



## Alvin Mamoru Kushiyaama

July 6, 1937 - January 19, 2019

Alvin Mamoru Kushiyaama, 81, of Wailuku, Maui, peacefully passed away on January 19, 2019 at Maui Memorial Memorial Medical Center. Born in Wailuku on July 6, 1937 to Manji and Sueyo (Oye) Kushiyaama, he attended Waihee School and graduated from Baldwin High School. He was the owner of Valley Isle Amusement and later was the manager of Maui Bowling Center. He greatly enjoyed baseball, golf, weight-lifting, singing, and socializing. Alvin (aka "Kushi") is survived by his daughters, Amy (David) Colmenares and Kristy (Gavin) Iha, son Jake (Meibol) Kushiyaama, six grandchildren, sister Ayako (Tony) Ishikawa, brothers Gerald (Ann) Kushiyaama and Loren (Kacy) Kushiyaama, many nieces and nephews, and countless friends who brought joy to his life. Funeral services will be held at Nakamura Mortuary on Saturday, February 16, with viewing beginning at 4:00 p.m. and service at 5:00 p.m. and reception to follow. Burial will be held at Maui Memorial Park on Monday, February 18 at 9:00 a.m.



# Comments

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“ On first meeting Coach Kushiyama, I must say I thought he might be a Yakuza boss, with his long gangster car, dark sunglasses, and his gravelly voice.

One fond memory I have of him is when I was pitching a game and the batter hit a very hot line drive straight towards my head. I ducked in just enough time and could feel the wind created by the swift ball as it passed by my head and went into center field. As I sat on the pitchers mound relieved to have survived this, Coach Kushiyama came out of the dugout and with a big smile yelled "Milton you're supposed to catch the ball, not avoid it!" The whole Maui stadium cracked up.

He definitely made me a better baseball player, not only through his technical guidance, but also through his infectious love for the game and his dedicated support of all his players on and off the field. I truly appreciated his unique brand of humor and his generous spirit. I'm kind of still wondering about the Yakuza thing though. Mahalo Coach! A hui hou and thanks for the memories.

Milton Wheeler  
Saint Anthony Baseball Team

**Milton Wheeler** - February 16 at 01:44 PM