



Jay Saphier

May 15, 1930 - March 25, 2017

Jay Saphier died peacefully at home on March 25, 2017.

Jay was born on April 15, 1930 in New York City to Lester and Theresa Saphier. He graduated high school a year early and attended Bucknell University where he met his wife, Barbara Saphier. After graduation they married and Jay enlisted in the Army.

After the Army, Jay and Bobbie moved to New Jersey, then Valley Stream, Long Island where they had two children, David and Laura. In 1959, Jay, his father, and their respective families moved to Sarasota where they built The Triton Hotel on Lido Beach. Jay continued to run the hotel until 1980. Jay and Bobbie travelled the world many times over with multiple trips throughout all of Europe, Asia, India and the Middle East, often travelling with good friends.

After retirement, Jay became the head of Federation's Men Division and spearheaded Sarasota becoming a sister city to Tel Monde, Israel.

As a hotel owner, Jay was also involved with the New College Music Festival for many years, providing complementary rooms to many of the world-renowned musicians who came to Sarasota. Later he continued his involvement with the festival by serving on its board as treasurer.

Jay's greatest legacy is as a loving and devoted husband to Bobbie, a wonderful father, and a doting, generous Papa to his grandchildren.

Jay is survived by his wife of 65 years, Bobbie Saphier, his children David (Rima) and Laura (Mark) Briefman, and his four grandchildren, Andrew, Ben, Marisa and Jake, and his brother Lawrence. He will continue to live with us all in memory and spirit.

In lieu of flowers donations in Jay's memory may be made to Sarasota Manatee Jewish Federation or Tidewell Hospice.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Bobbie:

I still remember meeting Jay & his Dad at Martin Harkavy's office in early 1959- and you a few months later.

*We're both lucky to have had our loved ones for so long. Sincerely,
Jack Shea*

March 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM