



## David Lachar, PhD

December 14, 1946 - May 18, 2026

David Lachar, PhD, passed away in Houston on Monday, May 18, 2026, at the age of 79.

Born December 14, 1946, Dr. Lachar received his bachelor's degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan in 1965. Four years later, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Subsequent to this, he joined the U.S. Air Force at the rank of Captain. After leaving the USAF, he received several research positions. In his last position, he was on the faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Health Center, in Houston, retiring in 2008.

Dr. Lachar is best known for his development of an automated assessment for the Minnesota Multi-Phasic Personality Inventory (MMPI), a psychological evaluation that has been in widespread use since the late 1960s. Particularly noteworthy is his creation of a parallel assessment tool for children, the Personality Inventory for Youth, the first of its kind. His seminal work on assessment resulted in a well-known 1974 book. Lachar's body of work also includes 78 peer-reviewed articles and has been cited more than 2000 times. He won numerous awards as well.

Dr. Lachar is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara; his children, Ruth Lachar Wintz and Gregory Lachar, and five grand-children.

Donations in memoriam should be sent to the Anti-Defamation League in his honor to support its non-discrimination work, (<https://support.adl.org/give>).

A funeral service will take place at 12:30 pm on Sunday, May 24, 2026 at Emanu El Memorial Park, 8341 Bissonnet Street, Houston, Texas 77074.

# Cemetery Details

## Emanu El Memorial Park

8341 Bissonnet St  
Houston, TX 77074

# Upcoming Events

## Graveside Service

MAY **24**. 12:30 PM (CT)

Emanu El Memorial Park  
8341 Bissonnet St  
Houston, TX 77074