



## STEPHEN SAWILOWSKY

March 7, 1954 - January 11, 2021

AN OUTDOOR SERVICE WILL BE HELD: 11:00 AM TUESDAY 1/12/2021 ADJACENT TO THE HEBREW MEMORIAL CHAPEL BUILDING. FOLLOWING THIS SERVICE WHICH WILL CONCLUDE AT 11:45 AM, WE WILL THEN TRANSFER STEPHEN SAWILOWSKY TO DALLAS TEXAS WHERE THE INTERMENT WILL TAKE PLACE.

DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS, STATE REGULATIONS, AND FOR THE SAFETY OF THE FAMILY, A LIMIT OF 25 PEOPLE ATTENDING THE SERVICE WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS IS AN OUTSIDE SERVICE AND THE CHAPEL AREA WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO ENTER.

A ZOOM LINK WILL BE PROVIDED SO THAT THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND WILL BE ABLE TO BE PRESENT VIRTUALLY.

Time: Jan 12, 2021 10:50 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88040449876?pwd=Umx0MXVXTFI3T3BVRmJCeDBINmZHdz09>

Meeting ID: 880 4044 9876

Passcode: 302169

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,88040449876#,,,,\*302169# US (New York)

+13017158592,,88040449876#,,,,\*302169# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 880 4044 9876

Passcode: 302169

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc4r4faj9N>

FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET INTO THE LIVE ZOOM, A RECORDING OF THE FUNERAL SERVICE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE APPROXIMATELY AT 1:00 P M BY GOING TO THE PHOTO AND VIDEO SECTION OF THIS WEBPAGE AND BY CLICKING ON THE VIDEOS.

If you would like to share your memories and pictures of Rabbi Professor Shlomo Sawilow sky ob”m, please send an email to [profshlomomemories@gmail.com](mailto:profshlomomemories@gmail.com).

Age 66, of West Bloomfield, died January 11, 2021.

Beloved husband to Faige Sawilowsky.

Devoted father of Sarah (Akiva) Lorenz, Jack Sawilowsky, Moshe (Rochel) Rose, Chaya (Avrum Yitzchok) Thav, Yocheved Rose, Shoshana (Asher) Brand and Sora (Yisroel Mord echai) Raphen.

Loving grandfather of Eitan, Audrey and Adam Lorenz, Peri, Sorah, Asher, Zvi, Ari and Debbie Rose, Nechama Rivka, Chana Leah, Sora Mindy, Yechudia Aryeh, and Sima Rochel Thav, Rivka, Efriam, Moshe and Dovid Brand, Yoseph Raphan.

Also survived by many other loving relatives and friends.

OFFICIATING:

Rabbi Bergstein

CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of

STEPHEN SAWILOWSKY

you may do so by making a contribution to:

BAIS CHABAD OF FARMINGTON HILLS.

32000 Middlebelt Rd.

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

# Events

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**JAN**   **Service**                      11:00AM

**12**

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Hebrew Memorial Chapel

26640 Greenfield Rd, Oak Park, MI, US, 48237

# Comments

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“ I am deeply saddened to learn of Shlomo’s passing. He was my mentor for both my master (‘98) and PhD (‘01) degrees. I think of him often and take great pride in having been one of his. My sincerest condolences to his family.

**Scott Compton** - February 21 at 07:05 PM

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“ Shlomo supported me as a top notched awesome academic (Evaluation and Research) advisor would. He encouraged me as I personally struggled through a challenging PhD program with four chronically ill children (3 with asthma, one with Sickle Cell disease and one with Down's syndrome, heart disease and type one diabetes [asthma and more]). He encouraged me to not give up no matter how long it took. Shlomo saw the love and passion I had for the field of Evaluation and Research. I eventually graduated with a 3.7 GPA and Dr. Sawilowsky was the reason it made it! There are tears in my eyes as I write this. I wish I had seen this posting sooner. He was brilliant, dedicated and one of a kind. No doubt the number one professor in my life! Wayne State University had a diamond in their faculty line up for sure! Shlomo will forever be respected and admired and will hold the highest rating among educators in my heart. Blessings to his family! Sincerely, Juanita Lyons, PhD

**Dr. Juanita Lyons** - February 02 at 03:13 PM

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“ Dr. Shlomo had an enormous impact on my life, just as he had on the lives of all of his students. He was kind, truly caring, and relentlessly dedicated to the pursuit of truth, which I admired more than I can even explain. I am truly blessed to have met him. My love and prayers are with everyone in his family.

