



Colonel Nathan Swerdlow

November 7, 1918 - January 8, 2017

The Twenty-Third Psalm

*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the
path of righteousness for His name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies.
Thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life; and I
will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*



Colonel Nathan Swerdlow, known to many as “Colonel”, “Red” or “Pop”, passed away on January 8, 2017, at the age of 98. He was born on November 7, 1918, to Margaret and Sam Swerdlow in Kaukauna, Wisconsin. After graduating high school, Nathan attended the University of Wisconsin prior to being drafted into the U.S. Army in June of 1941. At the time, he had no idea that being drafted would lead him to the love of his life, serve overseas in the 41st tank battalion of the 11th armored division in World War II, help liberate Mauthausen concentration camp, and reach the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves.

In 1942, Nathan was ordered to Camp Polk, Louisiana. During his time at Camp Polk, he traveled to Beaumont, Texas, where he met Eva Adler, who later became his wife on January 17, 1943. They traveled for the next 22 months around the states to different army posts prior to Nathan's deployment overseas in September of 1944. Eva was Nathan's soul mate, and they remained married for 64 years.

Since Nathan could speak Yiddish, he was one of the first U.S. soldiers sent in to liberate Mauthausen concentration camp and speak to the German guards and the camp's mostly Jewish inhabitants. Those haunting days at Mauthausen shaped the rest of Nathan's life. From that point forward, he took every opportunity to remind others, including speaking at local churches, schools and civic groups, of his experiences during the war to ensure that the events that took place would never

be forgotten. Nathan kept in touch with several of the survivors that were held at Mauthausen and cherished those friendships until the very end. By the end of his military career, Nathan was awarded numerous honors, including a Purple Heart, the Legion of Merit, and The Bronze Star Medal. In addition, Elie Wiesel personally presented him with the Freedom Medal for his liberation efforts during the war.

When Nathan came back to the states, he joined Eva, her parents, Morris and Lilly, and her siblings, Ben and Dora (and Dora's husband, Joe Horwitz) as a co-owner of Adler's clothing store in downtown Beaumont. Just as Adler's helped shape the retail community in Beaumont, it also shaped Nathan's life. "The store" brought Nathan much joy and allowed him to work with the love of his life and her family every day. Retiring from "the store" was one of the most bittersweet moments of his life.

On January 12, 1947, Nathan and Eva's only child, Dr. Robert A. Swerdlow, was born. Nathan was proud of Robert and would light up at any chance to speak of his son's many accomplishments in his career, the community or his family. Robert went on to marry Marleen Roosth, whom Nathan always called his "daughter". Annual trips with Robert and Marleen and her extended family comprised many of his fondest memories.

Robert and Marleen had one son, Matthew, and as anyone could have predicted based on Nathan's love for Robert, Matthew was Nathan's pride and joy. Even as he aged, he loved to tell his friends about Matthew's latest whereabouts and accomplishments. The admiration was mutual — as Matthew turned to Nathan for wisdom and life lessons and always walked away confident and inspired. When Matthew married his wife, Rachel, Nathan again inherited a "granddaughter." He was overjoyed when he became a great grandfather upon the birth of Matthew and Rachel's child, Evelyn. Nothing made Nathan happier or smile brighter than when Evelyn would give him a high five.

Nathan was preceded in death by his wife, Eva, son, Robert, parents, Sam and Margaret, sister, Rose, and brother, George. He is survived by his brother, Mort to whom he spoke with every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. sharp, and sister-in-law, Etsie, "daughter", Marleen, grandson and "granddaughter", Matthew and Rachel, and great granddaughter, Evelyn.

A special thanks to his caregivers/friends: Bessie Johnson, Mattie Randle, Wilton Allen, Tamika, Audrey, and Bonita.



