



## Stuart Alan Freudberg

September 26, 1953 - June 15, 2021

Stuart Alan Freudberg, 67, of Falls Church, Virginia passed away with his wife Lynn at his side on June 15, 2021, due to complications from cancer surgeries.

Stuart was a family man, an environmentalist, retired executive, and an avid sports fan. Born on September 26, 1953 in Washington D.C., he moved with his parents to Massachusetts as a young child. In middle school, he participated in a summer program focused on environmental science, which marked the beginning of a life-long professional and personal passion. He had an appreciation for analyzing and predicting the weather, and often commented how close he became to becoming a meteorologist. He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a degree in Civil Engineering and was proud to say that he “attended practically every hockey game” as an undergraduate. He earned a graduate degree from MIT and then moved to McLean, VA area to pursue his professional career as an Environmental Engineer. In Virginia he met his first wife Abby Mandel, who he married in 1979 and later had three children with.

Stuart enjoyed collecting stamps and coins, traveling, and all sports – especially hockey, baseball, and tennis. He was a season ticket holder to the Washington Capitals and Washington Nationals. After many years of disappointing regular season and playoff losses, his family will always

remember the joy he felt and shared with them after the Capitals 2018 Stanley Cup victory and Nationals 2019 World Series championship! He went on numerous trips with his boys, most memorably Cooperstown, NY, Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, and to sporting events and U.S. Presidential Libraries.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Stuart dealt with many health issues but stayed connected by texting about sports and news with his sons, video chatting with his grandchildren, and looking at videos and pictures of their school and Little League successes.

Stuart served on the Board of Leadership Greater Washington and multiple neighborhood associations for many years. He enjoyed working to improve organizational structures, communications, and efficiencies to deliver results to those served. He credits his experiences at Leadership Greater Washington with changing his life and increasing his confidence levels.

Stuart worked at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) for 40 years, retiring on February 20, 2020 on the anniversary of the exact day he began in 1980, leaving behind a legacy of partnerships, programs, and plans to help the region work together on major challenges for decades to come. While at COG, Stuart met Lynn Gutter, and they married in 1998. Throughout Stuart's career, he provided leadership in several of COG's most meaningful efforts, such as the restoration of the Potomac River, climate change, emergency preparedness activities following 9/11, and funding and safety initiatives for the Metro system. The regional effort during the 1980s to restore the Potomac River was one of his top focuses as its poor health threatened the environment and future growth of the region. Today, the Potomac and Anacostia rivers attract area residents and spur economic development along their banks including Nationals Park where Stuart and his wife Lynn often attended games.

Stuart will be lovingly remembered and missed by his wife of 22 years Lynn Gutter of Falls Church, VA; his mother Rita of Newton, MA; son Adam (Nicole

Sweet) and grandchildren Evan, Noah, and Leah of Framingham, MA; son Michael (Jackie Cutrone) and granddaughter Lily of Brooklyn, NY; son Daniel (Beth Dion) of Arlington, VA; brother Jeffrey (Suzanne) and niece Rose and nephews Jeremy and Jake of Newton, MA; sister Audrey of Los Angeles, CA; mother-in-law Carole Gutter and brother-in-law Robert Gutter of Chicago, IL. Stuart was predeceased by his father Richard Freudberg.

A funeral will be held on Friday, June 18 at 10:30 am at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church, VA. Masks are required if attending in person. The funeral service will also be live streamed on the temple website. Internment is private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Stuart's name to: Newton Environmental Science Program at [newtonenvisci.org](http://newtonenvisci.org), Cancer Research institute at [www.cancerresearch.org](http://www.cancerresearch.org), or to Chesapeake Bay Trust at [cbtrust.org](http://cbtrust.org)

The family invites guests to Shiva being held on zoom on Saturday, June 19th.

Topic: Freudberg Shiva

Time: Jun 19, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://templerodefshalom.zoom.us/j/91929190105?pwd=dHpqbK1XQUtZdFFoNnFVc2tvaVk5UT09>

Meeting ID: 919 2919 0105

Passcode: 714792

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,91929190105#,,,,\*714792# US (New York)

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 919 2919 0105

Passcode: 714792

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JUN 18. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stuart Alan Freudberg*

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October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *I was privileged to work with Stuart, during his years at WASH COG, and mine at Fairfax County 9-1-1. The privilege was also a genuine pleasure. Rest in peace my friend, we will catch up in the future.....Steve Souder, Kent Island, MD*

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**Steve Souder** - September 16, 2021 at 12:17 PM

TS

“ First, I would offer my deep condolences to Stuart's wife Lynn; his sons Adam, Michael, & Daniel; as well as the rest of his family. Stuart was a really, really good man, and it is only right that folks feel grief now that he is no longer with us. Other people have eloquently noted how smart, dedicated, & kind Stuart was. That is so true. Others have noted the many meaningful regional contributions he made over the years. Also true.

