



# Leonard Hirsch Rudolph

1927 - 2017



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Leonard Hirsch Rudolph

1927-2016

Leonard Hirsch Rudolph, 89, of Palm Desert, California, died on December 31, 2016.

Len was born and raised in Superior, Wisconsin, the son of Maurice and Evelyn Rudolph. After attending the University of Minnesota and serving in the U.S. Army, he returned from Japan and moved to Duluth, Minnesota. There he worked in the family owned retail furniture business, becoming the General Manager from 1955 - 1971. What started as a small operation grew to become one of Duluth's largest home furnishings centers.

In 1971, Len changed careers and opened his own firm called "Len Rudolph Insurance". He was the proprietor of this company until 1990 when he merged it with another agency, forming Young and Rudolph. After moving from Duluth to Palm Desert in 1992 he continued working as an independent insurance agent. He was still working in this capacity, tirelessly serving his clients, just prior to his death.

Len was very involved locally in both Duluth and Palm Desert. In Duluth he volunteered with many organizations: He was an active member of the Rotary Club; founded in 1968 and Co-Chaired the University Artist Series from 1968-1971 at the University of Minnesota, Duluth; served on the Board of Trustees of the College of St. Scholastica from 1983-1992; was a member and eventual President of Northland Country Club; worked as a member and President of the Board of Directors of the Woodland Hills Residential Treatment Center for Boys and Girls from 1973-1981; and was on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation and Community Council of Duluth from 1979-1986.

One of Len's keen interests was developing Duluth as a convention and tourist center. He was a leader in the establishment of the Duluth Arena Auditorium and served as a Member and President of its Administrative

Board from 1968-1974. Other organizations with which he was involved were the Duluth-Superior Symphony Opera Presentations (1963-1965); Temple Israel Congregation (Board of Trustees 1967-69); Board of Directors of the Northland Capitol Corporation (a small business investment company) from 1967-1975; and Board of Directors, Duluth Athletic Club (1969-1972).

Len and his wife Phyllis Rudolph moved to Palm Desert, California full time in 1992. There he continued his civic involvement in a number of ways. He remained an active member of the Rotary Club, serving on the Board of Directors of the Rancho Mirage Club from 1995-1997. He also served as a Board Member of Ironwood Country Club, as well as of its Homeowners Association #8, of which he was President from 1995-97. To diversify his activities, he volunteered as a Docent at the Living Desert from 1995 until 2015. He also assisted with financial management as a volunteer at the local Parkinson's Organization office and was a member of Temple Sinai.

Leonard was known for his honesty, warmth, kindness, generosity, sense of humor, and willingness to work hard for those organizations and causes that were important to him. He was a true gentleman who deeply loved his family and friends.

Len is survived by his wife of 68 years, Phyllis Rudolph, of Palm Desert, CA; his daughter Paula Rudolph and her partner Mark French, of Santa Barbara, CA; his grandson Adam Whiteley and wife Rhyana, of Bozeman, Montana; his granddaughter Sara Whiteley Crompton and her husband Chris, of Denver, Colorado; and his great grandson Beckett Crompton of Denver, Colorado. He was pre-deceased by his brother Burton Rudolph in 2007 and his son James Alan Rudolph in 2011.

At present, no Memorial Services are planned. In lieu of flowers, please

donate to [your favorite charity](#) in memory of Leonard Rudolph.

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

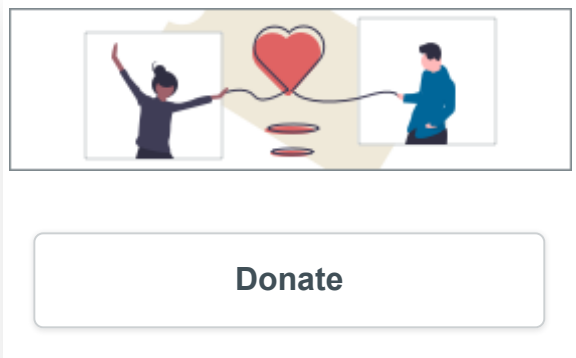
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**2 entries**

January 24, 2017

Len was always a true gentleman. We will miss him.

Dick & Nancy Stevenson

January 22, 2017

Phyllis,

I was truly saddened in reading of Len's passing. One of the annual joys for me was spending at least a few minutes each year with Len. We certainly talked business but he was always so upbeat and interested in what was going on back here. I appreciated him and his good humor.

**Terry Scott**

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