



Henry Mordecai Botuck

November 15, 1932 - March 31, 2022

Dr. Henry M. Botuck was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor (Glioblastoma) in November 2020, and died surrounded by his family on March 31, 2022 at 89 years of age. He is survived by his loving wife of almost 66 years, Joan Botuck; his three daughters, Linda Botuck-Murphy (Joseph Murphy, deceased), Deborah Botuck (James Campbell), Ruth Berger (Bary Berger); his seven grandchildren, Allison Murphy Cunningham (Brendan Cunningham), Danny Murphy (Stephanie Moore-Murphy), Ryan Campbell, Rachel Berger, Sarah Berger, Jessica Campbell, David Berger; and his great-grandson, Levi Joseph Murphy.

On Monday, April 4, a funeral service will be held at Temple Rodef Shalom (TRS) in Falls Church, VA, at 12:30pm. Masks required. (Streaming of service is available at templerodefshalom.org/live/) Interment at King David Cemetery, Falls Church, VA. will follow at 2:00pm. Shiva minyans 7:30pm, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at Greenspring, Springfield, VA.

Dr. Botuck was a general dentist for 50 years, receiving many accolades, including a Lifetime Achievement Award, during his notable career. He held numerous leadership positions and was involved in many committees with the Northern Virginia Dental Society and the Virginia Dental Association. His family grieves the loss of this loving, caring, compassionate, generous, quick-witted, talkative, intelligent man who was always there to lend a hand, give

advice, laugh uproariously, and spread joy.

Henry and his wife, Joan, spent almost 66 years of marriage in a supportive, deeply-loving relationship where they were true partners, lovers and best friends. His three children and seven grandchildren were blessed to have such an attentive, “hands-on” father and “Grandpa” who was always interested in their day to day lives. He was a proud father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Henry grew up in Detroit, Michigan with his parents and sister, Judith. He held many jobs in his youth, including a paper route for the Detroit Free Press (which was how he financed his tuition for Dental School) and working at Stroh’s Brewery.

He graduated from the University of Detroit Dental School in 1957 with a DDS degree. Joan and Henry met at a B’nai Brith dance during college and married in 1956. Henry joined the U.S. Army after completion of dental school and was stationed at Ft. Belvoir, in Virginia. In 1958, he opened his private dental practice near Bailey’s Crossroads. He moved his office to Alexandria after a few years, and he continued to work there throughout his career.

When he retired in 2006, Henry sold his dental practice and continued working part-time for a few more years. After he retired, he donated his time once a week to caring for patients at the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, a facility where low-income residents throughout Northern Virginia can access oral health care services.

Henry and Joan joined Agudas Achim Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia in 1957, where they are still members today after 65 years. There they formed many lasting friendships and celebrated many happy occasions including their daughters’ Bat Mitzvahs. They were avid theatre-goers and supporters of

Arena Stage, Signature Theatre, and 1st Stage. They often travelled together within the U.S. and to other countries where they had wonderful adventures. Their fortunate grandchildren went on “Elderhostels” at different locations across the U.S. In addition, they were gifted with overseas excursions as college graduation gifts where they bonded and created many fond memories together.

Henry offered his children and grandchildren unconditional love. They were a huge part of his life, getting together often for everything from Seders with the Edelmans, game nights, dinners, movies, celebrations, FaceTime calls, and more, and with zoom-celebrations and zoom-gamenights during the pandemic. His uproarious, contagious laughter was always a part of our gatherings, even after his diagnosis. He loved to regale people with his “shaggy- dog stories” and Dad jokes or puns whenever he had a willing listener.

Donations in Henry’s honor may be made to the Capital Area Food Bank (capitalareafoodbank.org), or The Northern Virginia Dental Clinic (novadentalclinic.org).

Cemetery Details

King David Memorial Gardens

Hollywood Rd.
FALLS CHURCH
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22043

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 4. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Temple Rodef Shalom
2100 Westmoreland St.
Falls Church, VA 22043

Graveside Service

APR 4. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

King David Memorial Gardens
Hollywood Rd.
FALLS CHURCH
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22043

Tribute Wall

CP

“ *Dr Botuck was possibly the best dentist my husband and I ever had. He was kind, compassionate, and funny; but he also was at the top of his field and truly ahead of his time. The work he did for my husband has been marveled at by dentists we have had since we were his patients as we have moved to various states across the country. We just saw this news this morning, but we offer our condolences and sympathies to all his loved ones; he is missed. May G-d comfort his loved ones and may his memory be a blessing.*

Bob & Cindy Peak

Cindy Peak - July 02, 2023 at 11:47 AM



“ *Henry Mordecai Botuck*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM

RT

“ *While I never met and didn't know Dr Henry M. Botuck, I did know his first cousin, also Henry Botuck. My Henry Botuck (of Worcester, MA) was my uncle and I spent months living with him, his wife Bertha and my cousins Shelly and Wendy. Surely a man named "Botuck" had to be a very special person. May his memory be for a blessing. Richie Taffet, Rockville, MD*

Richie Taffet - April 05, 2022 at 11:49 PM

DN

“ I send my deepest condolences to Debbie and the whole Botuck family. Each of my visits to the Botuck home was made funnier and warmer by this lovely man. He will be missed. We'll be making a donation to the NoVaDental Clinic in his memory. Best, Diane Hyman Naughton

Diane Naughton - April 04, 2022 at 02:47 PM

JS

“ Dr. Botuck and his family were truly part of our family for my youthful years. I was over at their house as much as I was home when I was a child. He employed me to mow his yard and house sit for them occasionally. He was never shy to share his fatherly advice with me and he always took great care of our family's teeth. One of my favorite memories was that he would give out nickels instead of candy during Halloween. Always looking out for his family and friends. We will be missed by many.

John Simpson - April 04, 2022 at 02:16 PM

JM

“ Hank “is” a good true friend, honest, leading by example and a really great family man. He'll be physically missed, but his spirit will be with us always.

joe machado - April 04, 2022 at 10:13 AM

JF

“ I loved Dr. Botuck.
He was always interested in everything we girls were up to. I hear his laugh now as he would throw his head back and let out a burst. But what made the biggest impression on me when we were in high school was that he was always fair. If Ruthie and I wanted to do something that was a “big ask,” he’d listen to our reasons and then he’d state his... if we had a valid, well-stated reason for wanting to do something he’d agree and let us. I think my parenting style came from that. I also always say that my compassionate, friendly, loving, fair husband is “a Dr. Botuck” and he knows that’s a super compliment. A great man has left his mark and will always be in all our hearts.
-Jill Felts

Jill Felts - April 04, 2022 at 10:06 AM

DK

“ Thoughts and memories are very much with the dear family of Henry this weekend. Sy and I go back many years. Thinking of all,Joan,and special daughters Linda, Debbie,and Ruth and their families. Love to all! Diane and Sy Kaback

Diane & St Kaback - April 03, 2022 at 10:49 PM

BS

“ I grew up 2 doors down from this great family man, neighbor, and personal dentist. I had much respect for his character, integrity, and work ethic, which no doubt helped shape my own in those early formative years. He loved his family and protecting them was one of his top priorities. I know they will miss him and I wish them peace in this sorrowful time ...Bill Simpson

Bill Simpson - April 03, 2022 at 08:34 PM