

Press Release

Condolences from Consul-General Mr. Kenichi Okada
On the Passing of Mr. Major D. Hammett

April 20, 2021

I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Major D. Hammett. Mr. Hammett was an important leader of our Japan-Midwest relationship, and he leaves behind an enduring legacy.

During his serving on the president and board member of the Independence Japanese Sister City Committee, his leadership and fundraising made it possible for so many people from Independence and Higashimurayama to visit each other and to create new friendships and connections. I am sure that Japanese students had a great time with Hammett family at their home. Two cities built a strong and lasting relationship with his hard work, dedication, and generous spirit.

The passing of Mr. Hammett is a profound loss for our community. We have truly lost an irreplaceable person. On behalf of the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago, I would like to express my deepest respect for the role he played as president of the JSCC for thirty years and for his contributions to our U.S.-Japan relations. I would also like to offer my sincerest condolences to the family of Mr. Hammett. My thoughts are with the family during this difficult time.

With deepest sympathy,

Kenichi Okada
Consul-General of Japan in Chicago