



## Ernest Max

March 30, 1936 - September 27, 2022

Dr. Ernest Max, 86, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, in Houston, TX. Ernest was born on March 30, 1936, in Vienna, Austria, to the late Fritz and Rosa Max. Ernest was a Holocaust survivor. He and his parents fled Austria and emigrated to La Paz, Bolivia, in 1939, where his family established a successful baked goods business.

He left home to study medicine in Santiago, graduating from the University of Chile. There, he met Silvia and swept her off her feet by taking her out flying on one of their early dates. Ernest often said he was more proud of his pilot's license than his medical license.

Silvia and Ernest were married in Santiago in 1964. They had two children in Chile and moved to the U.S. in 1971, eventually settling in Houston. Ernest was a founding partner and CEO of the Colon and Rectal Clinic, which became one of the largest medical practices of its kind in the U.S. He taught for several years at Baylor College of Medicine and, recently, was President of the Harris County Medical Society's Retired Physicians Organization.

Eager to support his son's passions when he was young, Ernest took Oliver to the "Star Trek Experience" in Las Vegas, where the pair rode a make-believe transporter together. Ernest was a rapid adopter of new technology and frequently called his daughter, Yvette, for tech support to make sure he was

installing the latest software correctly.

Ernest and Silvia always found time to travel the world, including trips earlier this year to Israel, Greece, Belgium, and Holland. He was an avid photographer and entertained his family with elaborate post-travel home movies that included customized soundtracks.

Passover was always a cherished event for Ernest, his family, and friends. It was also an opportunity for Ernest to infuse the celebration with creative musical orchestration and humor.

Ernest's pride and joy was his family : his loving wife of 58 years, Silvia, his daughter Yvette Pintar and husband Peter, his son Oliver Max and wife Alisa, grandchildren Noah, Ethan, Stella and Brandon, and numerous extended family. The family requests that any donations be made to Holocaust Museum Houston, 5401 Caroline St., Houston, TX 77004. <https://hmh.org/give/>

A memorial service was held at Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 N. Braeswood, Houston, TX 77096 on Sunday, October 2, 2022.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Erol Kisli lit a candle in memory of Ernest Max*



Erol Kisli - January 22 at 11:30 AM



*Ernest Max was not only an exceptional physician but also a remarkable mentor. He played a defining role in my professional and academic formation. His wisdom, integrity, and dedication to medicine continue to guide my work and values. I remain deeply grateful for the privilege of having learned from him. May his memory live on through the lives he shaped.*  
Prof. Dr. Erol Kisli  
Department of General Surgery, Cumhuriyet University, Sivas, Türkiye

Erol Kisli - January 22 at 11:38 AM

AN

“ *Ernest Max*

Anonymous - October 04, 2022 at 05:52 PM

AM

“ *Yvette and family, Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss... Our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.*

Alfred and Loretta Maksoud - October 03, 2022 at 04:16 PM

DK

“ Andreas and I would like to express our condolences to Silvia, Yvette and Peter, and to Oliver and Alisa and all the grandchildren. It was an honor to have known Max, to have had the privilege of spending time together both in Vienna and in Houston, and as a medical doctor myself to have been able to get tiny glimpses into his extraordinary professional career. We reach out to the whole family in these days of loss and sorrow. Our thoughts are with you and we will always treasure our memories of Ernest in our hearts. Uli and Andreas Kiesswetter, Perchtoldsdorf, Austria

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**Dr. Ulrike Kiesswetter** - October 02, 2022 at 07:24 AM

GT

“ So sorry for your loss. Grace, Michael, Jaidon.

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**Grace Tsai** - October 01, 2022 at 02:23 PM

CS

“ We are sorry for your loss and our thoughts are with your family. Chavonne and Trent Slovak.

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**Chavonne slovak** - October 01, 2022 at 02:18 PM

RR

“ After spending a year learning specialized surgery from Ernest and his colleagues, 36 years ago, Cheryl and I became life long friends with Ernest and Sylvia. They welcomed us to Houston that year as family. Ernest was a magnificent person, and we will miss him dearly. Cheryl and Richard Reznick, Toronto Canada

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**Richard Reznick** - October 01, 2022 at 12:49 PM

LM

“ *With loving memories of my wonderful mentor, Dr. Ernest Max, who has meant so very much to me*

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**Lisa Chen, MD** - September 30, 2022 at 04:01 PM