**Michelle D.** - January 22 at 04:40 PM

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“ Words cannot express my sadness. Dr. Shlomo was my major advisor, my mentor, my encourager, and a much needed source of laughter throughout my PhD program - even on the worst days of feeling that I could never possibly finish this degree, he was calm, cool, collected, and made me smile. I will always be grateful that I had the opportunity to work with and learn from him. He set a wonderful example for all of his students in his scholarship, teaching, mentoring, and spirit. I have and always will have the utmost respect and admiration for Shlomo - both personally and professionally. Jack, Sarah, and Akiva, please accept my sincere condolences and know that you and your family are all in my thoughts and prayers. I hope you will take much comfort in the amazing legacy left by Shlomo, he truly impacted the lives of many in very positive ways throughout his life.

Sincerely,  
Julie

**Julie Smith** - January 21 at 02:38 PM

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“ I am deeply saddened to learn of Shlomo's passing. We have been friends for over 30 years. We also happen to be close research collaborators and kindred academic spirits. We would start every phone call with a brief update on family. I recall him speaking of his children and his wishes for their future, always speaking with great pride and love.

Shlomo was such a wonderful and thoughtful scholar, recognized worldwide for his many contributions.

I send my condolences to his family and share in their sadness. I lost my friend and it will take me a while to get my bearings without him.

With love, Bruno

Bruno D. Zumbo  
Vancouver, B.C.,  
Canada

**Bruno Zumbo** - January 21 at 01:10 PM



“ Shlomo was my teacher at Wayne State. He was a brilliant mind and also very kind. I am so sorry for the loss of Shlomo. He made a difference in so many lives. I will miss him so much.

**Michele** - January 23 at 10:18 PM

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“ Dr. Sawilowsky was the best mentor I have ever had. His guidance and support will be missed. He was my major advisor and mentor throughout my doctorate studies at Wayne State. Thank you for being my mentor. We stayed in contact even after I graduated from Wayne State. He was always available to listen and offer his support. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

**Valerie Felder** - January 21 at 02:41 AM

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“ Words can't express the feelings of sadness and shock that I am experiencing right now. We truly have lost an amazing person, mentor, teacher and friend. You were always there for me when I needed you. You will never be forgotten and know that you had a big impact on me! Thanks and forever RIP!

**Linda Yatooma** - January 18 at 10:29 PM

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“ I can't stop thinking of the void left behind by such a great mentor and person. Such a void is the mark of how great he was. It also inspires those who knew him to follow his example. Though it's sad, it also makes me feel incredibly lucky to have known him and received his mentorship.

**Michael Lance** - January 18 at 01:59 AM

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“ On the first day of our non-parametric, robust methods course, Prof. Sawilowsky asked if anyone needed the book selected for the course. Prof. Sawilowsky had books on hand to loan to his students. Just one of many stories that show his dedication to helping others. My heart is heavy to realize we have lost one of the greatest statistical minds in the field of social science. My sympathies to family members.

**Janet Payton** - January 16 at 12:42 PM

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“ 2 files added to the album Memories



Jack Sawilowsky - January 13 at 08:25 PM

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“ 5 files added to the album Memories



Jack Sawilowsky - January 13 at 07:18 PM

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“ I was saddened to hear of Reb Shlomo’s passing, and I extend my sincere condolences to his wife, children, grandchildren, and the many friends and colleagues who are mourning this significant loss.

I have a debt of gratitude to Shlomo that I pray will serve in his merit forever. Shlomo was the one who first taught me the Tanya when I was a Senior at the University of South Florida in Tampa in 1981-82. Shlomo gave a class to a group of students following the Friday night Shabbos service and meal at the Chabad House. What an amazing class it was. He would start each class with a review of the previous chapters leading up to where we were that day, and then he transformed my world with the most amazing teachings that I had ever heard. I looked forward to his class more than any other part of my university experience. He encouraged us to ask questions, and he brilliantly answered them and further stimulated us to dig deeper. His knowledge of so many subjects was profound.

I wanted to learn even more from him, so Shlomo set aside an hour during the week to meet in his office, and he taught me my first Chassidic discourse. He said that it would change my life by transforming my understanding of G-d. He was right. My world was being transformed a little more with each lesson with Shlomo. I was becoming more observant of the Torah because I had never seen it before in the way that Shlomo taught.

Shlomo told me about the Rabbinical College of America in Morristown, NJ, where he learned and what it was like to be there. I was sold on getting a Jewish education and learning what Shlomo knew. Torah blew away any other subject that I had ever discovered, and I was determined to go to that same place myself when I graduated. He truly inspired me, and because of that, I went to Morristown and spent three incredibly formative years learning in Yeshiva.

