



## ARNOLD TED PARRIS

May 27, 1930 - November 15, 2016

### ARNOLD TED PARRIS

May 27, 1930 – November 15, 2016

Arnold Ted Parris, devoted husband of 60 years, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend to everyone he met, died on November 15 shortly after watching his beloved University of Kentucky Wildcats win just one more game.

Arnold was born in Louisville, Kentucky to parents Rose and Harry Parris. He and his siblings Gabriel, Dave and Dena grew up working for their father's neighborhood grocery store on Brook Street, where Arnold sold grocery bags at an early age for one for .03, two for a nickel. Arnold was a storyteller, and no one in his family ever forgot the story of when he fell headfirst into a vat of lard at the Parris Grocery while reaching to pour a bucket for a customer. With his typical humor, he said his hair was the shiniest and softest in the neighborhood for at least a month.

Arnold graduated from the University Of Kentucky School Of Pharmacy in 1952, where he was a member of the Alpha Zeta Omega pharmaceutical fraternity, and entered the U.S. Army. He was stationed at Madigan Army Hospital at Fort Lewis in Seattle-Tacoma, Washington; there, he would also meet his future wife, best friend and love of his life, Stella Shemarya. They married in 1956, and Arnold moved his bride back to his Louisville hometown, where they grew their family by a daughter and a son.

Arnold's entrepreneurial roots would bear him in good stead when he opened his own neighborhood business, Mohawk Drugs, located on a street by the same name in Louisville. History would repeat itself as he raised his two children in the back of that corner drug store, teaching them how to properly dust shelves, stock merchandise, serve sweet concoctions at the soda fountain, and eventually ring the cash register.

He was a humble pharmacist known as "Dr. Parris" who delivered prescriptions in his

white pick-up truck to customers too sick to come to his drug store, who always warmly welcomed neighbors to his soda counter, who savored time with his beloved bride -- with whom he never, ever stopped holding hands – who found great joy in his kids, grandkids and loving extended family, and who always had a laugh, an internet story, a joke or a quip for friends, both old and new.

He is survived by his best friend in life and wife of 60 years, Stella, his daughter, Roshann Shemarya Parris and her husband Jeff Dobbs, his son, Harry Jack Parris, two grandchildren, Justin Parris Cohen and Tessa Diana Cohen who lovingly called him “Papu,” two cherished grandpups, Ambassador and Madam Senator, numerous nieces, grand-nieces and nephews to whom Uncle Arnold was especially close, and many wonderful, lifelong friends who will always remember his storytelling, his endearing humor, his love of BBQ, long walks, the stock market, Israeli coin-collecting and his endless nights of Kentucky and Louisville basketball and football on a bar stool with family and friends.

The family welcomes friends to a graveside service on Friday, November 18 at 2 PM at Mount Moriah Cemetery, 10507 Holmes Road. In lieu of flowers, the family would warmly welcome contributions to Village Shalom, Jewish Family Services Food Pantry, and Kansas City Pet Project.

# Cemetery

---

## **Mt. Moriah Cemetery - Beth Torah Section**

10507 Holmes  
Kansas City, MO,

# Events

---

**NOV 18** **Graveside** 02:00PM

---

Mt. Moriah Cemetery - Beth Torah  
Section  
10507 Holmes, Kansas City, MO, US

# Comments

---



“ Dear Roshann and family,

I send my deepest sympathy to you at the loss of your father. May his memory be for a blessing.

Merna Siegler

**Merna Siegler** - November 20, 2016 at 06:13 PM

---



“ Roshann and family,  
We are so sorry for your loss. Sending thoughts and prayers.  
May his memory be a blessing.

Margie and Jay

**Marjorie Robinow** - November 18, 2016 at 07:48 AM

---



“ Stella and Family,  
Our Deepest Sympathy on Arnold's passing. May your beautiful memories sustain you through this time.  
Sherry and Buddy Kaufman

**Sherry Kaufman** - November 17, 2016 at 10:17 PM

---



“ Stella & Family,  
Please accept our deepest sympathy. We missed having you in Louisville the past few yrs., but we know you needed to be in KC with your children & grandchildren. Our thoughts & prayers are with you at this time.  
Barbara & David Gordon

**Barbara Gordon** - November 17, 2016 at 02:09 PM

---



“ I'm so sorry to hear about Arnold -- we've missed you all so much in Louisville. May you be comforted in the presence of family and friends.

**Cantor David Lipp** - November 17, 2016 at 09:57 AM

---



“ It seems like yesterday that I met Arnold at Indiana University on the floor of Harper 9. The ladies of Harper 9 adored him. He and Stella were our dream couple.

**Amy Micon** - November 17, 2016 at 07:17 AM

---



“ Larry and I were so saddened to learn of Arnold's passing. Our deepest sympathies to the entire Parris family. Such a lovely gentleman with a bright smile. May his memory be a blessing.

**Ruth Baum Bigus** - November 16, 2016 at 05:04 PM

---



“ I was so sorry to hear about Arnold. My deepest condolences to the Parris family. The precious memories shared will never be forgotten; may they be for a blessing. May the Holy One grant you comfort and peace until you have no more sorrow. Isaiah 66:12; Isaiah 51:3; Job 14:14, 15.

**Ms. Elaine** - November 16, 2016 at 03:25 PM

---



“ When I first encountered him at the Plaza art fair his smile lit the street. May his memory be for a wonderful blessing

**Frank Loeffler** - November 16, 2016 at 03:18 PM

---



“ Roshann, We are sorry to learn of your dad's passing. We will have you in our thoughts as you and your family go through this sad time. With sincere condolences, Mark & karin

**Mark & karin** - November 16, 2016 at 02:50 PM