

Obituary:

Kazuko 'Kay' Ebina Kilgore, 83, of Due West, wife of the late Claude Kilgore, Jr. died Monday, May 25, 2020, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Born in Beppu Oita, Japan, she was the daughter of the late Kenji and Fukuyo Ebina.

Kay was reared in the southern islands of Japan, known for its hot springs, and relocated to America at the age of 18. She was formerly employed with J.P. Stevens in Calhoun Falls and later as a caregiver for many individuals who were ill or elderly. A member of the SGI-USA Nichiren Buddhism Organization, faith was very important to her. Kay enjoyed sewing, knitting, origami and frequently sharing her joy of cooking with family. Having a pleasant, good-humored personality, she attracted friends and strangers alike. According to Kay's family, 'when you meet her, you never forget her.'

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her dear friends, Sumie Braswell, Sue Todd, and just last week, Sally Hester.

Kay is survived by her son, Kenji Kilgore, of Calhoun Falls; four grandchildren, Stormie Kilgore, Whittlie Kilgore, Jalyn Kilgore and Kenji Kilgore, Jr.; a great-grandson, Clark Joseph Parnell; beloved friends, Yumi Gambrell and many friends in faith with SGI-USA; longtime friend, Billy Ray Coates; and a wide circle of extended family and friends.

A private family Buddhist prayer service to celebrate Kay's life will be held at 1:00PM, Sunday, May 31, 2020 in the Harris Funeral Home chapel. The service will be live-streamed and may be accessed by visiting <https://www.harrisfuneral.com/obituary/Kay-Kilgore>



Daisaku Ikeda, President, SGI states:

When your determination changes, everything else will begin to move in the direction you desire. The moment you resolve to be victorious, every nerve and fiber in your being will immediately orient itself toward your success. On the other hand, if you think, "This is never going to work out" then, at that instance, every cell in your being will be deflated and give up the fight and then everything really will move in the direction of failure.

Memorial Service

Introduction of the Memorial Service	Helene Anderson
Recitation of the Lotus Sutra	Steve Shropshier
Offering of Incense	ALL are Welcome
Message of Condolence	Ashley Jackson
Gosho Passage	Natsuyo Zaino
Remembrances	Evonda Marner
Closing Words	Helene Anderson

Chant "Nam Myoho Renge Kyo" Three Times – All are Welcome

Special Music	"Flower of Carnage"
Closing Prayer	Bishop Crawford

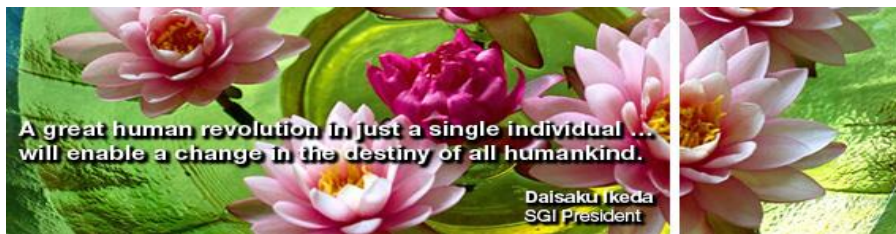


Myoho-renge-kyo is the name of the Lotus Sutra in Japanese pronunciation of classical Chinese characters, and so the literal meaning of Nam-myoho-renge-kyo is “I devote myself to the Lotus Sutra” As the following explanation shows, there are deeper levels of meaning attached to each element of the phrase.

Soka Gakkai International (SGI) is a lay Buddhist movement linking more than 12 million people in 192 countries and territories around the world. SGI members integrate their Buddhist practice into their daily lives, following the Lotus Sutra based teachings of Nichiren, a 13th Century Japanese Buddhist priest.

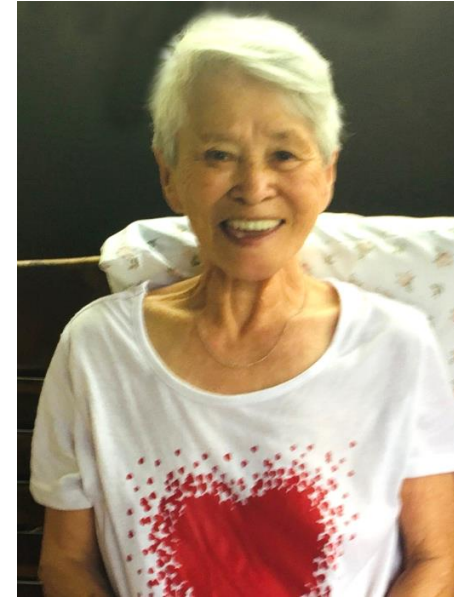
Just as the Lotus blooms in a muddy pond, all people can manifest the Buddha Nature-inner resources of courage, wisdom and compassion that can equip them to overcome life’s challenges and lead happy and fulfilling lives as “engaged Buddhist” SGI members aim to create value in any circumstances and contribute to the well-being of others.

Their practice sparks a process of ongoing inner-transformation and empowerment known as “human revolution”. The promotion of peace, culture and education is central to SGI activities.



Location: Harris Funeral Home, Abbeville Chapel
302 N. Main Street Abbeville, SC 29620

Memorial Service for
KAZUKO ‘KAY’ KILGORE
January 1, 1937 – May 25, 2020



Memorial Service
Sunday, May 31, 2020
1:00 pm

