



Phillip Hurwitz

July 14, 1919 - December 15, 2009

A graveside service for Phillip A. Hurwitz, 90, of Houston, formerly of Tyler, will be held on Sunday, December 20, 2009, at 11:00 AM at Rose Hill Cemetery with Rabbi Neal Katz officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. Mr. Hurwitz passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 in the presence of his two surviving sons, Gary and Craig Hurwitz. Phil, as he was known to his friends and to the community, was born July 14, 1919 in Fort Worth to Ida and Morris Hurwitz, the youngest of nine brothers and sisters. He attended Texas Christian University followed by the University Of Texas School Of Law. Following one year of law school, Phil left to join the Air Force and was assigned to the China-Burma –India Theatre of War in WWII. He went on to receive numerous military honors and awards including the Bronze Star. He retired from the Air Force a Lieutenant Colonel following 5 years of service. In 1955, Phil married Jeanne Sugar, and the couple settled in Tyler where Phil opened Hurwitz Man's Shop clothing store for which he is probably best remembered. Phil Hurwitz became a remarkably successful businessman and in 1984 was honored as the first recipient of the Men's Wear Retailer of the year award, a prestigious retail award. Phil was also a co-founder of Foot Action, USA. Phil's commitment to his community was enviable. In addition to an endowed Presidential Scholarship that he established for the University of Texas at Tyler, Hurwitz also helped establish the Tyler Junior College E.S. Guggenheim Endowed Nursing Scholarship and enjoyed donating to his favorite causes

including M.D. Anderson Hospital, the Maine Children's Cancer Program, and the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital among others. In addition to his numerous state and regional awards, Phil was honored locally for his unselfish and dedicated service as President of the Broadway Square Merchant's Association (1977-1979), as Chairman of the Salvation Army Advisory Board, as a member of the University Of Texas System Chancellor's Council, and as President of the Sales and Marketing Executives in Tyler (1971-1973). Perhaps his proudest accomplishment was his years of faithful service and generosity to Congregation Beth El Temple in Tyler. Phil is survived by his sons, Gary Hurwitz and wife Lisia of Houston and Craig Hurwitz of Dallas; brother, Sidney Hurwitz and wife Bertha of Austin; and the three grandchildren he adored and loved, Madison, Cassidy and Hutch Hurwitz. For more information or to express condolences, visit www.stewartfamilyfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall

LT

“ Craig and family,
Your dad was one of the kindest people I have ever known, and I am so sorry to hear of his passing. All my love and sympathy to the entire Hurwitz family.
Leslie Turner

Leslie Turner - December 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Phil and Jean were delightful neighbors on Peggy's Place. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

Marionetta Smith - December 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ It was always a pleasure to see Mr. Hurwitz. He met you with a friendly smile and a firm handshake. I know he will be missed by many.

Jeff Jones - December 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ I remember Mr Hurwitz from the men's store he ran at the corner of South Broadway Ave and Elm Street. He was a kind man who provided great customer service. He was without doubt one of the good citizens of Tyler and business icon there for decades. He and his staff fitted myself, my two brothers, my dad and grandfather in all types of menswear most of our lives during the 1960's and 70's. I still have a number of wooden hangers in my closet with the Hurwitz name on them - I was sorry to read of his passing - my condolences to his family

Kyle Hill - December 15, 2009 at 12:00 AM