My gratitude to Shlomo is doubled, being that my wife also was at USF and attended the Chabad House and Shlomo’s Classes and was inspired to learn in a Torah Seminary for women over a summer. Then she continued going to Chabad House until she graduated a year after me and then attended Seminary until we married in 1985. I learned an additional two years in Colel at Kfar Chabad, Israel, received rabbinical ordination and then returned to Pittsburgh.

We’ve been actively involved in Chabad House on Campus and Chabad of CMU, and the Pittsburgh community. Our oldest is the Campus Shaliach at CMU and is inspiring students to connect to their Judaism. Thank G-d, we are blessed to have children and grandchildren in whom we can see the blessings that result because we followed the path of Torah and Mitzvot that Reb Shlomo, O.B.M. help pave.

May the merit of Shlomo’s good deeds, as well as those done by all those who were inspired by him, stand in his merit and be a blessing for his Soul and to his family. HaMakom yenachem eschem b’soch she’ar aveley Tzion v’Yerushalayim.



“ Shlomo defined what it meant to be a tremendous mentor. It would be impossible to count all the ways that he helped me in my academic career, as well as the over 100+ doctoral students he advised in his career. I was one of the early ones back in 1997, and as recently as December 2019 sat with him as a committee member on his 100th doctoral defense as an advisor. He loved telling stories about his early mentor R. Clifford Blair, and his quick wit was unmatched. Every great mentor does something that no one else in their field is comfortable, ready or skilled enough to pull off. He thrived on challenges and loved seeing his students succeed. Many, many years later he asked if I would assist him in an academic endeavor and it was wonderful communicating with him again. You will be missed Shlomo, but you left a lot for us to follow. Rest in Peace.  
Ronald Thomas

Ronald Thomas - January 13 at 09:33 AM

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“ Professor Shlomo never gave up on me through out the decade and a half it took to finish my PhD in EER. He ALWAYS answered my emails or met with me in person and I cried during my defense!!! So many things about him are memorable and meaningful, however the real legacy is sharing what we learned from Dr. Sholmo with others.

Gratefully,  
Heatherlun Uphold  
Michigan State University

Heatherlun Uphold - January 13 at 08:53 AM

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“ Today Tuesday, January the 12th, 2021 Professor Shlomo had a webinar on American STATISTICAL ASSOCIATIONDETROIT CHAPTER MEETING at 6:30 PM and we were waiting for him when one of the attendees search him on Google and give us shocking news that Professor Shlomo passed away yesterday. I am one of his 100th Ph.D. students and would like to say that Professor Shlomo was such a wonderful mentor and a person. May Allah rest him in peace.

Ahmad - January 12 at 07:59 PM

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“ Shlomo was truly one of a kind, and though it is with tears in my eyes, it has been a joy to read through all of these tributes. His impact on others is formidable. A truly remarkable teacher, he taught you the roots and the meanings and the contributions of a subject, he taught you to care about the tools of which you were learning. As my advisor and professor, I owe much of my masters journey to his guidance, his intellect, and his patience. I am in shock and so very saddened to hear of his passing. Shlomo seemed to be of another plane, untethered to human limitations of time, intellect, and energy. His tremendous influence on this world will continue to be an inspiration. My deepest condolences to his family. His contributions will be so greatly missed.

Rachael Hone, M.Ed. Candidate

Rachael Hone - January 12 at 05:07 PM

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“ Shlomo was an amazing colleague and a great friend. I worked closely with him at Wayne State and found him to be among the brightest and most engaging member of the faculty. He had a unique combination of great intellect, openness to new ideas, commitment to students, and very sharp sense of humor. It was always a joy to see him on campus or have his participation on committees. His passing is a great loss for our community. My deep condolences to his family.

Matthew Seeger  
Professor of Communication  
Wayne State University

Matthew Seeger - January 12 at 02:40 PM

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“ Like all of us, we are shocked and saddened with Shlomo's passing. My condolences to the family. He was always kind and helpful to me, and I learned so much from being in his class. May his memory be eternal.

Bill Nowling

Bill Nowling - January 12 at 12:21 PM

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“ Like so many, I was shocked and saddened to learn of Shlomo's passing. His loss will be deeply felt by all who were lucky enough to have known and worked with him.

Beyond his astounding intellectual and professional accomplishments, I will never forget his generosity as a mentor and colleague. While maintaining an incredibly busy schedule of teaching and research, including editing and producing a great journal he founded, Shlomo always found time for colleagues, whether reading and critiquing a draft manuscript, providing wise counsel on any number of professional matters, or eloquently presenting a case for a colleague's tenure or promotion.

Along with his vast professional accomplishments and intellect, Shlomo's honesty, wit, and generosity will always be remembered.

