



## HOWARD LYNN SWARTZMAN

September 27, 1925 - September 7, 2017

Howard Lynn Swartzman, just twenty days shy of his 92nd birthday, of Overland Park, KS, passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at his home. He was born on September 27, 1925 in Kansas City, MO to David and Besse Swartzman. He moved with his family to Topeka and graduated from Topeka High School in 1943, winning State honors as both a top tennis player and debater. He went on to Harvard College, joining the army for two years during World War II, before returning to graduate Magna Cum Laude with an AB in Government in 1949. At Harvard, he played varsity tennis and debate, winning the Coolidge Prize as the best debater in the Ivy League.

In June 1950, he married Leatrice Endlich, also from Topeka, to whom he was wed for 32 years. They moved to New Haven, where he attended Yale Law School and served on the Yale Law Review. After graduating Magna Cum Laude with a JD from Yale in 1952, he moved to Kansas City, where he lived the rest of his life. He started his legal career at Stinson Mag, before beginning his own practices, first at Smith, Schwegler, Swartzman, and Winger and later at Grier and Swartzman.

He was a loving husband to Sharon Swartzman, his wife of 32 years, and a patient and devoted father to three children, Susan (Tom) Freeman, Steven (Evelina) Swartzman, and Julie (Ian) Krop and Sharon's three daughters, Shelli Helm, Robin (Mark) Sommerer, and Terri Helm, and thirteen grandchildren, Danny, Andy, and Jonathan Freeman, Harrison and Zandy Swartzman, Ethan and Sophie Krop, Zachary and Shaina Krumme, Paige and Sara Sommerer, and Jonathan and Gregory Jacobs.

He remained until nearly the end of his life a fiercely competitive athlete and bridge player. He was an avid tennis player and golfer, regularly shooting his age in his 70s and 80s. His great passions included watching and discussing sports, particularly the Royals, following the stock market, and eating (steak, barbecue, hamburgers, lamb chops, and lobster). He and Sharon traveled widely, played duplicate bridge (he attained the level of bronze life master), went to movies, and enjoyed theater and concerts together weekly.

He was a man of exceptional intellect, wit, charm, and athleticism, but even more so, of warmth, generosity, and love. He achieved a great deal in his long life but left even more to those who knew and cherished him. No one was a more patient and empathic listener and provider of sound counsel.

A special thanks to all the friends, family and caregivers who gave him so much comfort in his final weeks.

Funeral services for Howard will be at Louis Memorial Chapel, 6830 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO at 12pm on Sunday, September 10, 2017. Memorial donations may be made in Howard's name to the charity of your choice.

# Previous Events

## Shiva

SEP 10. 7:00 PM (CT)

at the home of Sharon Swartzman. Please call funeral home for further instructions.

# Tribute Wall



“ *I remember meeting Howard through Sharon, and thought he was very intelligent, and had a warm smile! Sharon, and family we are o very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts are with you!*

*Sharon and Al cohen*

---

**Sharon Cohen** - September 25, 2017 at 05:57 PM

JC

“ *Dear Susie -  
Speaking with you and now reading these other lovely posts, made me recall that Howard was never without that warm smile on his face. That is just how I will always remember him.  
Sending love and strength  
Jacqueline Jacobs Caster*

---

**Jacqueline Jacobs Caster** - September 12, 2017 at 03:19 PM

RG

“ *Dear Swartzmans,  
  
I am so sorry to hear of Howard's passing but so very glad to have known him.  
Please accept my deepest condolences.*

*Bob Goldberg*

---

**Robert Goldberg** - September 11, 2017 at 05:24 PM

BK

“ *Sharon, i was sad to read of Howard's passing. He was such an outstanding human being. I'm glad to had the opportunity ro meet him. I note that he was just four days younger than I; I'll be 92 on the 23rd. I remember old times and think of you warmly. Please know I'm thinking of you especially now.*

*Barbara Kleinman*

---

**Barbara Kleinman** - September 10, 2017 at 09:27 PM

JK

“ Sharon

*I heard about Howard`s passing yesterday at the Bridge studio. I have the fondest memories of him going back to our time together at S, S, Swartzman and Winger from 1974-77. One admittedly trivial anecdote: In a group back then, I stated my opinion that Sam Lacey was a below average NBA center and then was challenged to name the many centers I thought were better; after thinking hard, I was able to name about 4; whereupon Howard came to my assistance and named about 10 more who were better than Sam.*

*Wonderful warm human being and a pleasure to know.*

*Glad you had 32 years together.*

*My condolences, Jim Kelley*

---

**Jim Kelley** - September 09, 2017 at 01:26 PM

MK

“ *Dear entire Swartzman family. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time. Howard's beautiful smile radiates the love he had as a husband, father, and grandfather. May his memory be for a blessing.*

*Marlene Krakow*

---

**Marlene Krakow** - September 08, 2017 at 05:10 PM

MR

“ *Howard Swartzman and I became friends when he had the very good sense to marry Sharon Helm. My late wife, Lois Rosenbloom, and Sharon had been close friends for several years prior to that. I found him to be exactly as he is portrayed in the outstanding story of his life (above), evidently composed and written by a close member of his family. Now stretching my memory a bit - I do remember him before Sharon. One Sunday afternoon, I was among the small crowd that gathered at the Oakwood tennis courts to see Howard play tournament singles against the one person in their law firm who was likely to defeat Howard. That person being Ed Smith, the head of Smith Swartzman, et al. Ha-makon y'neichem etchen b'toch sh'ar avelei Tziyon V'rushalayim. May God bring comfort to those who grieve the loss of loved ones, and may his memory be a blessing to his family and to the world.*

*M J Rosenbloom*

---

**M J ROSENBLOOM** - September 08, 2017 at 04:01 PM

KW

“ Sincere condolences to the family of this fine gentleman. We are grateful we were able to assist him and you during his final days. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to assist you during this difficult time.  
Kristy, Amber and the entire Hearts At Home team

---

**Kristy Whitney-Bell** - September 08, 2017 at 03:34 PM

RI

“ Dear Sharon,

*I am deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Howard. He was a tennis buddy and close friend of my Dad's. I have great memories of him over the decades I knew him when I lived in Kansas City.*

*My sincere condolences*

*Rick Intrater*

---

**Rick Intrater** - September 08, 2017 at 02:32 PM

FS

“ Dearest Sharon and family. Though we had just recently heard that Howard's health had declined, it is always sad to see the notice of his passing. What a wonderful life you all enjoyed with him and what an accomplished man he was. I know his memory will continue to be a blessing for all of you and we hope that it's very soon when those happiest of memories will be what you think of first.

---

**Felicia and Seymour** - September 08, 2017 at 02:28 PM