



## DR. LAWRENCE I. BERKOVE

January 8, 1930 - May 19, 2018

SERVICES: 1:00 PM TUESDAY 5/22/2018 at HEBREW MEMORIAL CHAPEL

A LINK WILL BE PROVIDED FOR A WEBCAST OF THE FUNERAL SERVICE

Lawrence (Larry) Berkove of Southfield, died on May 19, 2018 at the age of 88. He was born in Rochester, NY, and grew up in Chicago, IL. Larry began college as a Forestry major at the University of Montana. His summer jobs included working for the Forest Service, for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and in the steel mills. In 1953 Larry volunteered for a three year stint in the U.S. Army, where he served as a Special Agent for the Counter Intelligence Corps in Korea. Larry went on to receive his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1962, teaching at Skidmore College, DePaul University, and Colorado College, before coming to the University of Michigan Dearborn in 1964. Larry was promoted to Professor of Humanities in 1974. He specialized in American Literature of the 19th Century, and was an internationally recognized expert on Mark Twain, Ambrose Bierce, Jack London and authors of the Sagebrush School. He became Professor Emeritus in 2003. He was a prolific scholar, writing throughout his career and well into his retirement. He authored nearly 200 publications including 14 books. He was recognized for his scholarship both nationally and internationally. In 1982-1983, Dr. Berkove was invited to be a visiting professor at Rikkyo University in Tokyo, Japan and in 1992 was a Distinguished Fullbright Lecturer in South Korea. He served in leadership roles in a number of academic organizations, including as President of the Michigan College English Association; President of the Jack London Society; and President of the Mark Twain Circle of America.

Larry Berkove was the beloved husband of Gail Berkove. They were married over 50 years. He was also the devoted father of Ethan (Kyra) Berkove, Naomi Berkove and Daniel (Ayelet) Berkove and loving grandfather of Dale, Devon, Yehudah, Gilad, Yair, Noam and Shira Berkove. He was dear uncle of Sam Siner and Emily Siner, and the proud son of the late Sally and the late Dr. Harry Berkove.

OFFICIATING:

Rabbi M. Cohen

INTERMENT:

GRAVESIDE SERVICE: 2:00 PM WEDNESDAY 5/23/2018 at  
Shalom Memorial Park  
1700 W.Rand in Arlington, Illinois

SHIVA:

The family will begin Shiva on Thursday 5/24/2018  
at the residence  
17020 Margate Avenue  
Southfield, MI 48076

SERVICES AND CONDOLENCE VISITS TIMES

Thursday: 8:35pm Mincha/Maariv

Friday: 6:15am Shacharit, 2:00 – 5:00 open hours

Sunday: 8:00am Shacharit. Visiting hours from 2:00 – 5:00pm, then 7:30 – 10:00pm.  
Mincha followed by Maariv at 8:35pm

Monday: 8:00am Shacharit. Visiting hours from 2:00 – 5:00pm, then 7:30 – 10:00pm.  
Mincha followed by Maariv at 8:35pm

Tuesday: 6:15am Schacharit

CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of  
DR. LAWRENCE I. BERKOVE  
you may do so by making a contribution to:

YAD EZRA

2850 W. 11 Mile,  
Berkley, MI 48072

248.548.3663

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

or

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF MAGEN DAVID ADOM

30100 Chagrin Blvd. S#150

Pepper Pike, OH 44124

216.342.4032 877.405.3913

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

# Previous Events

## Service

MAY **22**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Hebrew Memorial Chapel  
26640 Greenfield Rd  
Oak Park, MI 48237  
(248) 543-1622  
info@hebrewmemorial.org  
<https://www.hebrewmemorial.org/>

## Shiva

MAY **24** to **29** (ET)

GAIL BERKOVE  
17020 Margate  
Southfield, MI 48076

# Tribute Wall



“ *Hebrew Memorial Chapel created a Webcast in memory of DR. LAWRENCE I. BERKOVE*



Hebrew Memorial Chapel - May 22, 2018 at 12:57 AM

SF

*We want to express our dearest condolences to Dan and all of the family. For the little that we knew Mr Berkove we all heard good things about him. May his soul be next to The Almighty, Amen Ken Yehi Razon.....*

shocron family - May 22, 2018 at 03:29 PM

SH

“ *Sincere Condolences to Gail and the family in this time of sadness and loss. Regards Shirley Piku*

Shirley - June 05, 2018 at 11:50 AM

MM

“ *That picture of him. Such a Zeece Pudim. I put on weight he put on weight as he aged. You can see in that picture the true essence of Larry. There is no hiding it. What a beautiful man. I regret I never met him sooner.*

*Morris Miller--A shirt tailed relative.*

Morris Miller - May 26, 2018 at 06:01 AM

PF

“ *I was saddened to see the notice in the newspaper this morning. Dr. Berkove was an excellent professor of English. He influenced me greatly, and I modeled my 34 years of teaching secondary English after the enthusiasm and passion he displayed for the authors and their messages. He is missed in my heart. I can only imagine that sentiment is quadrupled for his family and close friends.*

Patty O'Brien Faletti - May 24, 2018 at 11:00 AM

EB

“ Found out belatedly about Larry's passing through a Facebook entry by his admiring colleague Ron Stockton. I share Gail's and the family's loss with sadness and some beautiful memories of stimulating conversations , many of them unilaterally (the family will understand), but laced with his witticisms and great sense of humor. As my Latin professor used to say: "Sic transit gloria". I extend my sincere condolences to Gail and the family.  
*Eric Billes*

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**Eric Billes** - May 23, 2018 at 12:45 AM

SA

“ Over 45 years, each and every visit with Larry and Gail, and their family, was engaging, lively, thought provoking, and joyful. Visiting their house on Margate was such an uplifting experience. Sharing a meal at their table - with fresh herbs from the garden - catching up on our lives in the living room, or walking the expanse of their property, always made for a special day. Every time you spoke with Larry, you were in conversation with someone who was deeply listening and sincere. I am a better person, fuller person, for having known him. So many great memories of Mr. Berkove. High on that list was his ability to tell a story and pull you into the world of it. As a kid, on weekend Boy Scout campouts, he sure knew how to spook us kids with the most original ghost stories you've ever heard! I still get chills thinking of them! I deeply respect the way Larry lived his life, the family he and Gail made, and the positive impacts he left on so many others. My thoughts are with Gail, Ethan, Naomi, and Dan. –Steve Alexander



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**Steve Alexander** - May 22, 2018 at 11:49 AM

MS

“ When we were at your house for dinner about a month or so ago, Larry mentioned that he had written his memoirs. He said that he loved his life - his work, and especially his family - and that if he could live it again, there wouldn't be anything he would want to change. We feel so blessed to have been a part of his life, and for all the wonderful times we spent together.

*Margaret and Joel Shere*

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**Margaret Shere** - May 22, 2018 at 10:16 AM

MT

“ Dr. Berkove was my favorite literature professor who became a friend. I am sorry we did not see each other often but I will never forget his teaching style, his humor, his kindness and great wit. I couldn't wait to get to his classes and have always maintained that he taught me how to "read" and understand the meaning. He will be missed and my best wishes go to his family including Gail, Ethan, Naomi and Daniel. Sincerely, Mary Jane Town



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**Mary Jane Town** - May 22, 2018 at 09:59 AM