Philip and Emmy Hsieh - April 25, 2021 at 09:04 PM

AS

*Thank you Professor Hsieh for your kind and caring thoughts. I know
Dad was happy to hear from you these past few months, and that he
greatly valued your friendship. We are grateful for you and your family
and wish you much comfort. Atsuko, Takasi and Maki*

Atsuko Sibuya - April 27, 2021 at 08:48 PM

BB

*Dear Maki,
Herewith I send you, Takasi and Atsuko my deep condolences with the passing away of your father.
IFrom previous messages of Maki we learned already that his health was deteriorating.
I am glad that He passed away peacefully in his sleep.
I learned a lot from him, he was a leader in our field and remember with gratitude all our contacts.he was one of my best friends and will miss him very much.
I wish you much strength in this difficult time.
With my best wishes,
Boele Braaksma*

Boele Braaksma - April 29, 2021 at 11:06 AM

PH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Philip and Emmy Hsieh - April 25, 2021 at 09:04 PM

PH

*From left, Y. Alavi, M. Iwano, W. A. Harris, Jr., Y. Sibuya, W. Wasow and P. Hsieh.
The Conference was at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.*

Philip Hsieh - April 26, 2021 at 06:16 PM

AS

We love this picture! Thank you for sharing, Professor Hsieh. Many blessings, Atsuko, Maki and Takasi

Atsuko Sibuya - April 27, 2021 at 08:51 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Yasutaka Sibuya.



April 25, 2021 at 11:21 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Yasutaka Sibuya.



April 24, 2021 at 11:21 AM



“ We are sorry for your loss TK. May God surround you with his wonderful presence and give you peace during this difficult time. Barry's mom (96) died peacefully this morning so we are going through the same emotions as you are experiencing. Thank you for letting us know about your father. Hopefully we can meet and catch up on life with each other.
Sincerely, Barry and Mary Kurtz

Barry and Mary Kurtz - April 23, 2021 at 05:05 PM



“ Bill & Melody - Faith And Friends Radio, Dayton Oh purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Yasutaka Sibuya.



Bill & Melody - Faith And Friends Radio, Dayton Oh - April 23, 2021 at 01:44 PM

MI

“ *MITU,MIYOKO,HISASHI purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Yasutaka Sibuya.*



MITU,MIYOKO,HISASHI - April 23, 2021 at 12:37 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Yasutaka Sibuya.*



April 22, 2021 at 10:37 PM

SS

“ *Yasutaka was a wonderful mathematician, a wonderful friend, a wonderful man. We collaborated on a number of works and we were co-authors on one of the best works of my career which appeared in the Annals of Math. I am enormously indebted to him for his enthusiasm for the work I was involved in when I first came to Minnesota in 1977 and for his great generosity mathematically, and personally in his friendship and his warmth. Many of my fondest memories of Yasu center on his unique, offbeat sense of humor. I miss him greatly.*

Steven Sperber - April 22, 2021 at 07:48 PM

AS

Thank you for your kind and caring message, Professor Sperber. Our family so enjoyed and appreciated the fond memories you shared of your friendship with Dad. It meant a great deal to meet you at the service today. I know Dad treasured your friendship and your correspondence. With gratitude and wishing you much comfort. Atsuko, Takasi and Maki

Atsuko Sibuya - April 27, 2021 at 08:44 PM