



## Mitsy Azuma

March 19, 1924 - April 3, 2026

Mitsy (Mitsuye) Azuma, age (102), passed away on (4/2/2026). She was the widow of Minor Azuma. They shared forty-five years together. She was born in Leonia, NJ, on March 19, 1924.

She was the daughter of Tomino and Ginnosuke Nakayama.

Mitsy and Minor were deeply committed to the thriving spiritual and community life they helped build at the New Milford Presbyterian Church. They spent most of their lives caring and contributing to the Church and found many lasting friends there.

Together, they made their home the epicenter of the extended family cohesion. This was where holidays, birthdays, and events large and small were celebrated. This is also where neighbors became dear friends with lasting bonds to them and their families. Vivian and Emil Foschino, Dot and Tom Feneis, shared their life experiences of raising families, creating bonds that endure to this day.

She was predeceased by her husband Minor (1993), first son Glenn (2019, married to Valerie Pierce, then Peggy Klein), Donald (2024, married to Diane nee Uhl) her Mother and Father and all her siblings Toshi (Toshio), Chonge (Kosao), Sumi (Susumu), Mo (Momaru), Sachi (Sachiko), Sue (Sueko) and

Yaeki, Kay (Yaeko).

Mitsy is survived by her sons, James (married to Valeria nee Cauceglia), and Robert (married to Jane nee Nugent). Her grandchildren are Pierce (Josie), Paige (Philippe), Rikka (Brian), Richard Estok (Masha), Jared (Kari), Derek, Michael and Craig. Her great grandchildren are Paisley, Sitka, Itzel, Minor, Marion and Mitsy.

Mitsy attended Bergen Jr. College in Teaneck and later worked for Doubleday and Co. in NYC. in their sales department for a short time. Mitsy later worked for the New Milford Police Dept as secretary to 5 police Chiefs for 22 years.

At her request, she did not want a wake or funeral. She asked for a memorial service, date and time to be determined later this summer. A small reception to follow.

Memorial donations/in lieu of flowers may be made to the New Milford Police and Fire Departments.

# Previous Events

## Chapel Service

APR 6. 1:00 PM (ET)

Cedar Lawn Crematory  
Corner of Crooks Blvd & McClean Avenue  
Paterson, NJ 07503

# Tribute Wall

AF

“ Although I never met Mitsy, I knew her through her late husband Minor during our daily bus rides between New Milford and New York City to work. Minor was a wonderful caring man who taught me many interesting things about life, including his WWII service. I felt so sad for his family when he passed away many years ago. I miss him to this day. Now he and Mitsy are reunited and I can see his smile and hear his joyful laughter again.

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**Andy Fraser** - April 27 at 07:46 PM

JB

“ My mother thought the world of the Azuma family and always referred to Mitsy affectionately as "Zoom" and spoke of her as she would a sister. They worked together for years at New Milford Boro Hall. She helped me throw a 70th birthday party for my mom and following her passing she helped me untangle paperwork and other difficulties. The world needs more people like Zoom and my family was better for knowing this wonderful soul. - James Bird

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**James Bird** - April 08 at 09:15 PM

RP

“ Worked with Mitsy for many years at NMPD. Found her to always be a consummate lady, and a warm and compassionate person. I never heard a negative word about her; A welcome addition to our Department. Rich Parrella

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**Rich Parrella** - April 06 at 08:41 PM

WB

“ *During my high school and college years, I found myself at the Azuma house in New Milford quite often. I felt like a member of the family and Mitsy and Minor made us all feel very welcomed. It was a pleasure knowing the extended family - grandparents, aunts, and uncles. I will always treasure those times and offer my sincere condolences to the Azuma family.*

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**Warren Blaine** - April 03 at 11:52 PM