



## SARAH "STEFA" KUPFER

May 26, 1929 - November 4, 2020

FAMILY GRAVESIDE SERVICE: 12:30 PM FRIDAY 11/6/2020 at HEBREW MEMORIAL PARK CEMETERY

A RECORDING OF THE FUNERAL SERVICE is available. PLEASE GO TO THE PHOTO AND VIDEO SECTION OF THIS WEBPAGE AND CLICK ON THE VIDEO.

Age 91, of Oak Park, died November 4, 2020.

A Holocaust Survivor.

Beloved wife for 63 years to the late Henry Kupfer.

Loving mother of Irene (Daniel) Biber, Bob (Dave Weir) Kupfer, Marilyn (Aaron) Kales.

Adoring grandmother of Rebecca Biber, Gabriel (Nichole) Biber, Andrew Kales and Kara Kales.

Treasured great-grandmother of Pearl Biber and Moses Biber.

Cherished sister of Nina Sprecher.

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT STEFA'S LIFE.

### OFFICIATING:

Rabbi Paul Yedwab

### INTERMENT:

Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery

### SHIVA:

The family will observe Shiva privately

### CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of  
SARAH KUPFER

you may do so by making a contribution to:

## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER

28123 Orchard Lake Rd.

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

248-553-2400

[www.holocaustcenter.org](http://www.holocaustcenter.org)

or

## JEWISH HOSPICE AND CHAPLAINCY NETWORK

6555 W. Maple Rd.

West Bloomfield, MI 48322

248-592-2687

[www.jewishhospice.com](http://www.jewishhospice.com)

or

Charity of Choice.

Sarah Kupfer passed away peacefully on November 4, 2020, more than thirty years after her initial diagnosis of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. Her children were by her side.

Sarah was known as "Stefa" to all. Stefa survived the Holocaust in her native Poland as a Hidden Child, along with her dear mother Chaya Sprecher and cherished younger sister Nina.

After liberation, she met her beloved husband Henry Kupfer in a Displaced Persons camp in Parsch, Austria, near Salzburg. They married in 1949, immigrated to Detroit in 1952 and celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary shortly before Henry's passing in 2012, at the age of 90.

Together, Stefa and Henry maintained lifelong friendships with a network of other Jewish survivors in Detroit and dedicated themselves to keeping alive the memories of the six million lost. Stefa was a founding member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, where her oral history video is shown to visitors at the end of their tours ( <https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn504415>). Locally, she met regularly with her Hidden Children's Group and, more recently, was a member of Facebook groups for Holocaust survivors.

Stefa was a curious and outgoing person who maintained close relationships with cousins, in-laws, friends and neighbors alike. She doted on children and was known for her crocheted baby blanket gifts whenever a new child was born to a friend or relative. She also donated her time and needlework skills to making quilts for charity. She worked professionally as a part-time knit "finisher," adding beautiful details, like collars, buttons

and edgings, to other people's projects. She loved to read and enjoyed meetings and lunches with her longstanding book club.

Stefa maintained her independence all her life, driving and shopping and taking care of herself. She and Henry were faithful members of the Oak Park JCC Health Club; she even learned to swim after her sixtieth birthday. Stefa was a well-known and beloved figure in her neighborhood, where she had lived for almost 60 years.

# Events

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**NOV**   **Service**                      12:30PM

**6**

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Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery

33230 Gratiot, Clinton Township, MI, US, 48035

# Comments

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“ My sincere condolences to the family of Sarah Kupfer, a Holocaust Hidden Child survivor. We are not acquainted, but my - sadly - late wife Regine was also a Hidden Child survivor. She was born in Brussels, Belgium, and was saved from the Nazis by being taken, under an assumed name, into an orphanage run by an order of Catholic nuns. I have blessed their memories over and over. They also saved other Jewish children. Regine was my blessing, as we were married for 63 happy years. I lost her in 2018 due to complications from a stroke.

With my deepest sympathies; cherish your memories.

Manuel Rosenbaum  
Oak Park, MI  
rosenbaummanuel@sbcglobal.net

**Manuel Rosenbaum, PhD** - November 17, 2020 at 02:52 PM

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“ My late wife was very close to Stefa and vice versa. Based on what I knew of her life's experiences I was certain she would live forever if anyone would have... She will sorely be missed  
Art Rose (husband of Joan Rose who died one year ago—Stefa attended her funeral — when there was such a thing)

**art rose** - November 14, 2020 at 10:58 AM

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“ I cannot forget the moment I met Stefa at US Holocaust Museum Conference in Washington, DC. Where we had a very nice conversation where we exchanged our stories. Since that time we became constantly friendly. I remember her always smiling, greeting and very active and brave. She came to my home several times and we always were happy to see each other. Last time I saw her at Shaarey Zedek, we were happy to see each other in Synagogue and we continued our friendship at the Synagogue. We have lost a wonderful person. She was honest and friendly and I will never forget her.

Esfir Lupyan and Naum Layer  
Southfield, MI

**Esfir Lupyan** - November 09, 2020 at 04:51 PM

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“ Dear Irene and Bob,  
Lewis and I are so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was an extraordinarily beautiful woman inside and out. She and your dad survived the Holocaust and went on to build a wonderful life and family together. As grandparents we know that she felt her life was a triumph and a blessing. May she rest in peace. Sincerely, Leslye and Dr. Lewis Rosenbaum

Leslye Rosenbaum - November 09, 2020 at 08:09 AM

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“ This is a picture of dear Stefa with her grandson last year at the annual Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance service in Lansing.



Charles Silow - November 08, 2020 at 09:56 PM

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“ Baruch Dayan Hae'met! We will miss you Aunt Stefa!



Tzvi and Esti Kupfer - November 08, 2020 at 08:53 PM

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“ I will always remember Stefas 60 birthday party at Punchanellos and how lovely She looked in a pink silk satin suit  
What a lucky memory  
My love to the family  
Peter Robbin

peter Robbin - November 07, 2020 at 09:12 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



otto - November 06, 2020 at 01:53 PM

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“ Irene so sorry to read about the loss of your Mom. Even with a wonderful supportive husband, children and grandchildren, Losing your last parent can make you feel lost and alone. I hope you find comfort and peace of mind in the coming weeks and months. And may her memory be for a blessing.

Lois Brandwine Granader - November 06, 2020 at 08:46 AM

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“ Irene, I am so sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was truly a beautiful person, inside and out. All who knew her know she was always kind and gracious to everyone. I will truly miss her smile and warm greetings at shul. I will always treasure the fond memories I have of her. My deepest condolences to your entire family.

Andrea B Blake - November 05, 2020 at 04:09 PM

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“ Robert, So sorry to learn of your family's loss. May fond memories of time spent with your mother help you during this challenging time.

Steve Weiss (old childhood friend)

Steve Weiss - November 05, 2020 at 11:59 AM