

Honouring the Contributions of Sally Lampson Kanehe



We would like to honour the vision, generosity, and commitment of Sally Lampson Kanehe (MSW), who, through a generous gift, was the catalyst in the publication of the Journal of Indigenous Social Development (JISD). This journal is only one of the many contributions she has made to the betterment of humanity, we are grateful for our connection to her legacy.

Sally Jane Lampson was born February 20, 1942 in Pasco, WA to Billie Jane Markham and Neil F. Lampson, the oldest of their four children. From her parents, she learned the values of hard work and determination, as they established their own crane and rigging company that would eventually grow to be an international leader in the industry. During her youth, Sally spent a lot of time with her grandparents who had significant positive influence on her, instilling in her a zest for learning and fostering her innate curiosity for the natural world around her.

She would eventually dedicate scholarships at the University of Hawai'i in her grandparents' names to honor their legacies.

Sally studied at Mills College, Boise Junior College, and University of Oregon before completing her bachelor's degree at University of Washington. During this time, Sally visited Hawai'i on a summer vacation with her sister Jenny and she knew she would eventually want to make the islands her home. Sally married Milt Kanehe, who was born and raised on O'ahu, and they returned in 1972. Sally made Honolulu her home for the remainder of her life, raising her children and building her career as a social worker and educator. Sally earned a Master of Social Work at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 1977 and worked for the state family court system for many years. Eventually she engaged her talents and passion for fostering the development of young people as a lecturer in the University of Hawai'i system, primarily in Sociology, the Humanities, Social Work, and ESL.

Sally remained a life-long learner, taking a particular interest in Hawai'i and other Pacific Islands. She developed a keen interest in Hawai'i's environment, history, culture and peoples. One of Sally's Hawaiian language instructors gave her the name "Ka'imiloa", meaning the long seeker, referring to her life-long search for knowledge. Until the end of her life, Sally remained engaged in her community through her philanthropic efforts and advocacy for the most vulnerable populations.

Sally passed away in her sleep on January 10, 2020, at age 77. She is survived by her daughters, Kealani Kanehe Sine and Le'a Malia Kanehe; granddaughters Malia, Kalei and Leiana Sine; and siblings, Jenny, Mary and Bill Lampson. Sally's final wishes were to donate her body for teaching purposes to the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine. Sally was laid to rest as her ashes were scattered at sea off Kahala, O'ahu on November 8, 2020.