So instead, I would share my own, personal view of the man that I worked closely with for the 25 years I was at MWCOG. He was smart, enjoyed being an engineer/problem-solver, had an amazing ability to integrate technical & policy issues to find solutions, had high standards, was highly ethical, & treated everyone with respect. We appreciated each other, & did much work together to be proud of. I learned so much from him. And he in turn, supported me, listened to me, encouraged & helped me to be the best I could be. Because that is the sort of man Stuart was. That was his gift to me; and I will always be so very grateful.

Google says that mensch means 'a person of integrity and honor', a 'good person.' To me, that is the true measure of a person. Stuart was most definitely that, and more. I will miss him. And I will miss his laugh.

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Tanya Spano - June 22, 2021 at 03:55 PM

JS

“ Having worked closely with Stuart several years ago I was so saddened to hear about his passing. Stuart was a kind, passionate, caring, smart, quality human who lived with integrity and cared deeply about others and particularly those in the National Capitol Region. I will miss his smile and his grace.

May God comfort the Freudberg family and may memories of his life bring you joy and peace.

Jonathan Spector

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**Jonathan Spector** - June 21, 2021 at 06:21 PM

LS

“ I worked very closely with Stuart at COG from 2014 to 2019 and am so very saddened to hear of his passing. Stuart was one of a kind, a brilliant man with an unsurpassed commitment to the region he lived in and served. He was both a joy and challenge to work with, and I say that in the best light. He challenged all of us to bring our best forward, and his many successes, both professional and personal, remain as a tribute to a life well lived. Stuart had an abundance of family, friends, and faith which I know helped to see him through these last difficult years. My deepest sympathies to Lynn and the Freudberg family.

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**Leta Simons** - June 20, 2021 at 04:41 PM



“ *During my consultancies at COG, Stuart was very supportive, helpful and kind. I appreciated his blend of keen intellect, humor and humility while problem solving. I was so surprised and moved when he gave me a very generous gift card during the holidays. That was way above the call of duty and I will never forget that gesture.*

*May God continue to bless Stuart in his new life, and may the God, whose love knows no bounds, enfold and embrace all those who have known and loved Stuart.*

*Dennis Turner*

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**Dennis Turner** - June 20, 2021 at 02:01 PM



“ *Stuart was a respected colleague. We shared many a breakfast at the Clarendon Silver Diner planning and strategizing. Stuart was a man of integrity and knowledge with a true and wholesome commitment to make the world (starting with the DMV) a better place. He was MWCOG's best emissary. It was my good fortune to share some space and time with Stuart. My thoughts are with Lynn and his three articulate sons as they grapple with the loss while feeling grateful -- as we all do -- for having Stuart's broad shoulders to support them to this point.*

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**Jay Fisette** - June 18, 2021 at 05:14 PM

RS

“ It is with our deepest sympathy that we grieve this loss. Our connection to Stuart is through our niece, Lynn, and, unfortunately, distance has kept us apart for so many years. The grief our niece is feeling runs through all our hearts. We pray that Stuart has found a peace that has so eluded him through this terrible ordeal. His spirit and his soul will endure through Lynn and his beautiful children.



*Richard and Barbara Silverman*

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**Richard Silverman** - June 18, 2021 at 04:27 PM

LM

“ My deepest condolences to Adam, Michael, and Daniel and their families on the loss of their father. My thoughts are also with Lynn, Rita, Jeffrey and family, and Audrey. Stuart was always very kind to me and the Mandel family.

*With warm regards,*

*Leslie Mandel*

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**Leslie Mandel** - June 18, 2021 at 03:49 PM

LS

“ A very fond memory of Stuart predates the brief time I got to work with him at COG. Some years ago, he made time for informational interview. I thought the environmental work he led across jurisdictions was critical and visionary. It meant a lot to get talk with him and deepen my understanding of what's possible to achieve regionally. My condolences to Stuart's family and many friends and colleagues. I hope his far-reaching legacy provides some comfort during this sad time.

