

Website: OurDebtOfGratitude.org
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Our Debt of Gratitude

for their Courage and Kindness

Seeking Stories

**about Individuals of non-Japanese heritage
who stood up to help Japanese Americans**

**during the WWII forced removal from the West Coast,
incarceration in concentration camps and prisons,
and nationwide denial of civil rights**

Do you have a story?

Large or small, acts of help were remarkable in their time. Your story holds the power to heal and ensure that these individuals are remembered, and their actions retold.

**Please share your story for this collaborative project.
Write it down, and send as an attachment to:**

Email: OurDebtOfGratitude@gmail.com for story submissions & questions

Website: OurDebtOfGratitude.org for details, story guidelines, & questions

Our goal is to collect these “helper” stories to honor those who were guided by their conscience and compassion during the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans from the West Coast and denial of civil rights throughout the US. We plan to share these stories on a variety of platforms starting with an initial collection of stories submitted by October 31, 2025. Stories received after that date are welcome, as this is an ongoing project.

Helpers are healers. For descendants of the Issei (first generation in this country) and Nisei (second generation, citizens by birth), these stories help heal intergenerational wounds.

For those of non-Japanese American heritage,

These stories awaken pride in acts of decency and fairness that came from their own communities.

For all of us,

These stories are the lessons from history that teach us who we can be in our present times.

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