



Morris Tulchinsky

December 1, 1917 - March 7, 2013

Morris Tulchinsky passed away on March 7, 2013 at age 95. Funeral services will be held at Village Shalom, 5500 W 123rd St., Overland Park, KS, March 8 at 1:30 pm. Morris was born in Krwoyozzer, Russia in 1917. He, his parents and siblings came to America in 1922, where they settled in Brooklyn, NY. He went to Brooklyn College, where he received a Bachelors Degree in Education. He attended Teachers College, Columbia University, where he received a Master's Degree in Special Education. After teaching school for a short time, Morris took a job with the Federal Government, where he would spend the majority of his career. Morris entered the U.S. Navy where he served four years during WWII. Morris was proud of his service aboard the ship USS Bexar. While stationed in Norfolk, Virginia, he met the love of his life, Eva Cohn of Kansas City. Two weeks after his discharge in May, 1946, Morris and Eva were married. Morris always said that meeting Eva was the best thing that ever happened to him. Morris had a passion for helping others. His motto was, "When somebody puts out his hand for help, you must provide it." He excelled at communicating with people, putting them at ease, and assisting people in any way he could. To this end, he never turned anybody away and gave of himself very freely.

Morris worked for the Social Security Administration for almost 40 years. In the Kansas City area, he was known as "Mr. Social Security." As an Assistant Regional Representative, he supervised a network of offices in Iowa, Minnesota, and North and South Dakota. He also served as District Manager of the Topeka, Kansas City, KS and Kansas City, MO Social Security Districts. He received the Social Security Administration's highest award, the Commissioner's Citation. Morris wrote articles about Social Security and Medicare for many publications. He wrote a by-line column, "Your Social Security," for the Kansas City Star for several years. He also authored a column, "Tulchinsky's Tips," for other newspapers, including the KC Jewish Chronicle. He made many TV appearances and gave many talks before civic, church, social and business groups. He lectured at pre-retirement seminars for many businesses. Even after his retirement, he continued to be called upon by the public about their retirement plans, and by the news media to explain Social Security and Medicare. In 1979, after retiring from Federal Service, Morris became Vice President and Director of Public Relations for First National Charter Bank, where he

served until 1986. Helping immigrants who came to the United States was very close to Morris' heart, in part due to his own family history. He taught classes in English to victims of the Holocaust and earned the title "King of the Refugees." Not only did he teach them English, he became their trusted friend and ally in their new country, helping them acculturate after the traumatic events of WWII. In the 1990s he taught English to a class of elderly immigrants from the former Soviet Union. He made an audio tape to help prepare them to become US citizens. He took great pride in attending the ceremonies in which his students became citizens of the US. Many turned to Morris for help in bringing over their relatives who were still overseas but wanted to immigrate to the US. He kept detailed records of his correspondence with government agencies and Congressmen on behalf of these people. He gave freely of his time and energy to help others. Morris was the elected Senator for Jackson County of the Missouri Silver Haired Legislature, a group that advocated for senior citizens. Morris lectured weekly and was treasurer at the Shepherd's Center in Kansas City, an organization that promotes and supports successful aging. He taught courses on Social Insurance, Social Security disability benefits, and Medicare at Avila College in Kansas City and Washburn University in Topeka.

Morris was a lifetime member of the Board of Congregation Beth Shalom Synagogue where he served as Chairman of the Ritual Committee. He taught Sunday School for over twenty years and served on numerous committees at the synagogue. He often led morning services there. Morris was totally dedicated to his family and they were always his top priority. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle. He had a quick wit and sharp sense of humor and was able to see the good in almost every situation and he instilled this positive life attitude in his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Morris is survived by his children Bari Tulchinsky Efron and her husband Menash (Mike) and Karen Tulchinsky Smith and husband Bruce, and by his grandchildren Lisa Siegel, Ruhama (Ariel) Yeshurun, Noam (Leah) Efron, Hillel (Rivkah) Efron, Merav (Tzvi) Levine, Libi (Yanki) Frager, Ben-Zion Efron, and Ezra Smith, and 13 great grandchildren. Morris was preceded in death by his wife, Eva; daughter: Linda Tulchinsky Siegel; grandson: Adam Jonathan Siegel; three siblings; and one great-granddaughter Ahuva Chayn Efron. The family would like to thank the staff at Village Shalom and caregivers Kate Helm, Cathryn Billings, Yalonda Washington and Emma Holmes for the commitment and kindness they have shown to Morris and his family.

Comments



“ I met Morris and Eva on a trip to visit my grandmother (Lillian Greenberg) at Village Shalom and looked forward to seeing them on each of my annual visits.. This couple exemplified an authentic, meaningful, lasting marriage. Morris, even in his 90's, was witty and social -- no matter who you were, he'd find a connection and spend hours (if you'd let him, hehe) chatting and soaking you in. Eva was the perfect complement to her husband; she gave him the spotlight and appreciated every moment of his exuberance. She was "the wind beneath his wings" and after reading his obituary, it's obvious Morris knew that. I realized how little I actually knew about him and his admirable history . Probably because his attention was always on whomever he was speaking with. What a mentch; the epitome of a mentch (and then some). I don't know Morris and Eva's family, but I want you all to know that I feel privileged to have known your parents. May their souls rise to the highest place in heaven.

Adina Krause - April 08, 2013 at 02:17 PM



“ My family and I had the great privilege of seeing both Morris and Eva (A"H) last summer in the Village Shalom kosher dining hall. Four of my kids were there, aged 16, 18, 20 and 28. Morris engaged them in conversation--peppering his chit chat with Yiddish sayings--which my kids deeply appreciated. We remember vividly his joie de vivre and boundless self-expression to this day. It does not surprise us that he followed his beloved Eva within a few months, because that was the level of their devotion for each other. May the All-Merciful shelter him beneath His wings, and may his soul be bound in the bond of life.

Esther Liba (Terry Greenberg) Krause - April 08, 2013 at 01:16 PM



“ Dear Bari and Karen,

I was so sorry to hear about the passing of both of your parents. Frieda Kantor Soble let me know.

Your parents were wonderful people as was your sister Linda. I will remember them with fondness.

May their memory always be for a blessing.

Sincerely,
Sharon Feigenbaum Astor

Sharon Feigenbaum Astor - March 19, 2013 at 10:06 PM



“ Please add my condolences to the innumerable ones you've received from the many people your father touched. I loved him both as my Sunday school teacher and close friend's father. He always made me feel welcome at your home. The world has lost a truly wonderful man.

Frieda Kanter Soble - March 19, 2013 at 06:25 PM



“ We are saddened by our loss of Uncle Morris --his smile and humor will always remain in our memory. Hamokom Yenaschem Eschem

Joe and Rachelle Needle - March 19, 2013 at 12:22 AM



“ Well Mr. T! So sorry to hear of your passing! I just found out on 03/17/13 of this sad event.

Thanks for hiring me back on 02/08/70 as a service rep. in your office which at time was at 906 Walnut, Kansas City, MO.. You were a great man to work!

This office was later moved to 1734 E 63rd St, Kansas City, MO and I made this transition with you! I got promoted while in this office to a claims rep. and I was assigned to your branch office in the Federal building at 601 E. 12th St, Kansas City, MO.. To make a long story short, because of you and many others my career with SSA lasted until 11/02/12 when I retired from the field. Thanks again Mr. T and God Bless You!

Louella (Blackmon)Wilkins

Louella (Blackmon)Wilkins - March 17, 2013 at 05:15 AM



“ Dear Tulchinsky Family:

We were neighbors of your parents in Lea Manor from 1967 till 1977. We lived at 9700 Holly.

We had three small children and we always admired your mom and dad with their three beautiful girls. Our kids loved to play with your little dog Topsie. We remember your parents fondly. So very sorry for your losses.

Harry and Eileen Jones

Harry and Eileen Jones - March 16, 2013 at 04:56 PM



“ Our heartfelt condolences over a Prince of a guy- a true Mensch. Morris,z'l never seemed to have any age-He could communicate with anyone. I would be so proud to see him talk about soc sec on TV-I remember your Mom,z'l would make us chuckle when she said his little grandchildren would just say "There's Zadie"

Morris did say to Eva at her Shiva he would be joining her soon....

His memory will definitely serve as a blessing.

arlene and leo shalinsky

arlene & Leo shalinsky - March 14, 2013 at 10:43 PM



“ Karen and family: how sorry we were to hear of the passing of a remarkable man in our community. How proud I know you all were of him. I remember the amazing display of strength he exhibited by speaking at your mother's funeral. I'm sorry that we've been unable to add our comfort to you at this time but know that you all are in our hearts and feel comforted by the regard in which he's held by so many.

Felicia and Seymour Weiner - March 14, 2013 at 05:31 PM



“ Morris had a wonderful way of helping people feel welcome, appreciated and at ease. Having worked with him in the Social Security Administration I knew Morris to be a truly caring person.

Doug Glynn - March 12, 2013 at 08:36 AM



“ My deepest condolences over the loss of Morris. Cherished moments spent with a loved one can never be forgotten. They live on indelibly in your heart. May your memories be comforting. May G-d grant you peace. May you find solace in the resurrection promise.

Sharon Elaine - March 11, 2013 at 09:34 PM



“ You father, and mother, too, always greeted me with such wonderful smiles when I saw them at shul or about town. They both had twinkles in their eyes. One time when Morry introduced me to someone, he momentarily forgot my name, and I said, "Martha Washington." He immediately quipped, "And I'm George!" This was at least 10 -15 years ago, but from that time on we referred to each other as Martha and George....just a fun thing to do. This type of greeting happened as recently as March 2nd in the early part of the evening. We chatted for a bit. May his memory be for a blessing always, and may you find comfort in the lives of both your wonderful parents. Allena & Susan Lebovitz

Susan Lebovitz - March 11, 2013 at 04:25 PM



“ Bari & Mike, we send our sincerest condolences to you & your family

David & Gayle (Cohen) Shechter - March 11, 2013 at 04:16 PM



“ Bari and Mike:
Pat and I are sorry to hear about the loss of Bari's father. I never met him, but Bari talked about him frequently. After reading his obituary, it looked like he led a long full life, contributing much to society. He had a great smile and a wonderful outlook on life. I can now see where Bari got her "always willing to help someone" value.

Pat and John Moraski - March 11, 2013 at 12:20 PM



“ So sorry to hear of your dads passing, we are out of town so I cant't bring my dad to the funeral. He always told me what a great person your dad was and how he taught him English. In the old days he always told him speak English in later years he said please speak Yiddish.

Clara Katzberg Levine - March 10, 2013 at 02:39 PM



“ Please accept my deepest sympathy on your great loss and the loss to our community. Morris was a remarkable man.
He was one of my fondest Sunday School teachers at Beth Shalom, and a shul buddy for many years. We would sit together every Saturday morning with his charming wife Eva. I hope G-d will give your family strength in this time of sorrow.

Rickie Haith - March 08, 2013 at 06:27 PM



“ Dear Karen and Bari please accept my condolences on the loss of your father. How well I remember Morris and Eva always together and both of them smiling and happy. When I would see them it always made us smile. He was a nice, kind, helpful gentleman at all times. All these years he was at Village I did not see much of him and Jack and I would remember his kindness under different situations.

Fannie Krashin - March 08, 2013 at 05:32 PM



“ Karen, I was so sorry to hear about your father. I have not seen him for many years but do remember him from the time you and Leslie were friends and what a sweet person he was. I am not in touch with Leslie right now, but I know she would feel the same. He had a long and very fruitful life.
My sincerest condolences,
Judy

Judy fremerman - March 08, 2013 at 12:43 PM



“ Our sincerest condolences on the loss of your loved one.

Keren Huff - March 08, 2013 at 10:00 AM



“ The clearest image of Morris is at a Shabbos table. Happy, knowledgeable, and with family and friends around him. Our hearts go out to Bari and Karen. May Hashem give you the strength to deal with his loss.

Alan and Jackye Goldberg - March 08, 2013 at 09:36 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of you beloved father and grandfather. I grew up with Linda and your family between Holmes and Oak near Hartman School. My family went to Beth Shalom. Your father's kind, helpful smile was very welcoming to all. I am very blessed to have both of my parents, Helen and Morris Rogozenski alive and well. You're in my thoughts and prayers and this very difficult time. Elaine Rogozenski Stein

Elaine Stein - March 07, 2013 at 11:06 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Tulchinsky family , Efron and Smith Family.

Manny and Karen

Manny and Karen Berman - March 07, 2013 at 10:54 PM



“ Karen and family,

My sincere condolences. I have great memories of Morris helping me with my JNF projects. He was just the nicest person to work with. I am only sorry that I did not spend more time with him after the event.

What a truly great guy.

Love to all.

Larry Haith - March 07, 2013 at 09:51 PM



“ I was sad to hear about the loss of your father. He was such a kind, interesting man to talk with. I would always see him and speak with him at Village Shalom when I visited my parents Leo and Skipper. He was fun to be around because he always smiled and had such a positive outlook on life. I know he will truly be missed! My deepest condolences to the entire family.

Bari Feingold Pollyea - March 07, 2013 at 07:24 PM