

David L. Ornstein

February 2, 1946 - January 19, 2022

David L. Ornstein, 75, passed away on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at Ascension All Saints.

He was born in New York, NY on February 2, 1946 to Irving and Bernice (Rimer) Ornstein. While in High School, he was in the Art Student League. After graduating from Ossining High School in Ossining, NY, David graduated from Rhode Island School of Art and Design with a bachelor's degree. David also went to Palazzo Chenci in Rome, Italy as a European Honor Student. He was united in marriage to Susan Ocock in 1976. David worked as a jewelry designer for Liz Claiborne, Marcel Boucher Watch Company, and Monet. In his free time, he enjoyed drawing, sketching and painting. Most of all, David loved the time spent with family, especially his wife Susan.

David will be missed by his wife, Susan; his sister, Judy (Dennis) Chamot; sisters-in-law, Nancy King and Gail Ornstein; nephews, Jonathan (Tara) Chamot, Joshua (Michele) Chamot; nieces, Jennifer (Pekko) Manninen, Sarah King, Sarah (Jonathan Hammett) Ornstein, and Eliza (Chris) Rafferty; great-nieces, great-nephews, great-grand niece, and other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents; brother, Robert Ornstein; and brother-in-law, Lance King.

Services will be held at Sturino Funeral Home on Sunday, February 13, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. Visitation to be from 2:30 p.m. until time of service. The service will also be webcasted from the funeral home website.

David will be laid to rest at Graceland Cemetery at a later date.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the nurses and staff at Ascension All Saints Hospital and Compassus Hospice for their care. Online condolences may be expressed at sturinofuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Graceland Cemetery

Racine, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 13. 2:30 PM (CT)

Sturino Funeral Home
3014 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, WI 53404
(262) 632-4479
info@sturinofuneralhome.com

Memorial Service

FEB 13. 3:00 PM (CT)

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3014 Northwestern Avenue
Racine, WI 53404
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info@sturinofuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of David L. Ornstein*



Sturino Funeral Home - February 13, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of David L. Ornstein*



Sturino Funeral Home - February 09, 2022 at 10:00 AM

JC

Love you all. My tribute and photos were not able to post, maybe I went on too long :)...sending so much love.

Josh Chamot - February 13, 2022 at 03:54 PM

JC

“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Josh Chamot - February 13, 2022 at 03:20 PM

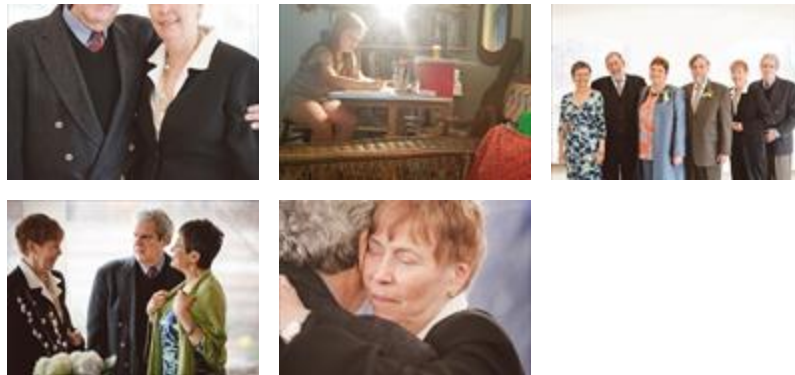
MB

“ *Susan - sending you all our love. Remembering fondly all our good times on Heather Lane. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Michelle & Mike Bierman*

Michelle Bierman - February 13, 2022 at 03:02 PM

JC

“ 6 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Josh Chamot - February 13, 2022 at 02:46 PM

JC

“ *In a family of individuals, Uncle David stood out. He and Aunt Susan were married the year I was born, and I've spent the last 46 years thankful for the love they shared with us kids, and the universal, unrestricted acceptance they had for us -- especially at times when it felt like no one else did. Being a sensitive kid, I'd often find myself feeling like no one could relate when things would break down, and no matter who else I was arguing with, David would always be David, the one in the room without judgement. None. With David, we are who we are, it is what it is, and there is always somewhere else to look for perspective. (Often it was food or Abbott and Costello cartoons or the Beatles or the family history (he alone knew our secrets) or Italy...If I ever get to Italy, i'm going to see if they still test if spaghetti is cooked by throwing it against the wall.)*

As Sarah said, he also brought a unique style, merged always with Susan's. As artists living as artists, they were constantly creating (and giving). Like many of us, I've kept every card -- each a work of art in itself with expression and levity that stands alone. One of my favorites is a tri-folded menorah card, complete with hand-drawn flame stickers, that allowed me to celebrate Hannukah in college. Also as Sarah said, I've been proud to decorate my home with his paintings and prints, and would brag on him constantly, from the earrings he designed long ago that made it to the ears of an actress hosting Saturday Night Live to the wedding ring designs he made for me many years later.

