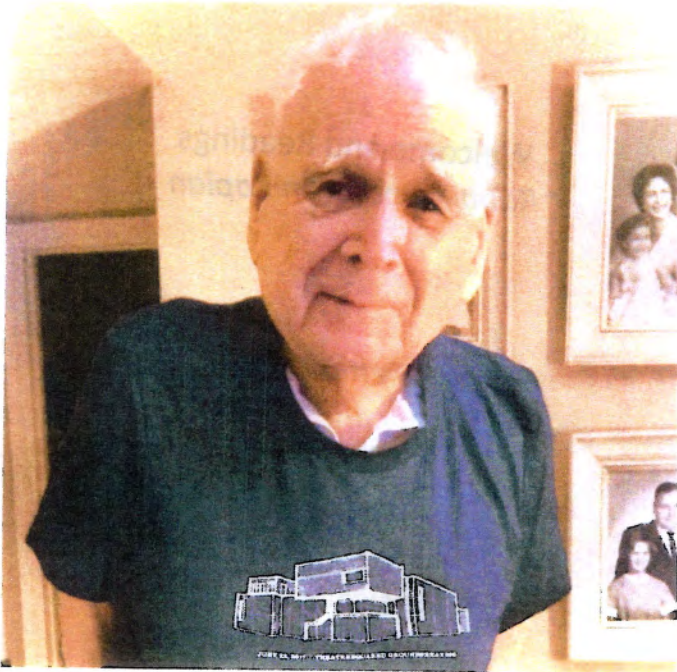


REMEMBERING ART



Arthur Leslie Herzberg
1925-2022

Program

Military Honors

-

Welcome and Readings
Rabbi Dana Evan Kaplan

-

Memories
Family and friends

-

A Musical Farewell

-

Final Prayers
El maleh rachamim: memorial prayer
Mourner's Kadish

Arthur Leslie Herzberg

Art Herzberg was born on June 2, 1925, on Chicago's North Side. He attended both Hollywood High School in Los Angeles and Roosevelt High in Chicago before joining the US Army in 1943. On D-Day, four days after his 19th birthday, he was among the first wave of GIs to land on the beaches of Normandy, part of the 90th Infantry Division. Fighting on the front lines across France, he was promoted to first scout of his platoon, a position with a notoriously short life expectancy of two weeks. He remained first scout for nearly four months, during which time he received a field promotion to sergeant and was awarded a Bronze Star for bravery. Among many other distinctions, he received a Purple Heart and a Legion of Honor Medal from France. The play MY FATHER'S WAR, performed in the US and Europe, is based on his WWII experiences.

On February 15, 1948, back in Chicago, Art attended the annual Flirtation Ball. Several dances in – all with the same girl – he asked his partner's name. She refused to tell him. "I'm an angel," she said instead, "and I was sent down from heaven to look after you." Art and Florence danced the rest of that night, then spent the next 71 years together.

Art sold insurance for Old Equity Life Insurance Company, which promoted him to State Manager in Indiana, later transferring him to Phoenix where he opened the state of Arizona for the company. Along the way, he picked up a pilot's license.

Lifelong bridge players, Art and Florence became Gold Life Masters in the American Contract Bridge League, rarely finishing less than first in any tournament they entered. They ran their own bridge studio for eight years in Phoenix and acted as bridge instructors on numerous cruises for Holland America and Celebrity.

Art's family and friends remember him as a brilliant thinker and a relentless joker, who almost always led with humor. He tended toward optimism, wore his heart on his sleeve, and loved his family above all else. He loved watching baseball and football and was also ruthlessly competitive at cards, Scrabble and chess and was known to have a funny line or a kind word for everyone from waiters to nurses to complete strangers.

An exceptional storyteller, Art often said it was crucial to talk about his experiences in the trenches, "so we're less likely to repeat history." A true patriot, he never forgot why he and his buddies fought the war; he celebrated the US in all its diversity and generosity and had no patience for intolerance or prejudice of any kind.

*Somewhere over the rainbow
Way up high
There's a land that I heard of
Once in a lullaby*

*Somewhere over the rainbow
Skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream
Really do come true*

*Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far
 behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me*

*Somewhere over the rainbow
Bluebirds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow
Why then, oh, why can't I?*

*If happy little bluebirds fly
Beyond the rainbow
Why, oh why can't I?*

words by Yip Harburg