

Obituary

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Isadore "Izzy" Lotven



Isadore "Izzy" Lotven, age 97, passed away on Saturday, January 21, 2006, at Manor Care in Springfield, Mo. He was born in October 1908, in Grosov, in Belarus, the son of Israel Mitchell Lotven and Jenny Graysach Lotven. He immigrated to Springfield in 1921 with his mother and four siblings, joining his father and eldest sister, Fannie, who were already living in Springfield. He attended grade school, junior high school and high school in Springfield and then joined his father in the shoe repair business. After serving in the U.S.

Army during World War II, he owned the shoe department first at Schwab's Mens Store and then at Rubenstein's Clothing Store. After the closing of Rubenstein's, he sold shoes at Ed V. Williams men's clothing store, finally retiring in 1989. Mr. Lotven dedicated his life to Temple Israel, serving on the Board of Directors in many capacities, tutoring Hebrew and preparing children for the Bar and Bat Mitzvah. He also was active in B'nai Brith on the local and state level. In October 2002, Mr. Lotven was honored at a celebration dinner for the Lotven Family and their contribution to Temple Israel and the Springfield Jewish community. Izzy Lotven was widely known and respected in the Springfield business and general community. In the 90's, the News and Leader published an article naming the Top 10 criteria for knowing if you are a native Springfieldian. Included was having bought shoes from Izzy Lotven. He had an active and healthy life, enjoying regular physical activity, reading and studying. An avid and excellent bowler, he continued to bowl regularly into his 70's. Mr. Lotven is survived by his wife, Gytel Tuchmaier Lotven; one daughter, Simone Lotven Sofian and her husband, Rabbi David Sofian, of Dayton, Ohio; two sons, Tony Lotven and his wife, Melynda, of Columbia, Mo., and Howard Lotven and his wife, Charlotte, of Kansas City, Mo. He is also survived by two brothers, Jacob Lotven and Hyman Lotven and his wife, Regina, all of Springfield; six grandchildren, Samson Lotven, Jeremiah Lotven, Olivia Lotven, Joshua Sofian, Nehama Sofian and Aaron Sofian. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sisters, Fannie Lotven Orenstein and Yetta Lotven Schneider, and his brother, Morris Lotven. A graveside memorial service will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2006, at 11 a.m. at Temple Israel Cemetery, on Seminole, just west of the National Cemetery. Shiva services will be held at the Lotven home, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to Temple Israel, c/o Shellie Simon,

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