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**Lindsay Smith** - June 18, 2021 at 11:45 AM

HB

“ *My condolences to the Freudberg family! Stuart was passionate about you, and about his work to better our region.*

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**Heidi Bonnaffon** - June 18, 2021 at 11:11 AM



“ *Reading the comments on this wall, you can get an idea of what an amazing person Stuart was. I honestly didn't know him that well but I know my cousin Lynn and have always thought of her as one of those amazing people that sees through what most of us miss. I have no doubt that the two of them were amazing together. I am so saddened by this news. Please know my heart goes out to Lynn and Stuart's family.*

*- Barry Silverman*

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**Barry Silverman** - June 18, 2021 at 09:49 AM

MA

“ Dear Freudberg Family,

*Words cannot express how deeply sorry I am to hear of Stuart's passing. Stuart was one of the best people I have ever known. His brilliance was matched only by his kindness, generosity, and graciousness. I had the fortune of serving alongside Stuart on the board of Leadership Greater Washington for many years. I learned so much about leadership and community service from Stuart. He made a huge impact on my and I just can't imagine a world without Stuart. Please accept my deepest condolences. I am so very very sorry for your loss. Please know that Stuart will never be forgotten. He will live on in the hearts and minds of so many people. He was loved by all who knew him.*

*With deepest sympathy, Mary Abbajay*

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**Mary Abbajay** - June 18, 2021 at 09:42 AM

RT

“ *My deepest condolences to the entire Freudberg Family. I had the privilege of getting to know Stuart over the last few years and was always impressed with his depth of knowledge and eye for detail regarding the various projects we worked on together. He will truly be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time.*

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**Richard Tougas** - June 18, 2021 at 09:17 AM

TG

“Stuart leaves an indelible mark on the quality of life on the Washington region. From Potomac River water quality to Anacostia River restoration to protection of the Chesapeake Bay to regional cooperation in wastewater treatment to securing the region's water supply Stuart was instrumental in ensuring regional focus and cooperation. it was an honor to call him a friend and colleague.

Ted Graham - June 18, 2021 at 06:29 AM

DS

“Stuart and I worked together over many years. He was the epitome of a great public servant, always kind and always positive. The loss of him is shared by many of us.

David Snyder - June 17, 2021 at 09:19 PM

JE

“Stuart Freudberg had a kind heart, superb memory and intellect and he always cared about COG and COG staff. Stuart Freudberg was devoted to his family and his COG Family. He devoted his life's work to make this a better region for all of us. Rest in Peace Stuart! Condolences to his wife and family. We will miss Stuart.

Janet Ernst - June 17, 2021 at 09:07 PM

JE

I will always remember his kindness, empathy, and love of Jeopardy. He was on the panel that hired me at COG almost 20 years ago. I will miss you Stuart. The impact you made at COG and the region is immeasurable. We thank you.

Janet Ernst - June 17, 2021 at 09:11 PM

DS

*I worked with Stuart on a number of air quality initiatives going back to the early 90's and culminating in the greenhouse gas reduction through a Multisector approach in 2015. He was a thoughtful, pragmatic, and consensus builder. I enjoyed working with him and the many conversations we have had. I admired his courage working through the illness till 2020. His family should be proud of his accomplishments. He is in a comfortable place knowing he did good for the region and the country.*

*Daivamani Sivasailam "Siva"*

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**Daivamani Sivasailam** - June 18, 2021 at 11:07 AM

SP

“*Stuart and I met in 1989 when he was a MWCOG resource for a Virginia Non-Tidal Wetland Roundtable, Later, as COG General Counsel, I worked closely with Stuart on some of the region's diverse issues. Stuart seemed to know the background on every issue and everyone involved. Every organization needs "a Stuart": he had encyclopedic knowledge, and he was thoughtful, dedicated, loyal, concerned about his colleagues, and constantly working with and to increase its stakeholders. Stuart was a COG and NCR treasure. A longer conversation with Stuart could include his love of Lynn, parents, children and grandchildren, sports, your family, current events, books, and more. What a Renaissance person! I could not keep up with all the New York Times and other articles and books that he recommended, but it was thought-provoking and fun to volley emails about current events.*

*May Lynn, his mother, sons, and rest of his family be comforted by memories of Stuart*

*Sharon Pandak*

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**Sharon Pandak** - June 17, 2021 at 09:06 PM

