**Welcome And Introductions**

His wife Julie Saiki  
His Three Children and Beloved Grandchildren  
Beth and her husband, Viru Gupte and their children Anna Priya and Anand  
Bill and his wife Jocelyn and their son Xander  
Catherine and her partner, Ruth Timme

Jack Saiki was widely considered the father or founder of the practice of oncology or cancer medicine in New Mexico, like other pioneers with us today, such as Dr. Phil Eaton, who came to New Mexico to build the UNM School of Medicine and bring high quality healthcare to all New Mexicans. Jack completed his residency and fellowship training in medicine and hematology at the UNM School of Medicine and his oncology training at the University of Texas - M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in 1973, becoming one of the first physicians in the nation trained in the new specialty of medical oncology.

Importantly for many of us here today, Jack joined the faculty at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine and was one of the founders of the University of New Mexico Cancer Center. He developed New Mexico’s first leukemia-lymphoma treatment program and was the first physician to bring cancer clinical trials and new cancer treatments to New Mexicans.

Among Jack's other areas of service, he was one of the founders of New Mexico’s National Institutes of Health funded Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program and the New Mexico Tumor Registry, assuring that data on New Mexican’s impacted by cancer was the best in the nation. He also founded the hospice program at Presbyterian Healthcare Services and served on the Board of Trustees for Blood Systems for twenty-nine years. Jack trained over 50% of the cancer physicians currently practicing in our State as well as thousands of UNM medical students, residents, and fellows and through this work, he was the recipient of numerous awards for teaching and service, including the Laureate Award by the New Mexico Chapter of the American College of Physicians and nine Khatali Awards, an honor bestowed by each graduating class in the UNM School of Medicine in recognition of teaching excellence.

But the Jack Saiki we all know and love would not want to be characterized by these accomplishments, as he was the most humble man I know. The most important thing to him was his family, his friends, his patients, and enjoying nature in some of the most beautiful places on earth – New Mexico and Kauai.

Jack was beloved for his humility, his compassion, and his ethics and integrity – always placing the patient first. He was a teacher and a mentor to so many of us, because he understood that being a physician was not just about bringing the very best and most advanced medical care to his patients, but loving and respecting his patients as well. Not just healing the body, but guiding them and supporting them on their path to healing their soul.

Jack wanted his memorial service to be in this healing space. He loved this building and one of his greatest compliments to me when it was finished is he told me “you got it right” as this Cancer Center not only delivers the most advanced cancer care, but is a home to physicians, and nurses, and staff who truly love their patients and help them heal their souls. The right blend for health care for the people of New Mexico. For all of our comfort, Jack's soul and his legacy will always be in the fabric of this space and in our hearts.