Mike Addonizio

Mike Addonizio - January 12 at 12:14 PM



“ Besides being my special student then my advisor colleague friend and supporter, Reb Shlomo was the heart and soul of our Chabad House. The profundity of that relationship cannot be expressed in words for they fail us. Our place of worship will never feel or be the same without him. His kindness, humility , generosity and respect for the Torah were above all others.

For the Jewish community and the world we lost a humble giant in spirit and thought. Had he sought fame he would have been as popular as Rav Adin Steinzatz or more. He was a fountain of knowledge that extended into all the branches of true wisdom and science. That he truly and deeply believed as a Jew in our Torah and encouraged others to do the same is a testament to his greatness.

He knew the secular world and its limitations for the truth.

I encouraged him to write his observations down and publish them . He started and we will see that start. However there was so much more that we will never see from him.

Had he been in Yeshiva all his days , he would have been among the elites. His mind was that true and creative.

Had he only been in the secular world with an ego, his opinions would have made front page often.

More than that he was a true mentor and friend to thousands and in this there was no one like him.

Rabbi Chaim Moshe Bergstein - January 13 at 10:16 AM

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“ I too am shocked and deeply saddened to learn of Professor Sholomo's passing. His kindness, encouragement and quick wit made the thesis and dissertation process enjoyable. His little comments and actions, especially during a difficult time were enough to make a person feel on top of the world, an uncommon talent for sure. Thank you for your guidance, kindness, patience, and sense of humor. Travel safe and rest well, Good Sir, knowing you touched, influenced and enriched the lives of many, many souls.

Maurice Kavanagh

Maurice Kavanagh - January 12 at 12:01 PM

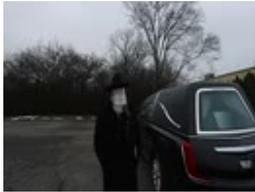


“ Very sorry to hear of Professor Shlomo's passing. His scholarship, compassion, energy, and sense of humor were an important part of my student and professional life at Wayne State. My sincere condolences to his family. Marie Colombo

Marie Colombo - January 27 at 04:21 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Funeral Service



Hebrew Memorial - January 12 at 11:58 AM



“ Dear Faigy and Family,

We are shocked and very saddened by the passing of Rabbi Shlomo. Although I always thought he inhabited this world on a different plane than most of us, I always appreciated how he could reach a regular person like myself. I still have the Monte-Carlo simulation program he helped me write 20 years ago. You and Shlomo were among the first people Tansy and I befriended in Michigan. May you cherish his memory for all time and may G-d comfort you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Neil & Tansy Craft

Neil & Tansy Craft - January 12 at 10:56 AM



“ I, like most, was shocked and heartbroken to hear of Professor Shlomo's passing. He was my mentor and doctoral advisor as well as dissertation chair. Truly, I wouldn't have considered the doctorate without his encouragement...and ultimately insistence! As an adjunct faculty member in EER, I was fortunate enough to continue to work with him at least on a small scale.

I had a compulsion last week Friday to send him an email thanking him so much for his role in my professional life and for his friendship. I don't know where that urge came from, but I'm deeply grateful I answered it and was able to share with him how highly regarded he was by my entire family and friends who never even met him. He responded with a simple "thank you" and proceeded on to other matters and that was our humble Professor.

I am where I am in no small part to Professor Shlomo. He will live on in my own heart and those of so many who were blessed to know him.

With much love,  
Elizabeth Perkin McQuillen

Elizabeth McQuillen - January 12 at 10:19 AM

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“ Shlomo was one of the members of the faculty of the College of Education when I started teaching there 30 years ago. His missing presence among us at the College will be impossible to imagine. I always admired his speaking out for his beliefs, even if my own beliefs might have been different. Like others have said, in addition to his lengthy and remarkable CV, what isn't readily apparent are the significant contributions he made to the committees on which he served....He always had time to explain certain statistics in journal articles I didn't easily understand.... He made significant contributions to art education through his evaluation work at Living Arts.

I will share one funny anecdote from one of my first interactions with Shlomo. In an ice-breaker activity during a College of Education faculty meeting, we were numbered off into partners and given puzzles to solve. I was paired with Shlomo who effortlessly solved 19 of the 20 puzzles, almost before everyone else started working, but he was stumped at "50WTLYL," which I solved: "50 ways to leave your lover." I felt so proud that my useless piece of knowledge contributed to our winning score! And, Shomo made me feel like I had something to offer!

My deepest condolences to Shlomo's family. He made a contribution to this life and he will be missed.

