



MARVIN KOZLOWSKI

April 26, 1920 - October 8, 2020

FAMILY GRAVESIDE SERVICE: FRIDAY 10/09/2020, 1:45 pm, at HEBREW MEMORIAL PARK.

In the early morning hours of Thursday, October 8th, Marvin Kozlowski passed away peacefully, and surrounded by love, in his West Bloomfield home. The most adoring, optimistic and patient man the world has ever known, Marvin sure packed a lot of life into his 100 years on earth. Natives of Radom, Poland, Marvin and his father, Max, spent time in Nazi work camps before boarding a train to their impending death when it approached a stretch of tracks that had been recently bombed by the Allied Forces; their lives were spared. They were the only two members of their family to survive the Holocaust. After the war, Marvin made it to the United States in 1949 and was reunited with Edith London, also a Holocaust survivor, who arrived two years prior. They were married in 1950 and welcomed their first child, Jay, in 1952, eager to rebuild the family they had lost. Four years later, they welcomed their second child, Ruthie, and after another six years, their third and final, Joe. Marvin and Edith worked so hard to give their children the lives they deserved. Marvin's work days started before dawn and he would rarely get home before ten o'clock at night. Edith, with her heart of gold, did all she could to nurture the children, while Marvin provided for the family. Despite having no relevant experience, Marvin got a highly sought-after tailoring job at Sears by speaking

with the hiring managers, sharing his story and convincing them that he would not fail. This unwillingness to give up or fail was something that Marvin carried with him until the very end. After 17 years at Sears, Marvin took a big chance by opening up his own store in Bloomfield Hills. The landlord didn't want to rent space to Marvin, but, again, Marvin made too compelling an argument. With Edith in charge of sales and Marvin doing alterations, the couple turned Devon Custom Clothiers into a great success story. The two of them were unstoppable. They spent all this time and effort providing for their kids that they were ultimately able to pay for each of them to attend college and medical school; they also paid for the kids' cars. That was something in which Marvin always took such great pride. Despite all his hard work, Marvin always showered his kids with affection. It's hard to imagine two people loving and caring for their family more than Marvin and Edith. Marvin is survived by his wife, Edith; his children, Jay (the late Linda) (Renee), Ruthie, Joe (Jill); his grandchildren, Rachel, Anna (Bryan), David, Julia, Max, Ben; and great grandchild, Elliot. Words can't express the love and closeness that Marvin and his family shared. The lessons he and Edith have instilled in subsequent generations are so incredibly valued. The last few years were challenging, but Marvin, the consummate survivor--with care from many, including Ruthie, Jay, David and his nurse, Kim, among others--fought until the very end. He fought to spend more time with his family, who loved him so dearly and who will miss him more than can be expressed.

Age 100, of West Bloomfield, died October 08, 2020.

Beloved husband of Edith.

Dear son of the late Max and the late Ryfka Kozlowski.

Devoted father of Joseph (Jill) Kozlowski, Ruthie Kozlowski and Jay (Renee), (the late Linda) Kozlowski.

Proud grandfather of Rachel Kozlowski, Anna (Bryan Sofen) Kozlowski Sofen, David Kozlowski, Julia Kozlowski, Max Kozlowski and Benjamin Kozlowski.

Adoring great-grandfather of Elliot Sofen.

Loving son of the late Mordchai Shrageh and the late Finkel Rifka Kozlowski.
Cherished brother to the late Shlomo Kozlowski, and late Fela Kozlowski, late
Chayka Kozlowski and late Itka Kozlowski.

OFFICIATING:

Rabbi H. Yoskowitz

INTERMENT:

Hebrew Memorial Park

SHIVA:

Private family Shiva

CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of
Marvin Kozlowski

you may do so by making a contribution to:

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER

28123 Orchard Lake Rd.

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

248-553-2400

www.holocaustcenter.org

or

Holocaust Memorial Museum

100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, S.W.

Washington, DC 20024

202-488-0400

Cemetery Details

Hebrew Memorial Park Cemetery

33230 Gratiot
Clinton Township, MI 48035

Tribute Wall

RO

“ We met Mr and Mrs Kozlowski through Ruth many years ago. When we first met, we spent time sharing stories, laughing and enjoying each other’s company. We could tell the love they had for one another was like no other. From then on, we strove to emulate their love.

Several years later we happened to run in to Mr Kozlowski and Ruth, unexpectedly. We spent over an hour listening to Mr Kozlowski talk about his life and family. He told us about the business he ran, working many hours a day to put his children through medical school. He was so proud and obviously lived his life to care for the family. We left that day in awe of all he accomplished. Mr Kozlowski’s love for his wife and family is something we will never forget. We will be forever grateful and enriched to have known him.

