



## Gilbert Joseph Kahn

January 1, 1924 - December 17, 2014

Gilbert Joseph Kahn, 90, died peacefully on Wednesday, December 17th, 2014 at Village Shalom. Funeral services will be 3:00pm Thursday, December 18, at The Louis Memorial Chapel, 6830 Troost Avenue, Kansas City, MO, with burial to follow at Rose Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Village Shalom or Kansas City Hospice and Palliative Care.

Beloved husband, father, and grandfather, he was born on January 1st, 1924, in Kansas City, the son of immigrants from Lithuania, Sarah and Samuel Kahn. The youngest of 6 siblings, he was a natural businessman; he purchased his first building when he was 13, and worked in the family grocery business until joining the Navy in 1943. After being chosen for the Officer's Training Program, he was sent to college in Warrensburg, Missouri and later, to Notre Dame University. He returned to Kansas City as owner/manager of Kahn's Market at 18th and Brooklyn, where he continued to hone his business savvy.

In 1951, he married Rita Ann Horwitz, whom he loved and cherished until the day he died. In 1961, he struck out on his own and founded his first general contracting company, Callegari Kahn. In 1973, he established Morton-Kahn Construction Company, which eventually became the 12th largest company of its kind in Kansas City. He retired in 1985. Throughout the years, he enjoyed keeping physically fit; he was a gymnast in high school and college, a weight-lifter, an aerial darts and tennis player, a golfer, a horseback rider, and a swimmer. He was a lover of talent, and enjoyed everything from Frank Sinatra to Broadway shows to American Idol. He also loved to dance with his wife, Rita.

A raconteur, he enjoyed regaling friends and strangers alike with tales of his family schemes and business deals. He always had a twinkle in his eye (but it could quickly disappear when someone disagreed with him!) He could be gruff, but could also be a teddy bear. Later in life, he took great pride in getting to know his children and to appreciate how much they, and Rita, meant to him.

Gilbert Kahn was preceded in death by his sister, Rose Kahn, and brothers, Louis, Tommy, Jack, and Earl. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Rita Ann, his son Stuart (Elvira), daughter Sarilee (David Singer) and granddaughters, Ariel and Nicole.

The family is grateful to Village Shalom and Kansas City Hospice for their care, kindness, and comfort. May he rest in peace.

# Events

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**DEC**   **Shiva**   07:00PM  
**18**

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at the home of Rita Kahn.  
KS, US

# Comments

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“ Bless you Uncle Gil and rest in peace. Thank- you for Bubbe's beautiful earrings you gave me for graduation and all the wonderful family dinners. Your laughter always had me rolling on the floor. You were a the best husband, father and uncle. I love you.

**Karen Mendelsohn** - December 19, 2014 at 08:16 PM

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“ Dear Aunt Rita, Sara, and Sturat  
I am so sorry for your loss.  
I can a will always remember Uncle Gil's laugh. It fulfilled the house. I also remember  
All the many family party's at your old house.  
I love you all  
Kim (Horwitz) Komet

**kim komet** - December 19, 2014 at 12:27 AM

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“ Dear Sarilee and Stuart,  
My deepest condolences on the passing of your father. He and I worked out together at The Athletic Club of Overland Park for many years. I always enjoyed his love of life and dedication to stay fit. I am in Bali, Indonesia, so I won't be able to attend his funeral, but wanted you to know what a lovely man your father was.  
Kindest Personal Regards,  
James Yarmo

**James Yarmo** - December 18, 2014 at 01:47 PM

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“ Dear Rita and family  
I just heard this morning Dec. 18 about Gil's passing and I am so very sorry.  
I have not been driving lately but please know that I will be thinking about you, and you . have my sincere condolences.. We have lost contacts but I would love to see you and hear from you when you are up to it.  
Love,  
Linda Aks

**Linda Aks** - December 18, 2014 at 01:15 PM

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“ I am grateful for the life of Mr. Kahn. Thanks to his service and to the service of others in our armed forces, my family and I have been able to lead our lives in freedom and peace.

**Bob in Grandview, Missouri** - December 18, 2014 at 10:17 AM

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“ An engaging and fascinating man of few words yet brilliant in those he spoke. I will always remember his supportive words to me as an entrepreneur. His words meant a lot to me as i respected his acumen in business and his competitive spirit. May his memory be a blessing. Bob Cutler

**Bob Cutler** - December 17, 2014 at 05:24 PM

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“ It's been many years but I saw this on the Louis Memorial Chapel page and wanted to send you my loving sympathy. I remember Gil as being such a kind man and I always thought a lot of you.

Hanna Apple

**Hanna Apple** - December 17, 2014 at 01:12 PM



“ Sorry to hear of your loss. Please accept my condolences and may your memories help you through this difficult time. Loretta Levine

**Loretta Levine** - December 17, 2014 at 09:56 PM



“ Rita I just received a call from Susie Winer as she knew I do not get the Star. I am so sorry about Gilbert and send my love and sympathy.. I am not driving these days and wanted you to know that I am thinking about you and your family.

Love,  
Linda Aks.

**Linda Aks** - December 18, 2014 at 10:24 AM



“ Rita, I just read about Gil's passing yesterday.I just want to extend my condolence to you. May all your good memories bring comfort to you.

Norman Baellosw

**Norman Baellow** - December 18, 2014 at 01:48 PM



“ Dear Rita, Sarilee Stu and family,

So sorry for your loss. Gilbert was a true man's man and one of a kind. May his soul rest in peace of blessed memory.

**Myron Haith** - December 18, 2014 at 02:00 PM