

Los Angeles Times

Herschel M. Ziskin

1922 - 2016



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July 17, 1922 - December 9, 2016 Herschel Ziskin, an incredibly good man, passed away peacefully among family on December 9, 2016. Hersch was a man of the highest moral fiber, as honest and loyal as anyone you will ever meet. A man of virtue and integrity, but also a man of warmth and kindness, possessing an infectious smile and great sense of humor. He carried with him an incredible work ethic but always made time for friends and family. As a husband, father, and grandfather, you could not ask for a better role model. He is now reunited with his wife and love of his life, Marilyn with whom he shared an amazing 73 years of love and marriage. We are all so thankful for the time we had with him and for everything he taught us. We will always remember him as the strong man from our youth that seemed like a super hero. We will also remember how even when his body began to fail him late in life, he remained relentlessly positive, kind and gracious until the very end. Hersch was born July 17, 1922 to Morris and Bertha Ziskin in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He was the youngest of 3 boys growing up with older brothers Alvin and Daniel. The Ziskin family moved west to Los Angeles in 1930 when Hersch was 8. Hersch was extremely athletic and while attending Los Angeles High School he played basketball, football, track and tennis. Dashing and handsome and fun loving, "Herschey" and his club brothers in the "Dukes" had great fun going to big band dances at the Hollywood Palladium and the Casino Ballroom on Catalina Island. Hersch left UCLA to join the Navy during the war in 1942. At Naval Air preflight school at Baker, California, he was destined to meet and become friends with Bud Brandel. Returning home with Bud, Hersch met Bud's stunningly beautiful younger sister Marilyn, and it was love at first sight. Thus began an incredible love story that lasted 73 years until Marilyn's passing on November 29, 2015. They were married during the war, the same day Hersch graduated from the Naval Officer Academy, July 21, 1943. They went on to raise 4 children, Darrell (dec.), Bruce, Donald and Robin. Loved and admired by all who knew him, Hersch was a Little League Manager, Cub Scout Master,

tennis player, square dancer, motorcycle rider, Laker statistician and more. He was the owner of a grocery store (Thriftown Market on La Cienega) and a KFC franchisee. Hersch was the ultimate son, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Hersch and Marilyn raised their children in West L. A. and Cheviot Hills. In 1988, Marilyn and Hersch built a new home in Manhattan Beach, where they lived out the wonderful act 3 of their life. Together they enjoyed the beach life, tennis, square dancing, volunteering for the Beach Cities Health district, traveling and most of all their 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Hersch was the most classic of family patriarchs and had a kind word for everyone he met. The consummate gentleman, he was a man of honor, discipline, loyalty; and devoted to his family, but most of all to the love of his life, Marilyn. Hersch is our family role model and his love and support inspired all in his family to strive to be the best they could be. Friends, family and neighbors will miss him deeply. Hersch is survived by sons Bruce (Karen), Donald (Denise), daughter Robin, grandchildren Matt (Chelsea), Jamie (Craig Emmons), Kristopher, Joshua (Wendy), Tyler, Aaron, great-grandchildren Natalie, Jack, Duke, Bo and Henry and cousin Sid Weiss. Hersch was interred in a private family service at Hillside Cemetery and a celebration of Hersch's life for friends and family will take place at a later date. In honor of Hersch's life, donations can be made to TempleEmet.org, SmileTrain.org or Bestfriends.org.

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1 entry

January 8, 2017

Reading the paper version of today's Sunday LA Times, I was so drawn in by the photo of Mr. Ziskin and his beautiful wife, Marilyn, that I had to

read the obituary entry. I so enjoy reading about people of substance. Mr. Z certainly falls into this category. May he rest in peace. And the story of Bud Brandel and the future Mrs. Z was lovely. So I hope you don't mind an entry from a total stranger. I simply cannot resist when I read about lovely people and the family who so lovingly write about them. May God continue to richly bless you all. What lucky ducks to have such amazing parents. And I'm willing to bet they raised some pretty amazing children, grandchildren and great grandchildren! Continue to make them proud. They are watching! Thank you.

Carol Brockman Castro

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