



LESTER BERMAN

May 30, 1948 - August 14, 2016

SERVICES: 1:00 PM TUESDAY 8/16/2016 at HEBREW MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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

Age 68, of Southfield, died August 14, 2016

A Civil Engineer and Consultant, Lester assisted 8 states with Environmental Planning as a Regional Officer. He was also a college professor and taught at Lawrence Tech, Baker College, Wayne State University, Phoenix University and Davenport University.

An active member of Adat Shalom Synagogue and its Men's Club, Lester remained active with Ahavath Shalom Congregation in Fort Worth, Texas, and also a Jewish War Veterans Organization.

Beloved husband for 45 years to Francine Berman.

Devoted father of Nathaniel (Rena) Berman and Caroline (Ken Thompson) Berman.

Loving grandfather of Devorah Berman and Rivkah Berman.

Brother of Ellen Berman

OFFICIATING:

Rabbi H. Yoskowitz

Hazzan Daniel Gross

INTERMENT:

Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery

SHIVA:

The family will observe Shiva through Friday morning

at a family residence

30065 Wildbrook Ct. Apt 207

Southfield, MI 48034

(248) 996-5628

PLEASE REMEMBER TO ENTER WILDBROOK OFF OF TELEGRAPH ROAD.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

7:30 AM Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

6:45 PM Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of

LESTER BERMAN

you may do so by making a contribution to

ADAT SHALOM SYNAGOGUE

29901 Middlebelt Rd,

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 851-5100

www.adatshalom.org

or

A Charity Of Your Choice

Previous Events

Service

AUG **16**. 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

AUG **16** to **19** (ET)

A Family Residence
30065 Wildbrook
Southfield, MI 48034

Tribute Wall



“ *Hebrew Memorial Chapel created a Webcast in memory of LESTER BERMAN*



Hebrew Memorial Chapel - August 16, 2016 at 08:00 AM



“ *Les was a good friend. He was also a wonderful and effective President of our union at the Department of HUD. He was tireless in his representation of union workers. He was a phenomenal human being. He served and served and never let up. He was also compassionate and respected all human beings regardless of their viewpoint. He was a wonderful teacher. He is in part the reason why my husband became a successful elementary school teacher. Les pushed and supported his efforts until it happened. Les did not simply talk the talk, he walked the walk. And he never could get just how awesome he was to us. He looked at so many things that he did as simply duty. As doing the right thing.*

To the family: I am so very sorry for your loss. I just returned from vacation today and learned of his passing. I cried got you, for him, for us. Les was an important part of the HUD family. He will be missed. Sincerely, Linda Johnson.

Linda Johnson - August 23, 2016 at 02:50 PM

GD

“ *Les was an invaluable member of the men's club of Adat Shalom. He was currently serving as corresponding secretary and always volunteered to help staff our events whenever he could. Les always had a twinkle in his eye and a witty clever comment on the ready. Our shul, men's club and I will sorely miss Les. Rest in peace!*

George Dickstein

George Dickstein - August 16, 2016 at 07:28 PM

SW

“ *My condolences to the family of Les Berman.*

Les worked tirelessly as the president of the employee union at the Detroit HUD office. He was the union president for many years, and had the respect of both labor and management. Les was always available to resolve issues between the employees and management. He will be remembered as a true representative of this office. We will miss you Les!

*Sheila Walker
Chief Counsel
Detroit HUD Office*

Sheila Walker - August 16, 2016 at 12:31 PM

PL

“A candle loses nothing by lighting the flame of another.”

This quote best sums up Les. As I look through the comments, it is evident that he touched so many lives, professionally and through his friendship. He was one candle, but lit countless others in his time with us. It's not the knowledge we gain, but what we do with that knowledge to help others that defines us. Les had a supreme understanding of this and shared his wisdom, knowledge and experience willingly and repeatedly. He held nothing back in that regard! I feel blessed that Les's life path crossed mine and in such a positive way. May God's love and peace be with you.

Paul Lehmann

Paul Lehmann - August 16, 2016 at 12:13 PM

AN

“Les had a brilliant mind and he loved to laugh - if even at himself. No doubt one of his greatest joys in life was welcoming his first grandchild into the world - Devora. He explained that because of her arrival, his life and legacy would live on thru his son and now thru his granddaughter. Also, at that time, he was absolutely sure there was no man on earth more blessed than he and we in Fort Worth were especially joyed to share this time with him. Blessings to the Berman family.

Annette - August 16, 2016 at 12:11 PM

PM

“Les – Your contributions at HUD live on. We regularly invoke your philosophy of environmental protection as being fundamental to fulfilling HUD's mission. Thank you for your wisdom. Peace to you and your family.

Paul Mohr - August 16, 2016 at 11:13 AM



“ Thank you Les for being my friend and a mentor. You taught me a lot about life, both inside and outside of the office and I will always remember you. My fear now is that when your Tigers play my Rangers, they will definitely be getting some help from up above. :) I'll miss you buddy....I was lucky to call you a friend.

