

## **BANZAI REMEMBERS**

Henry 'Hiroyoshi' Sakaida

October 19, 1951 - August 28, 2018

All, I received an email on Sunday:

*Greetings Trey, Hoping this note finds you and family well!*

*It is with a sad and heavy heart that I announce that long time friend of mine and the Banzai-membership, Henry Sakaida aka The Brigadier Earl of Sakaida (KFC), The Chairman of the Bored, etc., on August 12, 2018, had a stroke and was transported to a Kaiser hospital. Testing and a biopsy determined that Henry was diagnosed with a GBM cancerous brain tumor. On August 25, Henry was released to his family, spouse Donna, and son Eren, and was transported home to undergo remaining days in hospice.*

*The questions are, were there any warning signs of any illness, and the answer is NO. As Henry's long time friend of 35 years plus, I know Henry was in the nursery business and towards the end of his career, he sprayed all pesticides himself to avoid his employees suing him for workers comp. Whether these adverse chemicals were the cause, remains unknown at this time. As I write this to you, Henry is on heavy meds for pain and is basically in and out of a coma.*

*I suggest WE celebrate Henry's life in BANZAI and at gun shows with our fellow Banzai members. I will update this news letter at a later date.*

*Respectfully,  
Gary Nila*

Then Tuesday I received this from Gary:

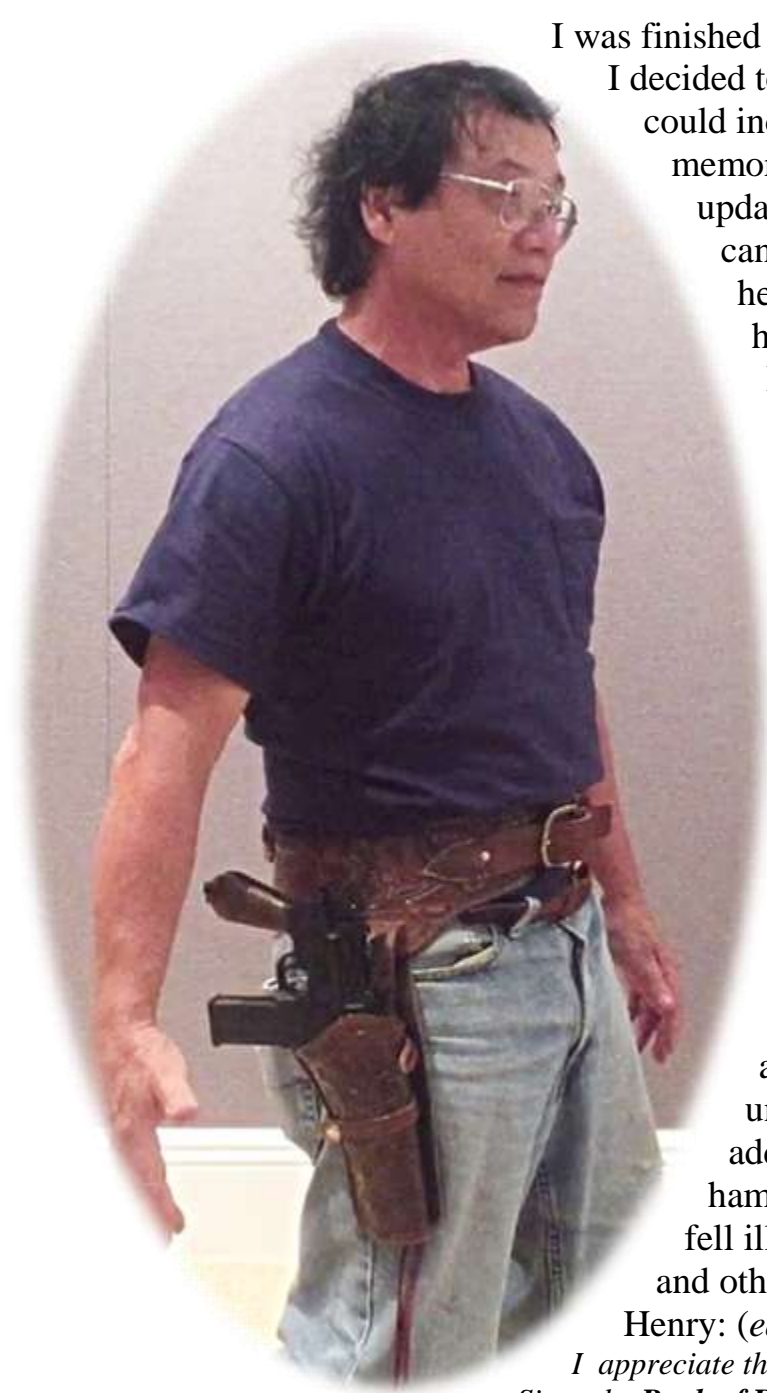
*ALL,  
Henry passed away at noon today  
Gary*



Henry is kind of a big deal on the internet. He did lots of wonderful things for others. Here are stories from & about him from the internet. I'll put up a page of links to follow at [www.castle-thunder.com/henry](http://www.castle-thunder.com/henry) when I get a chance to breathe again.

