

Obituary

With deep sorrow, I have to inform my fellow interpreters and colleagues that **Mr. NISHIYAMA Sen**, our honorary member since the initiation of JAIS (Japan Association for Interpretation Studies) in 2000, passed away on July 2, 2007, at the age of 95.

Mr. Nishiyama Sen was born in 1911 in Utah, USA. He received schooling as a Japanese-American and earned a master's degree in electrical engineering. He came back to Japan shortly before the war and started to work at the Electrotechnical Laboratory of the Ministry of Communications, which eventually led him to work at the General Headquarters of the Allied Occupation Forces. He was then employed at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, where he served as an official interpreter for U.S. ambassadors to Japan, among them Edwin O. Reischauer.

When the 1969 Apollo moon landing was broadcast, he performed simultaneous interpretation on the NHK nationwide TV network, which made him a national figure. People still call him "the Apollo simultaneous interpreter." Later, he served as the President of the Japan Society of Translators (JST), and was an active Council Member of FIT (International Federation of Translators), an UNESCO affiliated world-wide organization for translators and interpreters.

The Japan Society of Translators (JST) will host a gathering in his memory on September 12, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Gakushi Kaikan (3-28 Kanda Nishiki-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo). September 12 would have been Mr. Nishiyama's 96th birthday.

TORIKAI Kumiko

President

Japan Association for Interpretation Studies