Deepest and sincere condolences,
Rachel and Bill Olson

Rachel Olson - May 11, 2024 at 07:03 PM

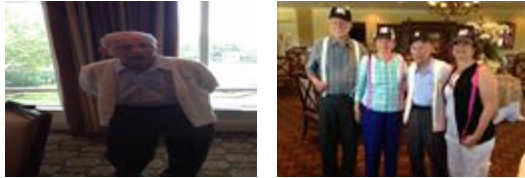
MT

“ I helped care for Marvin in the years before he passed. I knew him as a loving, caring and compassionate man. He rarely complained and faced his future with courage. What I loved best was just sitting next to him and holding hands. Occasionally, we would kiss each other’s hands. I think we both felt a real connection to each other, as well as love, joy and peace. I was honored and blessed to care for him. God rest his soul.

Mary Lou Temple - May 07, 2021 at 09:06 AM

EK

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



ellen k - October 20, 2020 at 09:58 AM

KW

“ Where do I begin...For the past 5+ years I've had the pleasure of taking care of Marvin and for that I feel honored. He spent everyday with a smile on his face and optimism in his heart. He exuded strength, courage and adversity. Marvin and I built a special relationship. One that made me feel a part of the family. We lost a special man and will always feel the loss. I will continue to wear my "bobyk" in your honor.

Love Always
"Kimshoin"

Kim Wheeler - October 19, 2020 at 11:56 AM

 Dan
Lehman

“ *What makes a hero? There are so many definitions. For me it is progress in the face of fear. Marvin was a man who endured hell and Personified love. I cannot imagine the fear he faced and stood up to. It is courage that we attribute to Medal of Honor recipient or an explorer from times past. I cannot imagine looking at the world and seeing what he saw. He saw it. He engaged it. He carried it. Despite his small stature, he will always be larger than life to me. If you knew him, he was John Wayne, Kirk Douglas, and Woody Strode in one package. He was the toughest of the tough. I'll always be in awe of him.*

Marvin was also the kindest man one could meet. He cared about you and he cared about those you loved. He could see humanity when you didn't know it existed. He could see things in you that you didn't know existed. He saw humanity in a way that our inexperienced minds could not. If you met him once, he wished the best for you and all you loved. He understood humanity in a way that I could never imagine. He understood me.

If you knew Marvin, the one thing you knew was he was an American. He was proud as hell of his country and he wouldn't hesitate to tel you so. He would preach love snd democracy wherever he went. He's seem the worst and knew, despite our shortcomings, our country was something special. I was never so proud as when I affixed a flag to the outside of his house where he could see it. He loved that flag and all it stood for.

Few things could make me prouder than the fact that Marvin called me a friend. I'm humbled that he thought of me and that he considered me a friend. We actually shared the same birthday. I keep a copy of his memoirs on my desk. Lest we forget. I only hope that my life and the life I lead will honor him, his sacrifices, and his memory.

Thank you Marvin for loving me. I will always honor and love you.

Dan Lehman - October 18, 2020 at 07:12 PM

RH

“ I knew Marvin for a very short time but during that time he touched my heart in a way that I can't even describe. Marvin was an amazing man and will live forever in my memory.

Ryan Hawley - October 18, 2020 at 03:29 PM

JG

“ We just read about Marvin's passing in the Jewish News we had no idea~ we are so sorry to hear this sad news
What a life he led
We have such fond memories of Marvin and Edith with the long history of friendship we shared with our families
Sending strength and our love and sympathy to Edith and the entire family
May Marvin rest in peace and may his memory always be for a blessing
Love,
Judy&Bruce Gorman
Rena & Marty Janower
and families❤️

Judy Gorman - October 18, 2020 at 02:20 PM

“ It was through divine appointment that I met this beautiful soul known as, Marvin. The man small in stature that usually donned a Tiger ball cap.

It was hard to fathom the pain and suffering he endured during his life. Loosing all his family but his father In the Holocaust and yet he came through it the most optimistic man. He was so thankful for his freedom and coming to America.

I especially loved to hear him sing, “God bless America”!

Truly Marvin was a man of noble character. A gentle and kind man with a heart of pure gold! It was always such a pleasure to be in his presence.

I will miss our times gathering during the holidays where he loved being with his family.

I will miss just sitting stroking his hand while he sat in his chair with the tv on.

I will miss the motions he would make to me to get him a little piece of chocolate while no one was looking.

I will miss watching him read the books I would bring him as he sat at the kitchen table.

I will miss him telling me he loved and adored me.

My only regret is that we couldn't get together more often and that I didn't know him earlier in life.

I love you and adore you, Marvin!