Lt. Mike Zanger story <https://youtu.be/4N4Vs1vEBIk>  
<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Nieces-Visit-Unlces-WWII-Wreckage--155126945.html>

<http://articles.latimes.com/keyword/henry-sakaida>  
<https://www.pacificwrecks.com/people/authors/sakaida/index.html>  
<http://ww2awartobewon.com/author/henry-sakaida/>  
Henry's Elementary School <http://www.emmashueyschool.com/>  
Henry USSR <https://youtu.be/801BGfXxs9w>  
<https://youtu.be/STiDPpNwJI>



I was finished with BANZAI for the most part, but I decided to pull a few pages and hold off so I could include any updates, funeral or memorial details. It's Saturday now, as to updates, I haven't heard of any, but I can't put off printing any longer. So here goes, I hope it helps more than it hinders, and heals more than it hurts. I felt similar to this when I became editor of this newsletter, I had questions to ask, and then suddenly, a week later my mentors were gone. So, what do I do? How do I do this? What I did do, was agonize over the best way to proceed. I'd previously only known Henry from his research and his articles in BANZAI over the years. More recently, as editor of BANZAI, we'd had a handful of exchanges by email and USPS over the last couple years. I could tell from his writing and the stories that Doss and Ruth relayed that he had a unique sense of humor (see email addresses [reallysickpuppy@...](mailto:reallysickpuppy@...) and [hamchukhenry@...](mailto:hamchukhenry@...)). When Doss first fell ill, an email exchange with Henry and others included this message from Henry: (*edited for brevity*)

*I appreciate the update! Damn shame.*

*Since the **Book of Doss** is almost finished and ready for publishing,*

*the author can take stock in the following:*

- 1. He gave back more than he has ever taken....*
- 2. Fun!... Did your folks have anything like BANZAI? Probably not. And anyone like Doss? Nope. There is only one Doss and there will never be another...*
- 3. Doss and Ruth gave me the opportunity to practice yellow journalism... Writing for BANZAI gave me the excuse and the opportunity to travel to 3rd world places like Papua New Guinea, Mongolia, Kentucky...*
- 4. Doss and Ruth demonstrated genuine hospitality....*
- 5. BANZAI has been a part of my life for over 20 years. I've never been a member of anything for even half that time! Doss and Ruth made it possible. (correspondence to editor 2015)*



Although Henry wrote the above pertaining to Doss, after reflection, I believe it has a pretty fair parallel with Henry himself. So let's try this again, and apply it to Henry, his research, and his life: Everywhere you see Doss or Ruth's name, insert Henry's...

1. He gave back more than he has ever taken....
2. Fun!... Did your folks have anything like BANZAI? Probably not. And anyone like Henry? Nope. There is only one Henry and there will never be another. Come on, Quick drawing a broom handle mauser?
3. Henry writing for BANZAI gave us the opportunity to travel with him to 3rd world places like Papua New Guinea, Mongolia, Kentucky...
4. Henry demonstrated genuine hospitality.
5. Henry, through BANZAI, has been a part of my/our life for over 20 years. I've never been a member of anything for even that long...



Sound

Familiar?

Henry

was one of  
the first to  
send words of

warning, encouragement and support for me when I took over. His contributions to humanity through research, articles, compassion, friendship and support have meant more to me, and others than will ever be fully realized. Henry said:

*"Every person is a book. All books will be published and all books will be reviewed. Some books are not worth reading because the author had nothing to say. I wouldn't pay a nickel for a book written by someone who only thought of themselves, never helped anyone, and contributed nothing to society. I have a mental library of great books written by great people, and the Book of Doss will be among them."*

*Henry Sakaida 2015*

I'd like to thank Henry, his family, and his friends for sharing him with us and letting him touch our lives. Henry's accomplishments remind me that there are still great people out there and I believe that we are all better people for having known Henry, his history, and his legacy. In closing, HUZZAH for Henry, his life, & his humanity! and To The Brigadier, The Earl of Sakaida, KFC - Two copies

of 'the Book of Henry' please, to go with my two copies of 'the Book of Doss!' BANZAI! - Trey



# Remembering Henry Sakaida and Friends Through The Years