Holly Feen-Calligan - January 12 at 10:16 AM

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“ My condolences to Dr. Sawilowsky’s family. It was an honor to know him as a professor and a colleague. He will truly be missed.

**LaSondra Dawn** - January 12 at 09:46 AM

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“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Shlomo. He was a very brilliant and witty individual, and I am very thankful to have had him as my doctoral advisor. I will always remember his stories and his love of diet Pepsi. May he rest in peace, and may his family find comfort in the knowledge that he impacted so many lives in a positive way.

**Tiana Bosley** - January 12 at 09:46 AM

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“ My condolences to the family of Rabbi Shlomo. He was one of those rare individuals who possessed a depth and breadth of knowledge and the wisdom of how to apply it with humility. I had the pleasure of studying with him and walking home from shul with him. Those walks were always interesting, educational, and comforting for me. His insight on many events that happened in my life were were always enlightening to me. He will be missed by everyone whose life he touched

**David Rabens** - January 12 at 08:50 AM



“ We are shocked and saddened by Shlomo’s passing. He treated us with warmth and was always willing to share his knowledge and understanding on a wide swath of subjects. Condolences to his loved ones, especially his children and grandchildren.

**charles surasky** - January 12 at 09:45 AM

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“ My condolences to the family. Dr. Shlomo was my instructor and I learned a great deal from him. His jokes in class and real-world application made learning quantitative methods a bit more easier for me. I had identified Dr. Shlomo as one of my dissertation committee members. His contribution to academia will be greatly missed, but certainly remembered.

**Angela Jack** - January 12 at 07:54 AM

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“ I feel extremely privileged to have been in probably the smallest of Rabbi Sawilowsky's many classes for about the last 15 years. Two or three of us would meet with him every Monday night for 60-90 minutes. We met with him last week and we were supposed to meet again tonight. I was completely shocked at the news of his passing. He has had a tremendous impact on my life because we learned so much with him on a thousand different subjects even though they always originated with the Talmud, the Bible, the Midrash and so many other areas. He could take the most complex subject and have the patience to go over it again and again until it was completely understood. He had tremendous patience. I know that I have asked him hundreds of questions and he always answered them without a trace of frustration or annoyance, even though I was a complete beginner in these subject areas. I know there were many times when we finished a class and we would still be marveling about how much he knew and his tremendous memory. Not only was he extremely well-versed in wide-ranging areas of Jewish thought and writings, he knew the lyrics to many popular songs and the words to TV shows and movies just because he had seen bits and pieces of these while happening to be in somebody else's house when they would be on. I noticed today that he has 181 articles listed in Google on a wide range of subjects. On top of all that, he would tell us about his fight with polio and how it ended with him taking off his braces (just like Forest Gump) and becoming a high school track star. Rabbi Sawilowsky gave me a tremendous appreciation for Judaism. He opened me up to see the genius of our sages of the past. He could make fascinating what would seem the most boring subject (e.g., the laws of what happens when there is a tenant in a house that collapses or when an ox gets out of control). He was always willing to go off on tangents in any direction and add insights that we never expected. We enjoyed every one of our classes with him. He will leave a huge void.

**Fred Leeb** - January 11 at 11:19 PM

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“ Based on my 22 years at Wayne State, I believe that Shlomo's contributions to the College of Education far exceeded those of any other professor. He would rank very high nationally in the number of student dissertations committees that he chaired. Indeed, he would be near the top of the international list in the number of times that a professor's scholarly publications are cited by their peers. Beyond his extraordinary professional record is Shlomo, the person. Incredibly kind and ever modest, Shlomo was dedicated not only to students, but Deans he counseled, and faculty he helped to receive academic tenure. Shlomo was a true mensch of consummate integrity, who I was proud to call my friend. He deeply cared about who you were and what you said, possessing an astonishing ability to repeat virtually verbatim any conversation he had with you. I was entertained by Shlomo's wit and humor, as well as the formidable challenge of debating politics with him. Shlomo leaves a void in his family, as well in the academic world, that cannot be replaced.

Monte Piliawsky

Monte Piliawsky - January 11 at 09:37 PM



“ I was never privileged to meet Shlomo in person, but the stories you have shared with me have touched my heart by seeing your admiration and affection for this truly wonderful man. I offer you, as well as his family, my deepest condolences. I know you will miss him immensely.

Pat Anderson - January 11 at 11:12 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Dr. Sawilowsky's family. I took a course with him in fall 2020 and was amazed at his sheer knowledge, care, and respect for the subject and his students. He will be missed!

