

Resolution

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION HONORING

THE OKU FAMILY

WHEREAS, on this 15th day of November, two thousand and two, THE OKU FAMILY is honored for its 100 years in agriculture; and

WHEREAS, THE OKU FAMILY embodies a four generation tradition of flower growing that began at the turn of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, THE OKU FAMILY first came and settled in the United States when Unosuke Oku arrived and purchased a few acres of land in Mountain View to start his flower business that grew under the knowledge and caring touch of he and his wife, Yoshie; and

WHEREAS, THE OKU FAMILY's flower business expanded with the work ethic of Issei brothers Masao and Leonard, who became leaders in the American Carnation Society and the California Florists' Association, and flourished under the technical expertise of their wives Alice and Iko; and

WHEREAS, THE OKU FAMILY and their business thrived in spite of wartime relocation, hostility to Japanese and Japanese-Americans, and residing thousands of miles away from the nursery for over three years; and

WHEREAS, THE OKU FAMILY is a leader in integrating technology into their flower business, dating back to the air age when Masao and Leonard began to fly their flowers out-of-state up to today's information age when Tom, Dave, and Steve, who continue the family tradition of providing leadership to various civic associations both in and out of the floral industry, brought in a computer system to control the greenhouses' environment in Pescadero in the mid-1980's; and

WHEREAS, THE OKU FAMILY to this day stays committed to growing flowers with its 4th generation members of Craig and Jennifer who manage the Mountain View sales and Pescadero nurseries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County extends their congratulations to THE OKU FAMILY, for their contributions to the floral industry for the past 100 years and with good fortune for many more to come.

DATED: November 15, 2002

SUPERVISORS: