



JERRY LEW PARTOVICH

September 23, 1953 - January 10, 2019

SERVICES:12:00 NOON WEDNESDAY 1/16/2019 at HEBREW MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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

Age 65, of Ypsilanti, died January 10, 2019

A lover of music, Jerry played the ukulele and was a member of a musical group called "The Undecided". An active volunteer with Trinity House and Ark, he will be greatly missed.

Beloved brother of Iris (Milt) Zaft, the late Heather (late Adam) Berry.

Cherished uncle of Elisheva (Adam) Samuels.

Dear great-uncle of Ari Samuels.

Also survived by his cherished companion, Sabina Bauer, other relatives and good friends.

OFFICIATING:

Rabbi Avie Shapiro

INTERMENT:

Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery

SHIVA:

Following the interment, the family will observe Shiva
at the residence of Shelley and Rabbi Avie Shapiro
14261 Vernon Street
Oak Park, MI 48237
(248) 207-3775

STRICT KOSHER DIETARY LAWS ARE OBSERVED, SO PLEASE
CONTACT
SHELLEY SHAPIRO AT (248) 207-3775 FOR A LIST OF ACCEPTABLE
FOOD PROVIDERS.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

5:10 PM Wednesday evening

CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of

JERRY PARTOVICH

you may do so by making a contribution to:

HEBREW BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

26640 Greenfield Road

Oak Park, MI 48237

(248) 543-1622

www.hebrewmemorial.org

or

The Ark

734-761-1800

<https://theark.org>.

or

Trinity House Theatre

38840 W. Six Mile
Livonia, MI 48152-2605
www.trinityhousetheatre.org

Previous Events

Service

JAN 16. 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Shiva

JAN 16 (ET)

Shelley and Rabbi Avie Shapiro
14261 Vernon Street
Oak Park, MI 48237

STRICT KOSHER DIETARY LAWS ARE OBSERVED, SO PLEASE CONTACT SHELLEY SHAPIRO AT (248) 207-3775 FOR A LIST OF ACCEPTABLE FOOD PROVIDERS. RELIGIOUS SERVICES: 5:10 PM Wednesday evening

Tribute Wall



“ Hebrew Memorial Chapel created a Webcast in memory of **JERRY LEW PARTOVICH**



Hebrew Memorial Chapel - January 16, 2019 at 09:50 AM

EC

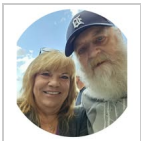
I will always remember you Jerry. You touched my life. Being your wife for such a short time is one of my regrets that it ended.

Erin Courson - June 16, 2025 at 10:43 AM

EC

“ Jerry and I were married for a brief time in 1996-1997. I have thought of him through the years. Something made me look him up on facebook. I stumbled across the news of his passing in such a tragic way. Even back then Jerry loved his music and showed me things i would not have known without him. Namely middle eastern quisine. He was a good man. My condolences to his sister Iris. I was also sorry to hear about Heather

Erin Courson - September 01, 2019 at 01:30 AM



“ Im so saddened to learn of Jerry's death. He was a good guy, marched to his own beat. I was blessed to meet him thru my work at WCC. Deepest sympathies to his family. He spoke of you often.

Diane Trosch - January 23, 2019 at 11:41 AM

IZ

“ I'd like to start the Jerry L.Partovich scholarship. At Buchmann Mehta School of Music Tel Aviv University Israel.

Iris Zaft - January 22, 2019 at 05:29 PM



“ Jerry did not know me personally, but when I asked, he was always gracious to agree to videotape a performance at Trinity House Theatre. He was very skilled at finding the right angles, the close-ups and full stage shots. And when this was completed he would gift me with a copy of the DVD to take home. We are all very grateful to Jerry for his enduring contribution to everyone's experiences at Trinity House.

Laura Levine Gumina - January 16, 2019 at 06:57 AM

DB

“ Jerry was a light in the life of my grandmother, Sabina. His passing has come as a complete surprise to me, and I'm going to miss him very much. We didn't get the chance to speak often, but it was always a delight when we did. Jerry had plenty of wisdom to share.

He had a significant interest in music, both listening and performing. We enjoyed playing covers of songs, both old and new, when I would sometimes bring my acoustic guitar over to my grandmother's place. It was always Sabina playing the accordion, Jerry playing Ukulele, and myself playing Guitar. I'll never forget the time spent at every holiday gathering, during every special occasion, or when I would just come to visit on the weekend.

I'm gonna miss you a lot, Jerry... But you will always live on through us.

Daniel Bauer - January 16, 2019 at 06:24 AM

WR

“ Yes, Jerry exemplified the concept of Tikkun Olan; to repair the world. Always trying to improve the world.
I have my memories of you now, which I will fondly recall, now and in coming years

Walter Raugh - January 16, 2019 at 02:12 AM

MS

“ *I always loved working with You and Sabina at The Ark... Will miss you so much...*
Mitch Smith

Mitch Smith - January 15, 2019 at 11:09 AM

PC

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Peggy Campbell - January 14, 2019 at 08:25 PM

PC

I met Jerry at the Ann Arbor Acoustic Jam some years ago and thought of him as a very knowledgeable uke player and loved how at the end of the night he got his white board and black marker out and wrote out the chords to songs to keep us going. Jerry really got me motivated to play acoustic guitar when he invited me to the Guitar Half Circle at Griff's place and I loved it there. I had a flashback to the '60s!! Then Jerry invited me to play with the McPubbers and we played together in Mike's basement until the McPubbers transitioned to Jan and Dave's basement where we jammed. That was where he met Sabina. In summer we morphed into a "garage band" at my house and like Jan Jones said at our open mike we got coined "The Undecideds" the name that remains today as we play weekly in Sabina's basement.

Jerry was a very precious friend who never answered my questions with a simple sentence but would go on to explain the background or history or ramifications--he knew about a lot of things and loved to share that. He could talk to anyone. There is a big hole in my heart and already miss that guy a lot. He was one of a kind, and kind and gentle is a good description of him.

Peggy Campbell - January 15, 2019 at 12:41 PM

JJ

“ I played with Jerry in the "Undecideds." I want to share how the band got its name. We were always talking about what our name should be. At one point I suggested, "The Good, The Bad, and Jerry." Jerry thought this was a hoot, but he insisted it should have "The" before "Jerry," like "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly." I kept insisting there should not be a "the" before "Jerry." I was thinking that as musicians, we were sometimes good, sometimes bad, and then there was Jerry. We used to good-naturedly argue the point, and still had not come up with a name. One summer night, we were playing open mic in the courtyard in Northville. The guy running the open mic, stepped up to Jerry and said, "What's the name of your group?" Jerry said, "We're undecided." So the guy announced our name as "The Undecided."

I was inspired by Jerry. When I met him he was living alone, and had recently lost a parent and his sister. In spite of his losses, he was somehow motivated to be out and about with his uke, singing and sharing songs that meant something to him. He was always kind and smiling. I always looked forward to seeing him. He will be missed by many.

Jan Jones - January 14, 2019 at 02:41 PM

 Mike
Anderson


“ Jerry used to be a mainstay of "The Ann Arbor Acoustic (Mostly) Jam," which is where I was acquainted with him. Jerry's love of music was contagious. He was irrepresible about sharing songs with the group. The routine for sharing a new song with the group was to print out copies of lyrics and chords. Jerry did that, but he also, uniquely, would bring a small whiteboard and marker with him, so he could suggest a song and simply write out the chords for us to see and play. In little time, he'd have us all playing and singing along. He clearly loved this and loved music.

Another thing he did that has influenced me was to be unafraid to share songs from the pre-rock'n'roll American Songbook of the 1930s - 50s with the group. The A2 Jammers generally stick close to the folk, rock, and (heh) folk-rock embraced first by the Baby Boomers and still enjoyed by the youngsters. The pre-rock "Standards" are off the radar of many folks these days. And, to generalize a bit, when these songs ARE heard now, it is in the context of jazz music, so that the the changes in, say, Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm" become a launch pad for bar after bar of brilliant instrumental or vocal improvisation.

But Jerry loved these songs, and understood that even without the improve, and even without the vocal timbre of a Fitzgerald or a Sinatra, these were great songs. So he would assay them, alone, with just his ukulele for accompaniment. He would strip songs down to their bones--no swingin' combo, no orchestra, no scattin, just Jerry's uke and his voice. And he showed that those bones were strong, those songs were good. They were worthy of our attention, even in the 21st century. Jerry and I were not friends--I probably never exchanged more than a couple dozen words with him--but he made a big impact. As a much-less experienced uke player and singer, I will always be grateful for his example. I thought you'd like to know.

The man was fearless!

Mike Anderson - January 14, 2019 at 10:42 AM

 Brad
Kelly

“ *G*D bless you and your family, Jerry... you will be missed.*

Brad Kelly - January 14, 2019 at 08:07 AM

IF

“ *Jerry Attended Winship Elementary School and Cass High School Detroit Michigan. He received his Bachelors Degree in Communication from San Francisco State University..*

Iris FrancesZaft - January 13, 2019 at 02:17 PM

KI

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. I enjoyed working with him as he volunteered at The Ark and it was always great to hear him perform on his ukulele at open stages. My condolences to all of his friends and family.*

Kim - January 13, 2019 at 12:43 PM

PM

“ *Jerry was a kind and dedicated soul. I am so sorry to know that he is gone. I enjoyed seeing him around town as well as at the Ark, a true Ann Arborite. I will miss him.*

Pat micks - January 13, 2019 at 09:28 AM

DC

“ Jerry was our lead uke player and singer in our band, *The Undecideds*.

Jerry gave The Undecideds an extension to music with old jazz standards, Hebrew songs and forgotten songs from the 50s.

Rest In Peace my musical brother, we will miss you.

Dan Cafarelli - January 13, 2019 at 09:02 AM

JG

“ Sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. I enjoyed my time with him as a Ark volunteer. Sending peace to his family during this unexpected time.

Jacqui

Jacqui Grisdale - January 12, 2019 at 03:34 PM

TM

“ 4 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Ted Montei - January 11, 2019 at 07:40 PM

IZ

“ *My Brothers Hebrew Name is Yehuda Arye Leib Ben Nuchum Noson Ha Kahane. He was born at Sinai Jewish Hospital in Detroit Michigan. September 23, 1953. The Youngest in a family of three children. He had a great smile and a good personalty. Milton and I will miss him. Baruch Dayan Ha Emet.*

Iris Zaft - January 11, 2019 at 05:17 PM



I will miss you my friend

Rosemary Callahan - January 16, 2019 at 10:16 PM

MZ

Jerry used to call every Friday night, just as we were beginning Shabbat dinner. I miss those Friday night calls to this day. May He Rest in Peace dear brother in law. Milton

Milt Zaft - January 13, 2024 at 10:14 PM