BD

“ *Stuart was a great person and wonderful friend. He was dedicated to his work and the people he worked with. He kept a regional perspective which served as a true benefit to this metropolitan area. His passing is such a loss for his mom, wife Lynn, children grandchildren and family . It is also a loss for his friends and colleagues. Stuarts legacy will live on.*

Barbara Donnellan - June 17, 2021 at 06:58 PM

JS

“ *I was very sorry to hear about Stuart’s passing. I worked with him for several decades at COG and he was very instrumental in my professional development. He had multiple talents from his intelligence, to his political wisdom, to his vast knowledge. I think what I will remember most is his enthusiasm, whether for environmental, homeland security, or other regional projects. Even in retirement he was recently helping to guide students in the COG Institute for Regional Excellence. It is difficult to overstate his positive impact on the National Capital Region.*

John Snarr - June 17, 2021 at 05:55 PM

RI

“ *Stuart has been a supreme neighborhood consortium leader which is how my family met him and his family. Stuart did a constant conscientious job taking care of everyone of us conscientiously and with pure effectiveness and caring. I and we all honor Mr. Freudberg for his dedication and devotion to public success and happiness. He was a great example of pure conduct and personality.*



Richard - June 17, 2021 at 05:37 PM

SW

“ *Stuart was a friend, teacher, and only after that a boss. Stuart made us all better, and through that made our community better. I am honored to have worked with him and know our environment is much better for his care and work. My condolences to Lynn, his mother, and the rest of his family. Perhaps putting this as a Jeopardy answer - Who was a leader who cared and achieved much for metropolitan Washington? is the best way to show Stuart's value to us all.*

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**Steve Walz** - June 17, 2021 at 05:26 PM

AC

“ *I had the privilege of working on a number of environmental projects with Stuart at COG. I always appreciated his vision and ability to make seemingly unwieldy projects come together. He was an encouraging mentor and an inspiring leader. He will be missed, but his legacy will live on. My sincere condolences to his family.*

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**Amanda Campbell** - June 17, 2021 at 05:09 PM

RC

“ *Rosita Chambus lit a candle in memory of Stuart Alan Freudberg*



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**Rosita Chambus** - June 17, 2021 at 04:03 PM

AP

“ As a civil engineering grad student at MIT, I was assigned a desk next to a quiet guy who knew the subject matter much better than I did. Stuart (who turned out not to always be so quiet) and I became friends for life. With another student, David Goodman, we formed a nerdy trio, sharing a house and frequenting Boston-area college mixers in a mostly futile search for girlfriends. I regret that distance kept me from seeing more of Stuart in recent years. My heart goes out to Lynn, his mom, Jeffrey, Audrey, his sons, daughters-in-law and grandkids. We lost a fine man, way too early.

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**Andy Pollack** - June 17, 2021 at 02:54 PM

JF

Thanks Andy. I remember your group at MIT well. Stuart loved those days. Thanks for your comment.

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**jeffrey freudberg** - June 17, 2021 at 06:24 PM

DM

“ My deepest condolences to Lynn and the family. I was very, very sorry to learn about Stuart's passing. He was a dear friend and colleague who I worked with at COG for almost 20 years. Stuart was extremely intelligent with a quick mind and an exceptional strategic vision for COG, the National Capital Region, and the Nation and this contributed greatly to our success at COG. He and I were always there for each other during my time at COG for which I am very thankful. It was my distinct honor and pleasure to have the opportunity to work with him. Stuart has passed but COG and the National Capital Region will always be a better place as a result of all the great work of Stuart Alan Freudberg. Personally, I will always have fond memories of my work at COG with Stuart.

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**Dave McMillion** - June 17, 2021 at 02:05 PM

MN

“ It was sad news to hear the passing of Stuart Freudberg. Even though I only met him in 2019, the Glassbusters is forever grateful to have had him as a sponsor. Stuart was a driving force and helped Glassbusters complete their project in the REDP through MWCOG. Stuart was a funny and passionate man for the environment. He will forever be missed.

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**Marie Niestrath** - June 17, 2021 at 01:12 PM

JM

Stuart was an amazing mentor and leader. As another member of the same MWCOG REDP cohort, I can only say that my life is enriched for having known Stuart, even if only for a short period of time. Stuart embodied everything that is good about leadership and local government. I wish I had known sooner about his love of hockey. The region will struggle to fill the void created by this tremendous loss. My thoughts are with his family in this time of grieving.