Richard Pineau - January 11 at 08:30 PM



“ I was Dr. Sawilowsky's master student at WSU. I have to admit he is the best mentor I ever met in my life. I still can remember how supportive he was when I applied for my Ph.D. program. Actually, His supportive to me was far more beyond the academic work at WSU. When I left WSU, I said to him in person that I may not become one of your best students, but I will definitely to be the most diligent one. Right now, I can tell him I actually realized my promise. In our most recent email, he said he expected to see my dissertation topic. I felt deeply sorry that I did not have any chance to show him, even to see him again. It is my great honor to become your student and I will miss you. Rest in peace.

Chenguang Du - January 11 at 08:25 PM



“ Much love and prayers for Shlomo's family. Shlomo was a good friend. I am glad to have served on doctoral and college committees with him. His deep knowledge and wisdom benefited us all.

**Timothy Spannaus** - January 11 at 08:20 PM

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“ Professor Sawilowsky was a mentor to everyone who dealt with him. His classes were very informative and he was a titan in education. It was an honor to have him on my PhD committee and I will always treasure having his name attached to mine. I will miss you Shlomo and Wayne State will never be the same without you. Rest in peace.

Lea Yazigi Wood

**Lea Wood** - January 11 at 07:52 PM

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“ I am utterly saddened and shocked to learn about the passing of Prof. Shlomo. I feel incredibly blessed to have met him in my very last PhD class, and then ended up auditing a couple more. I would not be where I am today without his support and mentorship, and I feel truly honored to have worked with him. He challenged me to go farther than I had ever imagined I could. Like so many, I admired his intellect, scholarship, and integrity, but most of all his human qualities and his humbleness. When I left WSU it was him who asked me to stay in touch, and we did. Little did I know that our e-mail exchange on December 29 would be our last one. I will truly miss Shlomo! My deepest condolences for all his family.

**Stefanie Baier** - January 11 at 07:26 PM

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“ Sholmo was always so kind and welcoming to me as his sister-in-law. I will always remember the kindness he extended to me. I loved the twinkle in his eye, his jokes, and sharing sweets with him. He was a wonderfully dedicated father and fierce protector for you, Sarah and Jack. His love for you had no bounds and we stood with him on that. So happy Charley and I were able to see him enjoy his precious grandkids and bring a smile to their faces. You and your family are a testimony to the exceptional man he was and will always be. We are with you as you make this journey. Aunt Janice

**Janice Mayo** - January 11 at 06:35 PM



“ I was deeply saddened to hear of Professor Shlomo's passing. He was a critical influence in my career. In fact, I didn't realize how much he had taught me until just recently. Over this past year I'd been reflecting on his lectures - I recorded each one. I had just recently been thinking of how valuable his lectures on just the measures of central tendency, specifically the mean, actually were. At the time I felt his dogged adherence to the complete understanding of measurement foundations were a hinderance to learning the big, important cutting edge skill sets in statistical thinking, however, it's been six years since I got my doctorate under him and I feel like it's only now that I fully appreciate the wisdom of his teaching priorities. I can't believe he's gone and I'm so very sad I didn't get to tell him this to his face. He was the real deal. A Great Educator. I'm so proud and grateful I got to work with him.

**Anna C Gersh** - January 11 at 06:30 PM

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“ Professor Sawilowsky went above and beyond for his students. His passion for teaching and brilliant mind were evident during lectures. This past Fall semester, I had the privilege of taking two courses with Professor Sawilowsky. His charismatic personality shined through even over Zoom meetings. He told the best stories and has made a positive impact on many students. My deepest condolences to the Sawilowsky family.

**Zeina Ghoul** - January 11 at 06:24 PM

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“ I am saddened to hear about Shlomo's passing. I was on a couple of his Ph.D. students' dissertation committees. We also worked on a review committee of an engineering department. My deepest condolences are extended to Shlomo's family. He will be remembered.

George Yin

**George Yin** - January 11 at 05:16 PM

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“ I have known Shlomo for his entire career in the College of Education at Wayne State University. Throughout his time in our College, he was the most positively consequential professor of our time.. His help to so many faculty, students and administrators in and outside of our college is unparalleled He was so humble that few knew of the extent to which this was so, but there are also many of us who did. I had the extraordinary pleasure to work with him during the entirety of his career, and am so happy that our careers overlapped for as long as they did. Everything that has been said by those who commented before me is true, and I echo their sentiments. My sincere condolences to all of his family and other friends. I can't believe that he is gone and with miss him dearly.

Stephen Hillman  
Professor, COE/WSU

Stephen Hillman - January 11 at 05:12 PM

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“ My heart is incredibly heavy and sad today. He was a friend, mentor, and overall, one of most kindest and humane sources of light in my life at WSU. He always made time to help others, answer questions, or share a laugh. I will forever cherish the time I spent with him, listening, learning, and laughing. May the memories of his life with us be a blessing and may his memories of his life warm our hearts through this time. My deepest condolences for his family, children and grandchildren.