David Storms - August 16, 2016 at 10:59 AM

CR

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of Lester's death. Lester gave me the welcome when I came to HUD to occupy the Environmental Field Officer position. Its always gave me their support and after he retired participated in the HUD training. I will miss Les.

Carmen Revero'n-Rondo'n

Carmen Revero'n-Rondo'n - August 16, 2016 at 09:57 AM

BM

“ Les had such a big heart. I worked with him for many years. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Bev Miller - August 16, 2016 at 09:57 AM

SV

“ I will miss Les, he was a true friend to me and many others at HUD. He was always ready to share great advice and to guide me in making better decisions. I regret not talking to him more than I did but want his family to know there are many who will cherish his memory.

Steve Vahl

Steve Vahl - August 16, 2016 at 09:24 AM

BR

“ I was so sorry to hear about Les. I remember when he stood up at our wedding as best man and how close he and Barry were back then. I hope god will give you strength to go on with your life to keep his memory alive.

Barb Ravitz

Barbara Ravitz - August 15, 2016 at 07:38 PM

SV

I'm so sorry to read about Les' passing. Barry Ravitz, Les and I all worked together with mentally disabled young adults in a Bnai Brith group. We had a great time together. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Sheryl Faber Vachon

Sheryl Vachon - August 15, 2016 at 08:27 PM

DS

I was so saddened to hear about my cousin Les. He was very special to my entire family and will be missed dearly.

Dorothy Smolar

Dorothy Smolar - August 15, 2016 at 10:27 PM



He was the finest of men, principled but soft-spoken about it. I don't believe it was possible to be as good a friend to Les as he was to you. It makes me so sad to know we will never make it to that Tigers game now. He was the definition of mensch. He deserved better. I will miss him. Ted Leavengood

Ted Leavengood - August 16, 2016 at 11:02 AM

PC

I worked with Les at HUD for many years. He was always very welcoming and willing to assist you. My condolences to his family. Keep the memories close to your heart.

Pat Connor

Pat Connor - August 16, 2016 at 12:08 PM

JP

I worked with Les on several environmental justice concerns in Region 6. He was most outspoken when lending his voice to those who had none. He was most passionate when advocating for others. Les always challenged me to do more...to help more. He was a wonderful example of a public servant.

Les was the star of his training events in Fort Worth. He was very comfortable with a lectern and a room full of students. My most fond memory, though is him shepherding a group of us to dinner afterwards. What a fun guy to be with!

See you at the next class, Les. Say hi to Jack.

Jim Potter

jim potter - August 16, 2016 at 12:14 PM

DS

Les was a colleague, a mentor and a friend to me. His advice and guidance came from the heart. He was a strong advocate for social and environmental justice. He taught me to be kind and respectful in advocacy -- and find joy in life!

Danielle Schopp

Danielle Schopp - August 16, 2016 at 02:22 PM

SJ

I am so grateful that I got to meet and work with Les. I will miss his kind spirit. Love to his family.

Sara Jensen - August 16, 2016 at 03:38 PM

MC

To the Family and Friends of the late Les Berman, I had the pleasure of woking with Les for years at the Detroit HUD office and especially with working with him in our Union responsibility to our fellow HUD members. He served the Union well as the President and in his representation of Union Members Regarding employee's issues. Les was well respected by Management and employees. His memories and his accomplishments will live on in the memories of all who came into contact with Les. I know my heart is sadden by his passing and my prayers and condolences go out to the Family and the many friends.

*Mary P. (Burrell) Collier's
HUD Retiree*

Mary P. Collier - August 17, 2016 at 01:55 AM

LG

I was so very sorry to hear about Les Berman's passing. We worked together for 8 years at HUD. When I was looking to make a career change after finishing my Planning degree at Wayne I called HUD and it was Les who answered the phone. He was always so helpful in letting me know when opportunities opened up & it was with his help I eventually was hired in CPD. He was a wonderful guy who was totally dedicated to his responsibilities as an Environmental Officer. I'm so sorry that I lost touch with him after he moved to Ft. Worth but he will be sorely missed.

Larry Gormezano

Larry Gormezano - August 19, 2016 at 10:18 AM

WS

To the Berman Family

Les and I go back a long way. We met when I first became an Environmental Officer (EO) in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Philadelphia Office in the mid-1980s. At first Les was just a "radio" voice on the phone during conference calls, sometimes funny and sometimes serious, asking pointed questions, and making numerous comments that I'm sure raised the blood pressure of Headquarters (HQ) staff. We very quickly became "phone" friends. We finally met at one of HQ's sponsored national EO conferences. Over the years we became close, sharing stories about dealings with various HQ staff, policy issues and how we dealt with them, and our families. He was a loving, always positive person, with a gift for listening and a wonderful sense of humor. I feel blessed to have known him. May his memory continue to light your lives.

Bill Skwersky

William Skwersky - August 21, 2016 at 09:04 AM

MB

We were regretful that we didn't see each other more often. I will miss Lester very much--Milton. May his memory be for a blessing. Milton and Susan

Milton and Susan Blake - September 14, 2016 at 08:23 AM