Cheryl Christmas - October 18, 2020 at 12:36 AM

SS

“ *Heartfelt condolences . He was lovely and loved. May he Rest In Peace.*

Susan and Michael Solarz

susan Solarz - October 17, 2020 at 03:20 PM

JN

“ *I knew Marvin for around ten years I met him and his wife Edith when I started working as the manager of the property where Mr Kozlowski and his wife lived. When I first met Marvin I was imediately moved by his kindness and love he showed everyone around him. I loved talking with him and also loved listening to him singing, his contentment and happiness overtook me and made me feel so good the problems and stress I had in my life just disappeared when I was around Marvin and also made me a better person in my own life. Marvin made this world a better place for us all!!*

Love you Marvin. John Nelson

John Nelson - October 15, 2020 at 05:51 PM

MC

“ *We are so sorry for the loss of your dear husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Jim & I always say about our own dads: when you have the best in the world, it's all that much harder to lose them. Please accept our deepest sympathies, & to you, our dearest Ruthie, we send all the love in our hearts. Know we are with you in Spirit.*

Margaret Anne Cotant - October 13, 2020 at 02:40 PM

LW

“ *I am sorry for your loss. May God comfort you among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.*

Lewis Wagner - October 12, 2020 at 12:32 PM

HM

“ *2 files added to the album Graveside Service*

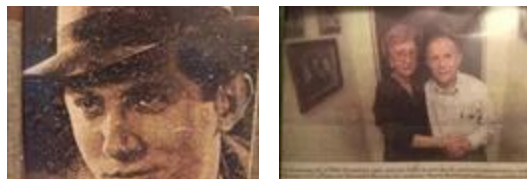


Hebrew Memorial - October 12, 2020 at 12:08 PM



“ *I have so many wonderful memories of growing up and spending holidays and more with Marvin, Edith, and the whole Kozlowski family! Marvin was such an amazing symbol of survival and so key for the whole Kozlowski-Pinkas-Bowman-Joyrich clan! Thank you, Marvin, for all of the wonderful times and for the inspiration. Love, Lynne*

(By the way, I have both of these photos, with other family pictures, up on the walls at my house. Hope they bring good memories to everyone else as well!)



Lynne Joyrich - October 12, 2020 at 12:04 AM

JD

“ *What a life he led! When I was in school, he agreed to let me interview him for a report that I was writing on the Holocaust. He was so forthcoming in telling me his story. Sending love and my deepest condolences to Edith and the entire Kozlowski family. May his memory be a blessing.*

Janet Dolinka - October 11, 2020 at 03:27 PM

DG

“ *Marvin it was a great pleasure meeting and spending time by your side. I wish we had met a little earlier you views and life stories were amazing.*

Darryl Grant - October 10, 2020 at 08:38 PM

AC

“ *Always remember him as a most kind and very sweet man.*

Aida Guyer Cutler. - October 10, 2020 at 07:39 PM

 David Leszkowitz

“ *Sorry for your loss .*

David Leszkowitz - October 10, 2020 at 11:12 AM

SL

“ *We are SO VERY SORRY for your loss, & will miss Marvin & all of his wisdom, conversation, & loving ways. He was special to us, & we loved him like family! Sending love & hugs to Edith & the entire Kozlowski family.*

Susan & Howard

Susan Levin - October 09, 2020 at 12:09 PM

DS

“ So sorry about your loss. Marvin was a kind, gentle soul and feel blessed to have known him
Deb Silverman

deb silverman - October 09, 2020 at 11:20 AM

SU

“ So sorry for your loss and for ours in losing this inspirational man. Hugs and love to all of you. *Sue Birnholtz*

sue - October 09, 2020 at 10:20 AM

RJ

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Marvin was such a great person. I will always cherish the memory of him and all he did for our family.

May he rest in peace.

My love to everyone,

Richard Joyrich

Richard Joyrich - October 09, 2020 at 10:02 AM

CS

“ Thinking of all of you at this time, and may Marvin Rest In Peace. Sending hugs to you, Edith and the family.
Love, John and Cheryl Slaim

Cheryl Slaim - October 09, 2020 at 09:29 AM

SS

“ So much love for this man ❤️ Love you all so much.



Spencer Samson - October 08, 2020 at 09:38 PM

JA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Joanna Abramson - October 08, 2020 at 03:49 PM

JA

One of the greatest lessons I learned from Marvin is that "everyday is my birthday." From someone who had suffered unspeakable tragedy this is truly an elegant blueprint for how to live a wonderful life. He did. My love to Edith and all the Kozlowski family.

Joanna Abramson - October 08, 2020 at 03:52 PM

JA

Your Bnai Israel Family is here for you!

Joanna Abramson - October 08, 2020 at 09:36 PM

EC

Marvin was a wonderful gentle man. He will be dearly missed. May his memory be a blessing. Baruch Dayan HaEmet.

Edward Chudnow - October 09, 2020 at 09:37 AM

JA

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Joanna Abramson - October 08, 2020 at 03:48 PM

TA

It's difficult to put heart to paper. My heart breaks for this loss of such a special human being. I always felt like part of this family because that's how Marvin and Edith always made us feel. We've been in each others lives for about 50 years. Memories, functions, celebrations are far too numerous to name. Mark and I loved you more than I can say.

Tara Applebaum - December 14, 2020 at 02:39 PM