



MARVIN SUROWITZ

August 10, 1941 - April 16, 2021

GRAVESIDE SERVICE: 12:00 NOON TUESDAY 4/20/2021 at HEBREW MEMORIAL GARDENS/ BETH MOSES CEMETERY

A LIVE ZOOM WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF THE SERVICE. PLEASE CHECK BACK TO THIS WEBPAGE TO ACCESS THE PROPER LINK.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85740728203?pwd=cUIEdUJMaDdnTjNQSUtSK1hmSjZLUT09>

MARVIN SUROWITZ a.k.a. 'MARVIN MARVIN' was a lifetime Detroiter. Born in 1941, he graduated from Mumford High School and Wayne State University. As a professor of Political Science since 1964 he impacted many, many people. Students often said his class was a pivotal point in their lives. Marvin was involved in social and political issues: environmental, human rights and peace since the 1960' as well as running for political office. His passion was the legalization and decriminalization of marijuana. He travelled to over 30 countries in his lifetime. In the 1970's Marvin studied with R. Buckminster Fuller, the famed architect, writer and futurist. 'Bucky' declared

“Humanity could be a success on Spaceship Earth...” through technology and thinking “outside of the box.” Marvin once said “When I was a child there was a TV show called “Queen for a Day” where the “lucky” winner (the one with the most compelling sad story) was awarded most of her heart’s desires: a new washer, TV, money, etc. I dreamed of being “King for a Day,” where I might right the world’s wrongs -- hunger, poverty, discrimination, injustice. I soon realized I would need more than one day more than one week -- perhaps more than one lifetime. In my best moments I see people as One. I see the Earth working. I see peace and prosperity. I see no wars. I see sustainable and equitable growth. I see Earth Community!”

Marvin never sat still up until the end. He started many projects through the years. In the sixties he was at one time known as “Mad Marvin the Underground King” showing Underground films at an Ann Arbor movie theater at midnight, where he hosted a world premiere of an Andy Warhol Film. He started the Earth Center in 1973, which was one of the first vegetarian restaurants in the Midwest as well as a performance space. He was one of the founders of the Detroit Erotic Poetry Fest, and the Community Concert Series. He was the founder and Executive Director of Earth Community, whose slogan was “You’re Already a Part of it” Later in life he created the PARTIE Party (People’s Alliance to Reform Transform and Improve Everything) PartieTV Media, and Temples of the Holy Smoke, just to name a few.

He was a parent, grandparent, mentor, world traveller, author, community organizer, freedom advocate, and an accomplished public speaker. Most importantly he was a visionary and a peacemaker.

Age 79, of Detroit, died April 16, 2021.

Husband to Edith Winter.

Devoted father of Molly Surowitz.

Loving grandfather of Jeremiah and Joshua Horton.
Cherished brother of Arnold (Rebecca) Surowitz

OFFICIATING:

Rabbi Yisroel Goldfein

SHIVA:

The family will observe Shiva privately

CONTRIBUTIONS:

To further honor the memory of

MARVIN SUROWITZ

you may do so by making a contribution to:

DETROIT COLLEGE PROMISE

www.classy.org/campaign/detroit-college-promise/c256730

Cemetery Details

HEBREW MEMORIAL GARDENS

20711 MASONIC
ROSEVILLE, MI 48066

Previous Events

FUNERAL

APR **20**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Hebrew Memorial Gardens/Beth Moses Cemetery
20711 Masonic
Roseville, MI 48066

Tribute Wall

EL

“ I did not have the pleasure of meeting Marvin, however tonight my 19 year old son found out about his passing and he began to sob and pray for his eternal rest. I immediately understood this was his professor he would hang out with after class and listen to every word he said. I knew this was the man that encouraged him in so many ways. May he Rest In Peace.

Elizabeth - August 15, 2021 at 12:23 AM

SH

“ *Marvin was my best friend.*

I met him in 1985 as my prof at Macomb. That class was special, I shared that class with the other Valedictorian for Macomb in 1986. That class taught me about owning my college experience.

Mavin introduced me to SO MANY movers and shakers, and cultural activities.

He was constantly 'on'.

He had boundless energy.

I was his PR guy whenever we were out and about, and was amazed at how many people would come up and say, 'MARVINNN!'

I will miss that.

I miss that now.

I miss my friend.

Molly, your dad was a great, great guy.

(Let it be said that Marvin's phone was connected with the MI MJ bill getting passed, all the contacts in Marvin's phone. All the contacts to Marvin. -Marvin is the guy connected to the passing of the bill! We all owe Marv a 'high' five!

Thank you Marv, you were a bright light, out too soon.

Miss you buddy.

I miss you soo much.





Stephen Honkanen - August 06, 2021 at 09:46 PM

BS

“ *My deepest sympathy to Eden, Molly, and other family members.*

Brandy Sinco

Brandy Sinco - May 11, 2021 at 07:14 AM

MP

“ *2 files added to the album Marvin Marvin Surowitz*



Michael Prent - April 27, 2021 at 12:09 PM

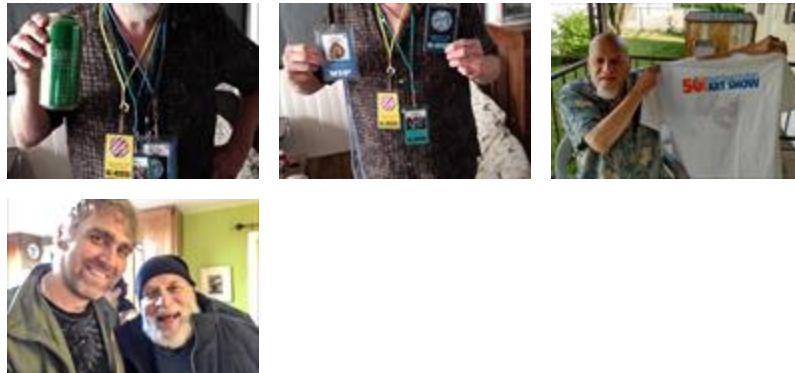
SL

“ *A life so very well lived. He will always be with us. Love you, Marvin.*

STEPHANIE LOVELESS - April 26, 2021 at 10:33 PM

MP

“ 4 files added to the album Marvin Marvin Surowitz



Michael Prent - April 25, 2021 at 12:35 AM

DB

“ I met Marvin in 1974 when we part of the first Arica mind/body/spirit development class in Troy. We were later members of a commune at the Arica House where Marvin generously paid most of the rent and utilities. A few years later I remember many more of Marvin's great parties and programs at the Earth Center.

Marvin was a unique individual who devoted his life to peace, justice, building community, hosting gurus, promoting gay marriage, legalizing hemp, lowering the voting age and many more important causes while manifesting a "crazy wisdom."

May he rest In eternal peace. Best wishes to Molly. I remember driving you to Roeper School many, many moons ago. Dan Butts

Dan Butts - April 22, 2021 at 04:50 AM

KO

“ *Wish I had been included in the memorial Marvin and what he did meant something to me including inviting me to events with other people*

Kathryn OConnor - April 21, 2021 at 06:43 PM

HM

“ *2 files added to the album Funeral Service*



Hebrew Memorial - April 21, 2021 at 10:10 AM

MT

“ *Molly...I am sorry to hear about your dad. He was an icon in so many ways, he was all about community, peace and love.*
Marc Terebelo

Marc Terebelo - April 20, 2021 at 09:33 PM

CM

“ *My father Jerman Meinke met Marvin at a convention. Marvin had my father teach some classes on Environmental . Biodynamic and pyramid energy. Myself Christine Meinke became Marvin's Massage Therapist and Biofeedback Practioner for many years. Leaving my daughter Zya as his Massage Therapists in the last days. Marvin we are truly going to miss you and the good times we could share with you. May peace be with you.*

Christine Meinke - April 20, 2021 at 11:03 AM

JS

“ When I met Marvin he was a political science teacher at Macomb Country Community College. I took some of his classes and was constantly amazed at the political causes he was advocating during the classroom dialogue. Among those being: legalizing marijuana, legalizing gay marriage, and lowering the voting age to 13! His “causes” were so outrageous that we all knew they did not have a chance in Hell of ever happening. Little did we know how futuristic his thinking was. During the Vietnam war a movement came about to lower the voting age from 21 to 18. (“Old enough to fight, old enough to vote.”) He felt that the Constitutional amendment XXVI (ratified 50 years ago, July 1, 1971) didn’t go far enough. Marvin advocated that when you became a teenager, the age of 13, the age of puberty, you should be old enough to “have a say” about the future of the society you live in. “At bar/bat mitzvah age it is time to start thinking like an adult,” he would say. Outrageous? Of course! That was my friend, Mad Marvin! My inspiration, my teacher, lover, guru, best friend, sponsor, playmate, I will miss you! Rest In Peace you beautiful man!

Jay Shirley - April 20, 2021 at 02:19 AM

JF

“ Molly, please receive my deepest condolences. May your Dad rest in peace. God Bless you and your family.
Jose Carlos Fernandez

Jose Carlos Fernandez - April 19, 2021 at 02:44 PM

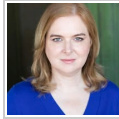
AL

“ *Marvin Surowitz was a truly unique individual. As a college professor he opened literally thousands of minds over many years applying a unique Socratic method of teaching whereby every student was valued as a contributor on any given topic or idea that was explored and discussed.*

His years of social activism on behalf of hemp and marijuana legalization eventually lead to a repeal in their categorization as illegal substances, and there are not very many activists who live to see their life's work realized.

Marvin was also a very generous and giving friend with an incredible sense of fun, humor, and the absurd. His memory will surely be a blessing to all who knew and loved this extraordinary human being. May he rest in eternal peace.

Andrew Lark - April 18, 2021 at 10:48 PM



Thank you Andrew!

Molly Surowitz - April 19, 2021 at 01:42 PM

CV

Molly- I am so sorry to hear of your father's passing. It sounds like he was an extraordinary person who touched many people's lives for the better. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Catherine Simon Vobornik - April 19, 2021 at 02:08 PM

EB

Molly, I am so sorry to hear of your father's passing. Please know that memories will always be in your mind and heart. You have my prayer. Ed.

Ed Bellock - April 19, 2021 at 03:36 PM

LI

Molly, I am deeply sorry for this great loss. It sounds from reading these memorials here that he had a life very well-lived. You and your family are in my heart and thoughts. Linda

Linda - April 20, 2021 at 11:48 AM

PL

Molly - my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Your Dad will be with you forever.

Peggy Letchos

peggy Letchos - April 21, 2021 at 10:11 AM