

## **Thomas (“Tom”) Kaasa**

Tom Kaasa, born in Spokane, Washington in 1920, began working for the Far Eastern Library in October 1964 as a Subject Specialist. He retired from the East Asia Library in 1990 as a Library Associate, a position he had held since 1974. He passed away in July 1998.

During the Pacific war, he assisted the American occupation forces in Japan and Korea, and in 1964 he completed a Master’s thesis on the Japanese printmaker Yoshitoshi Tsukioka (1839-1892).

During his term as a librarian, Tom was known to be helpful as he knew how Americans use Chinese, Japanese, and Korean materials. He also called the library’s attention to the importance of a series of temple inscription rubbings which had been made by the ethnologist J.F. Rock in southwest China.



*Tom Kaasa, ca. 1980*