



In Memoriam – Bill Tatsuda

Bill Tatsuda was a lifelong resident of the City of Ketchikan, graduating from Ketchikan High School in 1966. He began his career in the family grocery business, stocking shelves at the age of five. After completing his education, he returned to Ketchikan at the request of his father to help run Tatsuda's Grocery. Bill worked alongside his father and later with his daughter, continuing the legacy of Tatsuda's Grocery, a business that first opened in 1916 by his grandparents, and sadly destroyed in 2020 by a landslide.

Bill Tatsuda has owned and operated businesses of all kinds and sizes as an entrepreneur in Southeast Alaska, including Gas at Last, Jr's. Grocery, Ward Cove Grocery, Lighthouse Grocery, Warehouse of Music, and the Little Dipper. Through these ventures, he brought essential services and joy to generations of Ketchikan residents.

Bill Tatsuda gave generously to the Ketchikan community. He served on the PeaceHealth Community Health Board, was an active member of the Rotary 2000 and the Ketchikan Yacht Club, supported the Kanayama Exchange Program and Grow Ketchikan. He participated in civic and cultural organizations such as First City Players and the Ketchikan Arts and Humanities Council. He coached youth sports, registered voters and supported countless local causes.

When Bill Tatsuda wasn't working or serving, he found time to be a fisherman. Bill loved his time on the water with friends and family, meticulously documenting every fishing trip and recording his catch, always noting the details and who was there to reel them in.

Bill Tatsuda believed that everyone mattered and should be treated accordingly. His legacy lives on through the lives he touched, the businesses he built, and the enduring spirit of generosity and the community that he exemplified.

Therefore, I Bob Sivertsen, Mayor of the City of Ketchikan, along with the City Council and the citizens of this community, mourn the loss of Bill Tatsuda, a compassionate leader, devoted family man, and cherished member of the Ketchikan community.

Signed on behalf of the City Council and the Citizens of Ketchikan.

Bob Sivertsen, Mayor