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**Jim Mirabile** - June 17, 2021 at 09:51 PM

CW

I met Stuart in 1980 working for the region on solving water quality problems. He was always one of the smartest people in the room. More important than his big brain, was his understanding of need to bring people together on those solutions. He kindly invited me and my wife to join the temple with and his family. One of life regrets is that we did not accept. He will be missed, but always remembered.

*Clyde Wilber*

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**Clyde WILBER** - June 18, 2021 at 03:46 AM

GR

“Although it's been a while since I last worked with Stu, I want to express my condolences to his family and friends on his passing. My interactions with Stu and his colleagues at DC COG were always pleasant and productive for the DC area and U.S. EPA Region III.”

*George Rizzo*

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**George Rizzo** - June 17, 2021 at 12:48 PM

TC

“I was very saddened to learn of Stuart's passing. I had the privilege of working with Stuart at the Council of Governments and I always valued his experience, insight, understanding, and strategic thinking as we navigated complex regional issues. His love of and commitment to the national capital region always guided him and I am grateful that I was able to learn so much from him. My deepest condolences to Lynn and the entire family. May he rest in peace.”

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**Tim Canan** - June 17, 2021 at 12:16 PM

DE

“My deepest condolences to the family of Stuart - Know that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. May peace and comfort be bestowed upon you. Stuart will always be remembered.”

*Deborah Etheridge*

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**Deborah Etheridge** - June 17, 2021 at 10:43 AM



NR

“ I was saddened to hear the news of Stuart's passing. My condolences to Lynn and the family. I worked with Stuart at COG for over 20 years and his commitment to COG and the region was incredible and something to want to aspire to. His knowledge and helpfulness throughout the years was important on many key issues the region faced. May his memory be eternal!

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**Nicholas Ramfos** - June 17, 2021 at 09:32 AM

IR

“ I am truly saddened and heart-broken to hear of Stuart's passing. I am sending my love, prayers and condolences to his wife, children and his entire family. Stuart is a colleague and a dear friend. I've worked with him at COG for many years. I saw his deep love and commitment to COG and the region it serves for all the years he worked here. He was a caring individual to people, the environment, the work COG for the region, and his family. He is a very intelligent person, but with a sense of humility where he listens and respect others' opinions. His strong relationship with others can be seen in many ways inside and outside of COG, always willing to help and share his expertise. He will truly be greatly missed! Imelda Roberts



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**Imelda Roberts** - June 17, 2021 at 08:53 AM

PM

“ *Stuart was an indispensable leader at the Council of Governments (and, therefore, for our National Capital Region). Importantly, he was easy to work with. There were times when he saw a way forward on an issue that required what I would call off the record coaching, demonstrating a paramount concern for good policy. Personally, he was an important guide to me, especially during my early years at COG. I truly valued Stuart. My condolences to Lynn and the family.*

*- Phil Mendelson*

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**Phil Mendelson** - June 16, 2021 at 10:46 PM

LS

“ *Leta Simons lit a candle in memory of Stuart Alan Freudberg*



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**Leta Simons** - June 16, 2021 at 10:38 PM

LL

“ *Lynne, Dan, And Rachel Levine lit a candle in memory of Stuart Alan Freudberg*



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**Lynne, Dan, and Rachel Levine** - June 16, 2021 at 06:49 PM

TF

*Lynne, Dan, and Rachel*

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**The Levine family** - June 16, 2021 at 06:50 PM

TF

*There are no words to express how sad we are about Stuart's passing. Stu, Lynn, and their sons were like family to us. We loved him dearly and enjoyed many meals and family times together. His wit, intellect, and warmth will be greatly missed. We are sending you all our love and condolences.*

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**The Levine family** - June 16, 2021 at 06:53 PM

DR

“ *My deepest condolences to Lynn and Stuart's sons and family. Stuart was a dear friend and colleague and I am so sorry to learn of his passing. I have many fond memories of my years working alongside Stuart at COG. I am thankful that I got to spend a little more time with Stuart at the occasion of his much deserved retirement celebration in February 2020. He was taken from his family and friends much too soon and will be greatly missed.*

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**David Robertson** - June 16, 2021 at 06:39 PM

DF

“ *Douglas Franklin lit a candle in memory of Stuart Alan Freudberg*



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**Douglas Franklin** - June 16, 2021 at 05:37 PM