



IRA HARRIS

December 4, 1938 - April 7, 2021

FAMILY GRAVESIDE SERVICE: FRIDAY 4/09/2021, 2:00 pm ADAT SHALOM MEMORIAL PARK.

A link to join a Zoom of the service

Time: Apr 9, 2021 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

To join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85418879743?pwd=cFR4T0k3OVF4MGpJRHFhV215RUVhdz09>

Meeting ID: 854 1887 9743

Passcode: 561330

TO WATCH A RECORDING OF THE FUNERAL, PLEASE GO TO THE PHOTO AND VIDEO SECTION OF THIS WEBPAGE AND CLICK ON THE VIDEO.

Ira Gerson Harris, who passed away peacefully at his Huntington Woods home, loved a good obituary. Even as his long struggle with Parkinson's disease made reading difficult, he routinely read them - correcting grammatical errors, shaking his head at the loss of someone he knew, and occasionally delighting in a remarkable detail. Ira was the most interesting man in the

world, or at least the greater Detroit area. Born in Detroit on December 4, 1938 to Herb and Ceil Harris, Ira earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Michigan. While he hoped to become a French teacher, he ultimately decided to follow in his father's footsteps as a criminal defense attorney, serving clients for over 50 years. But it was his range of passions that truly made him unique. A Saturday could include shul at B'nai Moshe, followed by car racing at Waterford before spending the evening as an extra in the Detroit Metropolitan Opera. He loved reading American history, riding in his 1967 Corvette and watching Formula One. His loss will be felt by everyone whose life he touched but no one will miss him more than his family: his wife Kay, son Adam Harris (Julie Straus Harris), daughter Molly Harris, grandchildren Stephen and Ruth Harris, and sister Judy Rubin (Bobby). Ira's blended family includes Kay's daughters Elana Parker (Stephen), Dena Roth (Rivka Friedman) grandchildren Taylor, Violet, Nathan, and Ezra Parker, Adi, Amit, and Alma Friedman-Roth. Extended family includes nephews Jordan Wolfe (Winci), daughter Penelope, Matthew Wolfe, Josh Rubin (Maria), Gabe Rubin (Tracy), their children Ceila, Jonah, and Ella Rubin, and Ari Rubin (Kate), as well as Ira's former wife, Judith Harris, many cousins, and friends. In addition to his parents, Ira was predeceased by his sister Mary Jo Wolfe and brother-in-law Dr. Bob Wolfe.

OFFICIATING

Rabbis J. Krakoff, M. Sussman

INTERMENT

Adat Shalom Memorial Park

SHIVA

After graveside services, immediate family only will observe Shabbat at the

family home. Shiva will be observed in the backyard of 26091 Salem on Sunday afternoon, from 3pm-6pm and Monday, from 5pm-7pm. All services will be held outside and guests are asked to please wear masks.

CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to further honor the memory of

Ira Harris

you may do so by making a contribution to

ACLU

www.aclu.org

or

Forgotten Harvest

www.forgottenharvest.org

Cemetery Details

Adat Shalom Memorial Park Cemetery

28500 W. 6 Mile Road
Livonia, MI

Previous Events

Service

APR **9**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Adat Shalom Memorial Park Cemetery
28500 W. 6 Mile Road
Livonia, MI

Shiva

APR **9** to **12** (ET)

Harris Residence
26091 Salem Rd
Huntington Woods, MI 48070

Shiva will be observed in the backyard of 26091 Salem on Sunday afternoon, from 3pm-6pm and Monday, from 5pm-7pm. All services will be held outside and guests are asked to please wear masks.

Tribute Wall

PC

“ *My most profound condolences to Nicki and the entire family. I worked at Salomon in the 1970s and 80s and Ira was so very revered in Chicago , New York and I am sure worldwide! May he RIP
Knowing what a positive and superb influence he made and was to so many!!*

Pamela W. Cole - March 01, 2022 at 10:34 AM

SP

“ *My sincerest condolences to the family. I used to work for Ira (1999-2007). I just found out about his passing. Praying for God to comfort you all.*

~Shairon Parks

Shairon Parks - September 16, 2021 at 11:29 AM

RF

“ *Dear Judy, Adam and molly, my sincere condolences
Ira was a good man. Sorry for your loss. May his memory be a blessing.*

Ronnie Fink - April 19, 2021 at 10:05 AM



“ Dear Kay, Judy and family. I was saddened to hear of Ira's passing. Although we didn't see our Michigan family too often, I always remember Ira being present at almost all the Toronto Simchas. Ira was always so kind and interested in what I was up to. In reading the many tributes it was obvious what a wonderful life and legacy he left. May his memory be a blessing to all he knew him. Our love to your family. Joel and Kristin Awerbuck

Matthew Joel Awerbuck - April 14, 2021 at 03:41 PM

HM

“ 2 files added to the album Funeral Service



Hebrew Memorial - April 10, 2021 at 10:30 PM



“ *My condolences to Kay, Adam, Molly, Judy, and the rest of Ira's family and friends. Although I hardly saw Ira these past 17 years, he still (and always will) be one of the men in my life that I look up to as a shining example of how to live a life of integrity...how to be a father, brother, son, and how to align a life with one's values.*

I'm so lucky to have spent many Shabbat dinners with him and his family. He was always sincerely interested in what I was doing and how my life was unfolding. I learned (or am still learning) - from simply watching him - how to be successful, uncompromising, and humble. Thank you Ira. And it's not for nothing that he got my humor (or perhaps more admirably, made me think that he got it!), and made me laugh with his jokes and sharp observations.

