



Roy H. Kaneshiki
August 17, 1938 - May 21, 2020
Renaissance Man



CU Held a Virtual Community
Remembrance Celebration
of
Roy Kaneshiki
Wednesday, June 3rd at 4 p.m.
To Attend the Service

Dear Friend,

Our County lost one of its finest volunteers and citizens, Roy Kaneshiki. There are so many superlative adjectives and nouns that describe Roy - genuine, a gentleman, a perfectionist, organized, kind, helpful, thoughtful, a listener, a talker, a teacher, curious, bright, a learner, generous, understanding. He possessed so many amazing attributes and was so loved. He was loved because he was giving and thoughtful.

Roy was a lifetime learner extraordinaire.

My husband and I first got to know Roy at Clay College. But it was in short course that we found out he was everywhere helping, helping everyone. I remember he would join the shucking crew at the Bayshore Center in Bivalve. He was not the fastest shucker, but he was the most perfect. And always the most welcome. We would tease him a little bit about picking up the pace, but he would just smile, giggle a light laugh, and explain perfection.

We just loved Roy. This is the first time I feel compelled to defer my comments to a fellow CU Member, Jackie Sandro-Greenwell, Director of Fine Arts, Rowan College South Jersey, Clay College, Arts and Innovation Center. Roy and Jackie had a very special friendship through his time spent in the studio. In fact everyone at Clay College felt a connection to Roy.

I hope if you knew Roy you will join us for a virtual service to celebrate this special man. I now turn my words over to Jackie. Below you will also find an obituary to Roy.

Our condolences to Roy's family and friends.

Sincerely,



Jane Morton Galetto
CU Maurice River Board President

Jackie's Remembrance of Roy

Hello Everyone,

It is with a broken heart and profound sadness that I tell you all about the passing of our beautiful soul Roy Kaneshiki. Words can't express how much Roy has meant to me, my family, the Clay College and frankly, the county of Cumberland. He has been at the College for 20 years, and has earned 4 degrees! He was a life long learner. I would like to think he kept getting degrees just so he could maintain his status of my forever student worker! He was my right hand man in the studio for many years. And always ready to cover studio hours at a moments notice. Coming to the rescue as he answered

my panic call for help when I forgot that we had a 30 five year olds coming to do a clay project! Who did I call??? ROY... and he would come without complaining... he was my hero. I will miss venting to him about this or that... and him saying..."consider the source"... I will miss his lunch time visits... eating his expired leftovers, instant food or a potato. I will miss his greeting "JAKE!" followed by a hug.

Although I am so sad, and will miss him every day... I am grateful and feel so privileged to have known an amazing, gentle, peaceful and loving human like Roy. He survived being interned at US camps after Pearl Harbor, but never did I hear bitterness or resentment... he was a vet and always civically active. He lived his best life for sure. He was a great source of inspiration to me... and also at times a great source of a pain in my butt!!! Some of you know this!

I will keep you all posted about any specifics and where to send condolences, Clay College will certainly have a dedication/memorial at a time when we can gather to celebrate his life properly. I definitely will be starting a scholarship fund in his name, and most likely will keep his shelf for a shrine (just kidding... maybe?) For now, rest in peace my dear friend, I know you're giving pottery lessons to the angels... and if you went to the other place... I am sure they have an incredible kiln!!!

"Love you Roy."

Sincerely,
Jackie

Jacqueline Sandro-Greenwell
Director of Fine Arts
Rowan College South Jersey
Fine Art/Clay College/ AID

please scroll down



Roy at Clay college

Roy H. Kaneshiki

Roy H. Kaneshiki, 81, of Upper Deerfield Township died Thursday morning May 21, 2020 at Inspira Medical Center in Vineland.

The son of the late Kihei and Kiyoko Orabe Kaneshiki, Roy was born on August 17, 1938 in Sacramento, CA. He and his family, as well as many Japanese Americans, were expelled from their homes by the US government following the outbreak of World War II. His family spent time in the internment camps in Tule Lake, CA and Topaz, Utah before relocating to Seabrook.

Mr. Kaneshiki graduated from Bridgeton High School in 1956 and later entered the US Army in 1959. He served during the Berlin Crisis in 1961 until his honorable discharge from Ft. Bliss, TX into the US Army Reserves in 1962. e He was a longtime resident of Upper Deerfield Township and had lived at the same address since the 1960s.

He began his working career with the NJ Bell Telephone Company in Bridgeton in 1965 and spent nearly 38 years with the company, enduring three name changes, and retiring as an engineer with Verizon from their Williamstown office.

Roy's devotion to his community was unparalleled. He was an active member of the Deerfield Presbyterian Church where he was an ordained Elder. For more than twenty

years he served young men as a member of the Troop Committee and a Scoutmaster with Boy Scout Troop #47 in Seabrook. He was a retired captain from Upper Deerfield Fire Company #3 and a former secretary/treasurer of the Upper Deerfield Township Ambulance Corps where he was a life member. Roy also served as the secretary/treasurer for the Cumberland County Fireman's Association until 1990. He spent 25 years as a member of the Upper Deerfield Township Board of Adjustment (Zoning Board). In addition, he held memberships or had been a volunteer with the Alliance for Substance Abuse in Upper Deerfield, the Bay-Atlantic Symphony, the Jersey Cape Shell Club, the Bayshore Center in Bivalve, the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Citizens United to Protect the Maurice River and its Tributaries.

A lifelong learner, Roy has three different associate degrees; Fine Arts, an AA in Fine Arts for Ceramics and an AA in Fine Arts for Art Therapy from Cumberland County College. He was a member of the Student Senate and the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He was awarded a plaque from CCC for "Club Mud" and also for academic achievement for Art Therapy. He received a certificate in 2005 for being a "Who's Who in America's Junior Colleges."

His awards and recognitions were indicative of his many years of dedicated service to others as well as his artistry. He was awarded the best artist award at the Jersey Cape Shell Show and ribbons of achievement from the Philadelphia Shell Show. In 2008, Roy received the Liberty Bell Award from the Cumberland County Bar Association for his dedicated years of community service. He was recognized by the SJ Cultural Alliance in 2017 with the Paul Aiken Encore Award and that same year he was recognized as the Volunteer of the Year by the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

He is survived by two sons, Steven Kaneshiki of Millington, MD and Kevin Kaneshiki and his wife Jane of Philadelphia and one grandson, Michael "Misha" Kaneshiki. He is also survived by his sister, Emiko Kaneshiki and his brother, Stanley Kaneshiki and his wife Irene, all of Upper Deerfield.

A private graveside service for immediate family will take place and be followed by burial in the family lot at the Deerfield Presbyterian Cemetery in Upper Deerfield Township. A memorial service will be announced at a later date when public religious gatherings may be held.

The family respectfully requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Memorial Fund at Deerfield Presbyterian Church, PO Box 69, Deerfield Street, NJ 08313



Roy enjoying speaking to Bev Burke at the Bayshore Center in Bivalve

CU ON THE RIVER

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