

FINISH STRONG



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Dr. David Ackermann



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David Ackermann, M.D., son of Bella (z"l) and Moritz Ackermann (z"l) and brother of Sol Ackermann (z"l), passed away at his home at the age of 85. Born in Berlin, he and his family escaped the Holocaust to Uruguay just a few weeks before Kristallnacht. David's family ultimately settled to Los Angeles (via Chicago) where he attended UCLA graduating with a zoology degree in 1955 and as a Doctor in 1959. He completed his residency in Orthopedic Surgery at Harbor General/UCLA in 1964 followed by a fellowship in Reconstructive Surgery of the Hand in 1965. He later became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons as well as the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. After his love for his family and Eretz Yisrael, David's driving passion was being a physician. He was devoted to his practice and patients. He expected the best of all those around him and lead by example in the operating room, on rounds and in his office. He established his practice in Torrance, California working at both Torrance Memorial and Little Company of Mary hospitals. He loved to share and teach (briefly taking a clinical professorship at UCLA) and was sought after by other physicians. David developed several prototypes for artificial joints and was an early leader in total hip and knee techniques. He retired from active practice in 1993 whereupon he devoted himself to a long neglected passion ...art. David built an in-house studio taking numerous classes and filling his home with dozens of his paintings. Another passion was travel. Always adventurous travelers, Miriam and David's love of traveling began on their 1955 honeymoon, when they drove from Los Angeles to Mexico City in a 1941 Plymouth. Since then the adventurous twosome traveled all over the world, setting foot on every continent. David was committed to the Jewish Community in Los Angeles and in Israel. This was evidenced by his efforts on behalf of Israel Bonds, United Jewish Welfare Fund and Jewish Federation where he chaired numerous appeals. He and Miriam were likewise early members of Congregation Ner Tamid of South Bay, helping to drive its growth and success. David was a voracious reader who was just as easily comfortable with a book as he was anywhere else. He would regularly read writers with whom he disagreed and was very fond of satire and the outsider's perspective. David was a true man of letters and cared little for labels or ideologies; rather, he cared only what approach or idea would work or solve a problem. His last years were challenged by health issues, but he squeezed the most he could from every moment--all due to the grace and duty of his beloved wife, Miriam. Miriam made sure he had superb care and was able to remain at home throughout. She was, and remains, an "eshet

chayil" without peer. David's family also wishes to acknowledge the efforts of his devoted and loving caregivers, Debbie, Mornae, Chris, and Maria. David was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. Above all, he was a humble and profoundly decent man who valued fairness and generosity.

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Published by Los Angeles Times from Jun. 2 to Jun. 5, 2016.