Thank you for everything you did for me. I will deeply miss you.

Francesca Pernice

Francesca Pernice - January 11 at 03:59 PM

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“ For myself and everyone at the Wayne State University Libraries and especially the Publishing unit, my deepest condolences. Dr. Sawilowsky meant the world to us.

Joshua Neds-Fox - January 11 at 03:41 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to the Sawilowsky Family! Shlomo was a gentleman and showed respect to everyone! We will miss him very much in the College of Education!

Lynn Ostrowski - January 11 at 03:37 PM



“ Shlomo was a wonderful mentor and professor. My favorite memory is of us walking from class one evening. He asked me what I thought of his course, encouraging me to speak openly. I was touched by his sincerity. He cared about his students and their success. I wish I had more time to say thank you for everything. I will miss you.

**Deborah A. Gibson** - January 11 at 03:09 PM



“ Rabbi Shlomo Sawilowsky was a wonderful teacher and Rabbi. I took a class with him on SHABBOS observance. In his quiet way, He was so kind and caring. I refer back to his teaching so many times. He was an incredible, brilliant man. He will be sorely missed.BDE.

**Dale** - January 11 at 03:47 PM



“ Shlomo was a fine scholar and teacher who was always available to students, whether his own or not. It was my very great fortune to have numbered him as one of my friends in the College of Education. The College will greatly miss his steady presence.

- Tom Edwards, Em. Prof. of Mathematics Education

**Thomas G Edwards** - January 11 at 02:58 PM



“ My deepest condolences are extended to Dr. Shlomo's family. He was my current doctoral adviser. I am going to miss the opportunity to learn from such a wonderful and comical man.

Leon Hudson

**Leon** - January 11 at 02:54 PM

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“ Dear Feige,

Our heart goes out to you and all the members of the families. We are sending you thoughts of comfort and love. We will always remember the special times we shared together at our Shabbos Supper club meals. We will miss Shlomo and the special place he occupied in our community. His Shmirat Shabbat lessons that he taught us in your home, while preparing his book, will be fondly remembered as well.

All our love,  
Dorene and Steve

**Dorene & Steve** - January 11 at 02:43 PM

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“ I am just at a complete loss of words...what an awesome man, awesome instructor and unbelievable advisor! Thank you for sharing him with all of us at the College of Education. I am forever indebted to him and am so proud to have been able to call him my dissertation advisor!

He will forever be missed...what a gigantic hole will forever be felt in the College of Education and the EER program as a whole!

Dr. Tia Finney

**Rev Dr. Tia Finney** - January 11 at 02:39 PM

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“ Dear Sarah, Akiva, and kinder, Ellen, and Jack, BDE. I am soooo sorry to hear about the loss of your father, grandfather, and husband. Shlomo was ( and will be from the other side) a gift from the Almighty. It is because of Shlomo, —from the very beginning in my M.A. program—that my doctoral research came to fruition. There are no words to adequately convey how important Shlomo have been to me, and so many in the academic world, and personally as well. Shlomo's wisdom and patience was known worldwide, and his love for his family immeasurable. May Shlomo's memory be a blessing for all. With much love, Aviva Gordon

**Aviva Gordon** - January 11 at 12:08 PM



“ Also, to the family Moshe (Rochel) Rose, Chaya (Avrum Yitzchok) Thav, Yocheved Rose, Shoshana (Asher) Brand and Sora (Yisroel Mordechai) Raphen, BDE. Also, to those who read this: Shlomo was considered for a Nobel prize and has helped countless individuals in his own GIANT way. He will truly be missed.

**Aviva Gordon** - January 11 at 01:08 PM



“ Sarah, Akiva and kids and Jack and to Shlomo's wife: we send our deepest sympathies on the loss of your dear father. Shlomo was a brilliant man who mentored many and was widely respected. His crowning achievement in my view is his children, Sarah and Jack are both brilliant, extraordinary people. Shlomo was incredibly kind when our father died years ago. He sat Shiva with my brother for his Uncle and he was a great source of comfort to my brother. May Shlomo's memory always be for a blessing. Sending hugs and love to his family. Susan and Howard Pelteson

**Susan Pelteson** - January 11 at 06:49 PM



“ Sarah and jack, we send our deepest condolences on your dad's passing. Cousins Dot, Alan and David Jay Daitch.