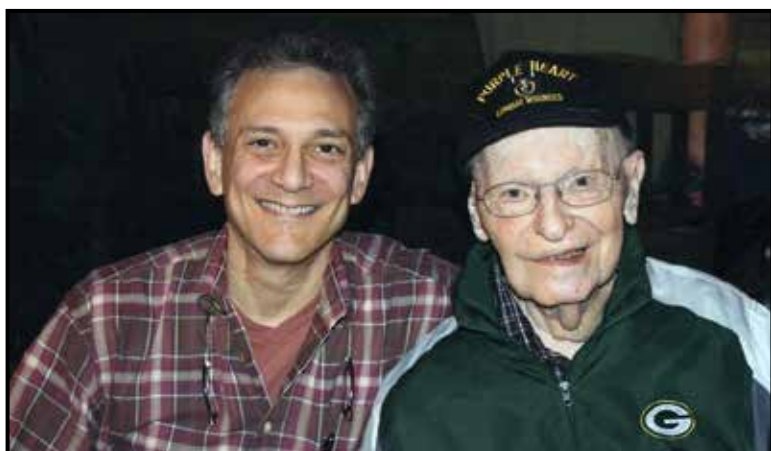
















Mourner's Kaddish

קדיש יתום

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֻלְמָא דִּי בְרָא
כְרַעוּתֵיהּ, וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתֵיהּ בְּחַיֵּיכוּן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוּן
וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל. בְּעֻגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Yit-ga-dal v'yit-ka-dash sh'mei ra-ba. B'al-ma di-v'ra
chi-ru-tei, v'yam-lich mal-chu-tei b'chai-yei-chon
u-v'yo-mei-chon u-v'chai-yei d'chol beit Yis-ra-eil, ba-a-ga-la
u-viz-man ka-riv, v'i-m'ru: A-mein.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלָם וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא:
Y'hei sh'mei ra-ba m'va-rach l'a-lam ul'al-mei al-mai-ya.

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא
וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקַדְשָׁא בְרִיךְ הוּא
לְעֻלָּא מִן כָּל בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא, תְּשַׁבְּחַתָּא
וְנַחֲמַתָּא, דְאָמִידָן בְּעֻלְמָא, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Yit-ba-rach v'yish-ta-bach v'yit-pa-ar v'yit-ro-mam
v'yit-na-sei, v'yit-ha-dar v'yit-a-leh v'yit-ha-lal sh'mei
d'ku-d'sha, b'rich hu. L'ei-la min kol bir-cha-ta v'shi-ra-ta,
toosh-b'cha-ta v'ne-che-ma-ta da-a-mi-ran b'a-l'ma, v'i-m'ru:
A-mein.

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Y'hei sh'la-ma ra-ba min sh'ma-ya v'cha-yim a-lei-nu v'al kol
Yis-ra-eil, v'i-m'ru: A-mein.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל
כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

O-seh sha-lom bim-ro-mav, hu ya-a-seh sha-lom a-lei-nu
v'al kol Yis-ra-eil, v'i-m'ru: A-mein.

Mourner's Kaddish English Translation

Glorified and sanctified be God's great name throughout the world which He has created according to His will. May He establish His kingdom in your lifetime and during your days, and within the life of the entire House of Israel, speedily and soon; and say, Amen.

May His great name be blessed forever and to all eternity.

Blessed and praised, glorified and exalted, extolled and honored, adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One, blessed be He, beyond all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations that are ever spoken in the world; and say, Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.

He who creates peace in His celestial heights, may He create peace for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen.



Funeral Service
Wednesday, January 11, 2017 11:00 a.m.
Temple Emanuel
Beaumont, Texas
Rabbi Joshua Taub

Honorary Pallbearers
Wilton Allen
Stephen Bender
Reverend Dwight Benoit
Robert Celli, Jr.
Lewis Hoffer
Dr. Tommy Noonan
Alan Sampson
John Stafford
Gary Swartz
Bruce Swartz
Ben Wheeler
Michael Wolf

Military Honors by
United States Army

Interment
Kol Israel Cemetery
Beaumont, Texas

Memorial Contributions
Temple Emanuel
1120 Broadway Street
Beaumont, Texas 77701

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The Dr. Robert A. Swerdlow Memorial Scholarship Fund
at Lamar University
P.O. Box 10011
Beaumont, Texas 77710
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Charity of your Choice



Please sign Colonel Swerdlow's guest book and share your memories at
www.broussards1889.com