I'm still having trouble processing that David is not here. I'm hopeful he's still with us in some way, and Robert too--and I'm finding some comfort in that--and hopeful that somehow he knows how we feel and can hear the things we wish we'd said. I love you, Uncle David. Thank you for being you, for us.

Josh Chamot - February 13, 2022 at 02:39 PM

GO

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Gail Ornstein - February 13, 2022 at 12:58 PM

SO

“ My memory of Uncle David will always be of a happy and creative person who knew how to enjoy the small pleasures of life like lobsters, Broadway show tunes, and fun socks.

Because his artwork hung in nearly every room of our house he always felt present. We were proud of our artistic uncle and our gallery of his work. It was a pleasure to grow up among those colorful and joyful paintings.

I will always feel connected to Uncle David when I hear mid-century Broadway musicals. I once expressed an interest in his collection of Broadway recordings and in the mail received cassette tapes of every show tune he owned with liner notes that he hand copied from the originals. I remember being surprised and grateful that he took the time to share this love with me.

It was also a testament to Uncle David's good nature that he always happily answered when my father, his older brother Robert, would phone him up out of the blue and, without a greeting, ask a question - usually about art or a Broadway show or an old movie - and then say “thanks, bye” and hang up. My father respected Uncle David's areas of expertise.

Even when Uncle David was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, his confusion didn't seem to make him angry or irritable. If he wasn't sure how to respond to a question he would shrug and smile, or say, “your aunt will know better than I”.

I'm grateful that I was able to see him in New York in the weeks leading up to Susan and David's move to Wisconsin. During those last visits, when changes that could have been very stressful and upsetting were taking place, he still enjoyed a good burger at Squire's, and he kept his smile and chuckle, and gave us that Uncle David sidelong glance with raised eyebrows and a twinkle of humor in his eye.

Sarah Ornstein - February 13, 2022 at 12:34 PM

SO

“ 3 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Sarah Ornstein - February 13, 2022 at 11:23 AM

RN

“ *Ruth Nielsen-Jones lit a candle in memory of David L. Ornstein*



Ruth Nielsen-Jones - February 12, 2022 at 09:18 PM

RN

“ David always had a wonderful smile and usually when I called and he answered I could hear him smiling over the phone and would feel met. His way of speaking was so inclusive and he was curious about us as well as being willing to share his thoughts. His chuckle made me feel heard and understood and his wry sense of humor appealed to me, too! I loved that we all shared an appreciation of Edward Gorey and that he and Susan knew about and sent Lemony Cricket to our daughter. I loved how we all would talk about Saturday Night Live - for about the first 12 or 15 years it was on - and various skits and sayings became a touchstone in conversations. I loved that in the same conversation we could talk about serious things such as the state of the country and our concerns about democracy. And in the same conversation David knew how to mix drinks and that we shared a love of margaritas and he was willing to share his recipe. (Which, I must say, I have used over the years!) I loved hearing him talk about art and his trips abroad and that he and Susan and Peter and I could hang out and relax so easily. I loved the Valentines and Christmas cards and their sense of wonder, whimsy, and, often, the sly wink that was present. I loved how he and Susan were as a couple and appreciated very much how they always made us welcome to their home. I will miss him terribly.
love, Ruthie

Ruth Nielsen-Jones - February 12, 2022 at 09:17 PM

JC

“ I am David's sister, Judith Ornstein Chamot (Judy). The Ornstein siblings, Robert, David and I were very close and did all sorts of crazy things together until Robert reached puberty and abandoned us for the neighborhood boys. But David and I remained close doing everything together (well, almost everything) growing-up & through college . We were only a year apart in school & whenever his elementary classes had an event he included me. Once there was an Easter Parade & his class made Easter bonnets. He made one for me & I was invited to parade with his class around the school. In high school we took Physics the same year. I was in the morning class & he was in the afternoon class. When we had a pop-up quiz I would let him know & told him what topic to expect. We had many of the same friends & I even dated his friends even in college.

I have many memories of David and of our adventures together. Too many to put in here. While as adults we lived in separate states so all those shared activities were gone but he was always in my heart & will always be!! I will miss my connection to home!

Judith Chamot - February 12, 2022 at 04:46 PM



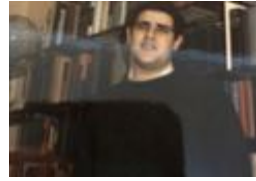
“ 6 files added to the album Life Tributes



Sturino Funeral Home - February 10, 2022 at 02:16 PM



“ 85 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Sturino Funeral Home - February 10, 2022 at 12:25 PM