



Graham Silberman

April 22, 1956 - August 7, 2023

Silberman, Graham born in Johannesburg, South Africa on April 22, 1956, and passed away on August 7, 2023. Beloved husband, father, "Papi," son, brother, uncle, and friend.

Graham was a friend to all. His gentle nature and smile invited everyone in. From the local coffee shop to a Cabo beach, he picked up friends wherever he went. Love struck at an early age; Graham followed Karen to America. Unfazed by all the ongoing female attention, he only ever had eyes for her. He treasured his family and his deep friendships and made everyone he interacted with feel special. His wife, his daughters, his sons-in-law, and especially his grandchildren captured his heart. Graham was an exceptional athlete. He loved sports, excelling at gymnastics, trampolining, golf, and tennis. While growing up in South Africa, he ranked first in the 21 and under tennis category. He also played in Wimbledon and represented South Africa at the Maccabiah games in Israel. After immigrating to Dallas, he promptly won the Dallas Open. He was instrumental in starting the JCC's tennis program and pro shop. Graham went into real estate and then found his passion and developed great knowledge and expertise in diamonds and fine jewelry. Graham was quiet but strong and was as balanced and skilled in life as he was in sports.

Survived by his wife of 45 years, Karen, daughters Lynne (Mike) Guillot and

Lisa (David) Utay, grandchildren, Presley, Jordan, and Kaden Guillot and Eli Utay, siblings Lorene (Lawrie) Friedman, Marilyn (Gary) Perl, mother-in-law, Ruth Lurie, and sisters-in-law Rhona (Ronnie) Konig, Wendy Stulmaker, Lesley (Brett Myers) Lurie, Melanie (Howard) Rubin, many adoring nieces, nephews, grand nieces and nephews, and special friends. Graham was predeceased by his parents, Gerry and Dennis Silberman, father-in-law Sol Lurie and life-long friend Debbie Wishnow Freed.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in his honor to Jewish Family Service, 55402 Arapaho Road Dallas, TX 75248 or the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research or the charity of your choice.

Services will be held at 9:30am Wednesday August 9, 2023, graveside at Sparkman/Hillcrest, 7405 West Northwest Highway Dallas, 75225.

Shiva Minyans will take place at the Silberman home on Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 6:00pm.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 9. 9:30 AM (CT)

Sparkman Hillcrest Memorial Park
7405 W. NW Hwy
Dallas, TX 75225

Officiating Rabbi David Stern

Tribute Wall

OM

“ I adored Graham beyond belief. I visited multiple diamond jewelry dealers, Graham was the ONLY person to help me with zero hesitation. He helped me design my wife's ring and made sure we were happy. I've referred many people to him, and hearing that he passed broke my heart. I'm praying for his family and look forward to seeing him again in Heaven. God bless, OMS

OMS - March 28, 2024 at 01:32 AM

RA

“ I met Graham 6 years ago when I started working at Diamonds Direct. From the moment I had my first conversation with him, I knew he was a man of integrity and dignity. He was a competitive man that did not like to lose, stemming from his earlier years competing in tennis. What I was most touched by was his love of his family. I would love hearing him FaceTime with his granddaughter when he was at work. I believe this was the highlight of his day. The joy in his voice would melt my heart. Rest in Peace in the House of our Lord my dear friend.



Robert Alvarado - September 05, 2023 at 08:21 AM

CW

“Graham was my best childhood friend growing up together in Johannesburg. Our paths however went different ways when I made aliya with my parents in 1970.

Despite being worlds apart we kept in touch and met a few times face to face in Israel and once in Dallas. I did not get to meet his wonderful wife and family - wish I did.

He was an excellent natural sportsman, gentle kind and a mensch. He never forgot my birthday and had a special name for me Syd.

The world was a better place when he was in it. God bless my dear friend.

Cyril Wayburne

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Cyril Uri Wayburne - August 22, 2023 at 02:46 PM

AK

“what an amazing wonderful kind man-such a special husband dad and grandpa -I know Karen and the kids and grandkids will carry on life with your positivity and love towards one another -you were an exceptional son and son in law-the world lost a giant of a man-so sad for all of those who knew you or worked with you-not sure the"game " will be the same -sending healing energy to all of your family from Howard and I

ann katz - August 11, 2023 at 10:59 AM

LL

“ I have known Graham z"l for many years since playing tennis with him at the same facility Ellis Park in Johannesburg. He was a few years older than me so us youngsters really respected and admired our more senior tennis players . Graham was the most handsome guy of his group and an excellent tennis player . I am deeply shocked and saddened of his untimely passing and I wish his family a long life

Larry Levin - August 10, 2023 at 09:20 AM



“ I have been privileged to know Graham since Johannesburg Days. A really great person to have been associated with

Mark Zetzer - August 10, 2023 at 12:50 AM

SA

“ Graham we had some fun times in elementary school. You will be missed. Thinking of your family at this trying time

sandy - August 09, 2023 at 10:46 PM

ML

“ I worked with Graham at the Dallas Diamonds Direct. Graham was an inspiration, kind, humble, positive and would always take time to share and help. My heart goes out to all of his family. Graham was an amazing soul!

Michelle Lewis - August 09, 2023 at 06:56 PM

DD

“*Lynne - the times John and I were with your family they made it a point to make us feel welcome. Your dad had the most welcoming smile. It was quite evident he loved his family and his grandchildren captured his heart. We will be praying for you and your family during this grieving time. Uncle John and Aunt Dana love all of you.*

Dana and John Daigle - August 09, 2023 at 02:58 PM

MS

This is very sad news. My sincere condolences to the family. I played a lot of tennis with Graham, fiercely fought matches. Graham was always a gentleman. As I have the privilege of watching how he has over the years inter acted with his family he was dearly loved. RIP my friend.

Mickey Styles - August 09, 2023 at 03:08 PM

LN

This is very sad day. Susan and I wish you and the family long life. A mensch indeed.

Lennie Neumann - August 09, 2023 at 03:17 PM

LK

Karen, Lynne, and Lisa we are so beyond heartbroken a the news. Graham, you were the most beautiful human with the most beautiful family and I can only imagine the devastation you must all be feeling. This makes no sense at all! Its just utterly terrible. I will miss you dear friend and hope there is a forever after where we can all meet up again. Errol and I, wish you all, Karen, and your beautiful girls, and extended family as well as Lorene and Marilyn and families, long life and send love and strength your way. 💔💔

Lynne Kaplan - August 09, 2023 at 05:42 PM

HH

Graham was a great tennis player and I lost to him in the Dallas Open as a finalist at samuel grand park in mens 50 singles. He was a true sportsmen and he was very sociable and kind to me. I will always remember him for helping me pick out a diamond ring for my first wife that was gorgeous. She died in October of 2016 from ALS. My name is Harlan Hopchik and my sincere condolences to your family. December 27 2024

HARLAN RICHARD HOPCHIK - December 28, 2024 at 01:49 AM

BS

Graham was such a nice man. He gave me a job at the JCC when I was in college working at the tennis shop and cleaning the tennis courts. His wife Karen was so sweet and beautiful. We drifted apart after college but I thought about Graham often. RIP. You were a good man

Buddy Smith

buddy smith - January 09, 2025 at 05:02 PM