**David Jay Daitch** - January 11 at 08:54 PM



“ Our hearts are saddened to hear of cousin Shlomo's passing. He was a scholar and a gentleman, with an exceptional mind and a dry wit. It appears that his kindness and sense of humor were appreciated by many, and it's truly wonderful to see how much he was loved by faculty and students alike. Sarah and Akiva, Jack, and Norma & Howie, Harry and I send our love and our deepest condolences to you and your children.

Harry & Renee (Sawilowsky) Bloch

**Renee Bloch** - January 11 at 10:03 PM



“ I learned Torah from Rabbi Sawilowsky for many years. He was a passionate, gifted, inspirational teacher with a terrific sense of humor, and great love for Yiddishkeit and the Jewish People. I had mentioned to him before last Yom Kippur that because of Covid I would not be in shul for the final Shofar blowing - the first time in my adult life. So he promptly invited me to come to his house - we are neighbors - for a private Shofar blowing. I walked over at the appointed time; he greeted me warmly, Shofar in hand, and, socially distanced on his front porch, he blew the final blast, prolonging it as long as he could. I thanked him profusely. He replied that he

he'd never make the Philharmonic, but he did did the best he could. He was that kind of guy, always did the best he could. The epitome of a life lived Kiddush Hashem.

Shalom Haver. I shall miss you greatly.

Joel Shere  
West Bloomfield, Mi.

**Joel Shere** - January 11 at 11:22 PM



“ Shlomo was my dissertation advisor and mentor 30 years ago. I consider myself profoundly fortunate to have Shlomo to guide me through the PhD process. I still think of him often in admiration at his intellect, his humble spirit and his wit. We recently re-connected, and if anything, it only served to make me admire him more. He was a remarkable man and will be sorely missed.

**Lynn Kelley** - January 12 at 10:56 AM



“ Like so many others, I am still in shock over the death of my dear friend, Shlomo Sawilowsky. He was a man with enormous memory abilities, great wisdom and great kindness. There are many people within and outside of the College of Education who would not have their degrees, or tenure or promotions without the help of Dr. Shlomo.

I was on the search committee which hired Dr Shlomo, and one of my tasks was to interview several of the faculty members at the University South Florida who had sent letters of recommendation. During those interviews, two of the referees told me the same thing. After telling me how brilliant Shlomo was, they said that it was not wise to have an argument with Shlomo. I asked “Why?” and they each replied, “You’ll lose.” They were right.

Shlomo loved books, and I had a lot of them in my office. It was Shlomo’s first semester at Wayne and he was in my office perusing stat books. Suddenly Shlomo, sounding like a boy who just found an autographed Al Kaline Rookie baseball card, said, “You have Siegel!” Siegel is a statistics text in one of Shlomo’s research areas. This was a book I had not touched since grad school. He borrowed the book, and he kept the book for a week or two. He told me that Siegel was the text his blind mentor taught from. My guess is that Shlomo memorized the book in the two weeks he had it. He could do things like that.

Time passed and the holidays arrived. I saw Shlomo in the hall and asked him to come to my office and gave him a wrapped Hanukkah present. He immediately thought it was a joke type gift. He opened the present and the copy of Siegel was in the box. Tears started streaming down his face and he said that he could not accept it. I asked “why?” He said that you could not get that book anymore and it was worth a lot of money. I said, “Not to me, and it is your book now.” He walked back to his office after thanking me profusely. Five years later he found a copy of Siegel at a used book sale an insisted that I take “my copy” back. That was Shlomo. He was an incredibly special man and we will miss him.

Barry Markman

**Barry Markman** - January 12 at 08:53 PM



“ Dr. Shlomo was brilliant and amazing. In a time where we often tell teachers not to lecture, that rule never applied to him. His stories were so well crafted and he spoke with such conviction, Sholmo's classes were among my favorites at Wayne State. He injected humor and wisdom into every class and held his students to a high standard for quantitative statistics writing. I recently wrote a recommendation letter for a Wayne State College of Education graduate school candidate and took time out to tell her about Shlomo as a "must take" professor. It is truly sad that she won't have the chance to experience his brilliance.

**Shawna Veit** - January 15 at 01:58 PM



“ I am deeply saddened and shocked to learn of the passing of Dr. Shlomo. He was my graduate advisor and doctoral chair and will remain one of the most profound mentors that I have ever had. His dedication, intelligence, and humor is sure to leave a huge hole in the College of Education as it has in my own heart. He has been a huge part of my life since 1992 and we always stayed in touch over the years. I honestly can't believe that he's gone. My sincerest condolences for his entire family. He was deeply loved and respected and he will be missed by everyone whose life he touched.

**Michael Nanna** - January 22 at 09:57 AM