



## Eugene Kirsch

September 16, 1917 - July 21, 2014

Eugene Kirsch of Hot Springs was born September 16, 1917 in Bridgeport, Connecticut and he passed away on Monday, July 21, 2014.

He was predeceased by his parents, Sam and Faye Kirsch, his wife, Serena and his sister Laura Fleischner.

He graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School and attended St. John's University in New York City. He was a graduate gemologist.

He married the love of his life, Serena Esther Friedman, on June 21, 1941, and their union lasted for 67 years until her death in 2009.

Eugene moved to Hot Springs in 1940 and joined his father in the antique auction and jewelry industry, where they owned and operated Lord's and Esskay Art Galleries, for the next 50 years. He served his country in the original Army Air Corps from 1941 - 1943.

His passion was his alto saxophone. He was a card carrying member of the New York Musicians' Union. The swing music from the 1930s and 40s followed him throughout his entire life. An accomplished musician, he taught music and played in venues from the Catskill Mountains to the Arlington Hotel, with the local Hot Springs Concert Band and Jazz Society and at every family

affair.

Eugene is survived by his devoted son, Steven (Clarissa) of Hot Springs; two daughters, Suzanne Kirsch Klein of Boca Raton, Florida and Michelle Kirsch of Dallas Texas; three grandchildren and seven great grandchildren; nephews, Stuart (Kay) Fleischner and Mark (Patti) Fleischner of Hot Springs and their families and many other relatives. In addition, a very special friend, Ms. Bee Frank of Boca Raton, Florida, his personal assistant, Cleta Barrington, and always by his side, his trusty companion, Tiger.

The family will receive friends Wednesday evening beginning at 6:30 P.M. at 116 Bafanridge Drive.

Graveside services will be 10:00 AM Thursday, July 24, 2014 at Beth Jacob Cemetery. (Highway 5 North about 8 miles - cemetery will be on the right)

Pallbearers are Scott Smith, Brooks Nickles, Glenn Mortenson, Lloyd Dunaway, Irvin Teet and Jack Bennie.

Memorials may be made to Congregational House of Israel - 300 Quapaw Avenue - Hot Springs, AR 71901 or Hot Springs Concert Band - PO Box 8667 - Hot Springs, AR 71910.

# Tribute Wall

WE

“ Dear Steven I had no idea that my Godfather had passed, I am deeply sadden by this huge loss of a family man who I loved and respected deeply. Gene gave me my first job as an apprentice under my father Bill Evans. I was 14 yes old and enjoyed talking to Gene each and every day at the auction gallery. Myself (Bill Evans ) love you and your whole family. I have a picture of your dad ,grandfather and my dad and me. I will call you very soon since I just found this out today  
3/13/2021.

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**William Evans** - March 14, 2021 at 01:21 AM

GF

“ Our sincere and deepest sympathy Steve and all your family on your tremendous loss. May your Dad's memory be for a blessing and may he be revving up his corvettes and happily playing his music in the world to come.  
Sincerely The Faulkners, Gina, Steve, and Brett

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**Gina Faulkner** - August 04, 2014 at 01:43 PM

DP

“ Gene was a wonderful friend. I enjoyed talking to him every morning at our pool bar at Mizner Tower in Boca Raton.

*I also enjoyed the times when Gene would leave his balcony door open and entertain us with the mellow tones of his sax.*

*A kind, sensitive and gentle man, I really missed Gene when he moved from the building.*

*I was sad to hear of Gene's passing and send my heartfelt condolences to the Kirsch family.*

*Gene will be missed but his family should be consoled by the years of wonderful memories he gave you.*

*Rest in peace Gene.*

*Brian Price*

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**Dr. Brian H. Price** - July 31, 2014 at 07:55 PM

TW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. RIP Gene, you were a true gentleman.

*Sincerely,  
Tim & Sue Wilkins*

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**Tim Wilkins** - July 26, 2014 at 12:55 PM

JR

“ Steve,  
My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

*Sincerely,  
Janie Reece Russell*

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**Janie Russell** - July 24, 2014 at 06:52 PM

BM

“ *My sincere sympathies to the extended Kirsch family--Gene was a blessing--his ready smile, quick wit, and wonderful music will be remembered.*

*Barbara Morgan, CHI Hot Springs*

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**Barbara Morgan** - July 24, 2014 at 05:59 PM

RB

“ *Steven, we are saddened with the loss of your father whom we met a few times at the store. We know you will miss him very much and we have you in our prayers.*

*Lillian, Melinda and Bob Brickhouse.*

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**Robert Brickhouse** - July 24, 2014 at 04:02 PM

CL

“ *His hug, his hand shake, his smile and his saxophone will always be remembered by us.*

*Craig & Mindy Lingo*

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**Craig & Mindy Lingo** - July 24, 2014 at 10:02 AM

BD

“ *Serena,  
My heart is filled with sorrow at your loss. I always enjoyed Gene at HSCC.*

*Hopefully beautiful memories will fill your heart.*

*Bill Drewsw*

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**Bill Drews** - July 24, 2014 at 08:07 AM

PC

“ *PATTI CARPENTER purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Eugene Kirsch.*



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**PATTI CARPENTER** - July 23, 2014 at 12:09 PM

RC

“ *I will always remember the time spent with Gene at Thursday night band rehearsal. I sat next to him in the alto sax section. He loved his "Paris" edition sax and shared several life memories with me. I was happy to see him at our June concert in the NPCC gym. I will miss him.*

*Bob Casteel  
Hot Springs Concert Band*

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**Robert Casteel** - July 23, 2014 at 11:00 AM

RN

*From one sax man to another, he was one of a kind and his smile will be missed. I am grateful to have given him a hug and handshake at the last concert he attended.*

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**Raymond Narug** - July 24, 2014 at 03:39 PM