I hope that your greatest memories of him grow stronger and more vivid over time. And I have no doubt that Molly and Adam will continue to manifest his greatest qualities and lessons in their lives...and the lives they touch. And each time they do, Ira's impact on our world continues...and I'm grateful for that. It's no surprise that I echo what so many people have already shared...Ira was a mensch!

Trevor Matheson - April 10, 2021 at 01:47 PM



“ *Dear Kay and Judy, I was so saddened to hear of Ira's death. Although I didn't see him, every conversation I had with Ira at a simcha/Solomon Chanukah party made it obvious what kind of man he was - witty, kind, a real mensch. He will be greatly missed. Sending love and hugs,
Judy Jacobson*

Judy Jacobson - April 09, 2021 at 03:11 PM

LG

“ A wonderful and sweet tenor voice has been stilled. Always kind, with a dry sense of humor, Ira was, plainly speaking, one of Good Guys. Although the majority of my interaction, for many years, has been through our participation with B'nai Moshe, and singing together in the Mens (High Holiday) Choir, he was always a pleasure to be around. He had a distinctive and wonderful tenor voice, his solo's soared and we always knew he'd shine. So long Ira...may be your memory be a blessing to all.

Larry Gunsberg - April 09, 2021 at 01:41 PM

BC

“ I will start my memories of Ira by stating the most important memory of Ira that I have. He was a mensch in all aspects of his life. That being said , I was always so comfortable when being with him , in his home, at his shul , at simchas and once at a special time in Toronto when he helped bring an aging Gordie Howe from Detroit to Toronto for a Charity Hockey Event sponsored by Baycrest. He was a very important asset to his Jewish Community and the Detroit community in general. He was a wonderful family man.

May his memory be for a blessing

Barry Cutler

Barry Cutler - April 09, 2021 at 09:37 AM

PT

“ *RIP Ira.*

Paula Talarico - April 09, 2021 at 08:09 AM

DG

“ BDE! I remember the first time I attended WAS Ira came up to me outside the shul and introduced himself he was great man sitting in the back of shul! I will surely Mii Ira! May G-d comfort the family in this time! Dovid Goldberg

Dovid Goldberg - April 08, 2021 at 08:29 PM

EJ

“ So sorry to hear the sad news about Ira. Please accept my condolences. I'm thinking of all of you at this terribly difficult time.
Ellen Jacobson

Ellen Jacobson - April 08, 2021 at 04:56 PM

DR

“ I remember Ira's warm smile and wonderful laugh - he always enjoyed a good joke (among many other things) - I will miss my cousin and to Kay, Molly, Adam, Judy and the rest of the family, our deepest sympathies. May his memory always be a blessing.

Cynthia & David Roberts

David & Cynthia Roberts - April 08, 2021 at 03:28 PM

TJ

“ I didn't know Ira very well but it was always great to see him and he was a true mensch.
Warm wishes to all of his family and friends.

Teddy Jacobson

Teddy Jacobson - April 08, 2021 at 02:56 PM

SF

“ It saddens me to hear of Ira's passing. I shall always remember him as a gentle and kind soul.. I loved hearing him daven with his sweet beautiful voice. May his memory be a blessing.

Fondly,
Susan Friedman

Susan Friedman - April 08, 2021 at 01:15 PM

DW

Byunkeleh was such a wonderful man. For so many years at Bnai Moshe we together polished the silver breastplates on the Sifrei Torah before Rosh Hashana. And when the Ark opened to take them out, the gleam in his eye was even shinier.

Dan Weiner - April 09, 2021 at 05:38 AM

DS

Ira helped me during a difficult time in my life, and I will always remember his kindness, compassion, and sense of humor. My love and prayers to his family.

Diane Sasson - April 09, 2021 at 09:17 AM

DM

Ira became a good friend when he and I began to sit together during kiddish lunch every week at the WAS. What a rare combination of wit and compassion were wrapped up in this kind and gentle man. I loved the stories he related about his many adventures and the twinkle in his eye when he made one of his many observations about some of the things going on that only he could see for the humor. There's a great hole in my heart that used to be filled by Ira. I already miss this wonderful man.

Donald Levine MD - April 09, 2021 at 10:55 AM

JG

*Rest In Peace, Ira
Jacqueline George*

jacqueline george - April 09, 2021 at 11:25 AM

EC

I knew Ira since we were teenagers together in USY, and although I hadn't since him recently I always considered him a friend. Our friendship continued through the B'nai Moshe years. Just recently he was on the same tour from WAS to South Africa as my wife, Amy. We will always remember him with fondness.

*BDE,
Ezra Cutler*

Ezra Cutler - April 09, 2021 at 12:21 PM

AW

Ira was one of the few people I accepted calling me 'Annie'. I could feel (and see in his eyes) his respect and joy in life when he spoke it.

He has been a good family (both Ezra and Devra called me today to talk about their 'Ira contacts") friend over many years and a support during Len's illness . He is not and will not be forgotten.

Ann Wanetik - April 09, 2021 at 01:56 PM