



Lawrence Bursten

October 9, 1930 - April 17, 2025

Larry Bursten, 94, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 17, in Houston, Texas. Larry was a street-smart entrepreneur who was blessed by family, friends, business and travels throughout life. Not one to keep a lid on an opinion, his vision, insight and business acumen provided wisdom to young and old alike. The highs and lows of life's experiences paved a path of success that was also fortified with personality and love.

Larry was born on October 9, 1930, in Chicago, Illinois. He attended the University of Wisconsin, and met his soon-to-be wife Riva on a blind date after his older brother Les had backed out of it. Larry was mesmerized by Riva, and they were married within a year. Their family began to grow, as did his business resume. Their daughter Susie was born in 1955, and their son Andy was born in 1959.

In 1979, they moved to Houston from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, leaving the cold of the upper Midwest for warmer temperatures and opportunities.

In 1984, an impromptu conversation with a fellow airline passenger regarding telephone long distance de-regulation planted the seeds of Coastal Telephone Co., which he co-founded with Riva and Andy. Confidence, vision and grind fueled the company's growth to an unimaginable level of success.

In 2000, Riva passed away. Two years later, fate intervened on Larry's path, and he married Marlene Addlestone. He frequently said he was blessed to have two great loves when some people never get one.

Another family business venture broke ground in 2004 with Cyrus One. After its success, Larry retired.

His love of life continued to expand as he and Marlene traveled. The family tree grew, too, and he continued to spend more time with grandchildren and great grandchildren - providing insight, wisdom and opinions through always lively discussions.

Larry is survived by his wife, Marlene; daughter, Susie Litman, and husband, Joel, of Dallas, Texas; son, Andy, and wife, Vicki Rabin, of Houston; stepson, Edward Kronsberg, and wife, Amy of Charleston, South Carolina; five grandchildren, Hillary Freed (Clay); Carly Goldman (Scott); Sam Bursten (Sarah Rohan); Jessie Marine (Brad) and Joey Bursten; three step grandchildren, Elliott Kronsberg (Sophie); Zachary Kronsberg and William Kronsberg and six great grandchildren, Beau, Ruby, and Leo Goldman, Dane and Evan Freed and Lily Bursten.

Donations may be made in Larry's memory to Alexander Jewish Family Service (www.alexanderjfs.org/donate) or Jewish Family Service of Dallas, Texas. (www.jfsdallas.org)

A funeral service was held at 10:00 am on Sunday, April 20, 2025, in the Kagan-Rudy Chapel at Emanu El Memorial Park, 8341 Bissonnet St. Houston, Texas 77074.

Previous Events

Cemetery Chapel Service

APR **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Kagan-Rudy Chapel at Emanu El Memorial Park
8341 Bissonnet Street
Houston, TX 77074

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Ode to Larry Burstyn:

We're heartbroken to say goodbye to Larry Burstyn, a man who brought joy, laughter, and just the right amount of mischief to the world.

If you had the pleasure of meeting Larry, you knew you were in for a memorable time. That sly wit, those baby blue eyes with a twinkle you couldn't ignore—he had a way of pulling you right into his orbit. At his Boca Raton home, the staff lit up when Larry and Marlene arrived—everyone braced (and hoped) for fun conversation and always an abundance of laughs. Larry always said he was the lucky one, having his sweet Southern lady Marlene to balance out his playful streak. Truth is, they were both lucky—and we were lucky to witness their magic.

Larry adored his family and made sure you knew it. He bragged about his children, beamed over his grandchildren, and was positively tickled pink by the great-grandkids. “That's what life is all about!” he'd say, usually with a grin.

We're so grateful for the memories, the laughter, and the love Larry shared. Everyone loved Larry. He'll be missed more than words can say—but what a legacy of joy he leaves behind.

"Slainte" with love!

Brian E. Hall

Mizner Tower

Brian E. Hall - April 22, 2025 at 11:49 AM

LW

“ Love always and forever, Maggie Weber planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lawrence Bursten.

Love always and forever, Maggie Weber - April 20, 2025 at 02:58 PM

LW

“ *Love always and forever, Maggie Weber purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Lawrence Bursten.*



Love always and forever, Maggie Weber - April 20, 2025 at 02:58 PM

EC

“ *My most sincere condolences on your great loss. Edna Shuster Cohen*

EDNA SHUSTER COHEN - April 19, 2025 at 09:07 PM

BS

“ *My cousin Larry was a force of nature. There are very few people one meets in life that there is unanimity about, but Larry was one of these. He made a lasting impression in minutes. Death robs us of the future with an individual ,but it cannot rob us of the past, and the many great memories. We all lose so much by his passing, but you, his immediate family, of whom he was so proud of, have lost the most. Stay strong ,and continue to be guided by his wise advice. You will be sorely missed Buddy. Bernie Shuster.*

Bernie Shuster - April 19, 2025 at 07:50 PM

IR

“ *Dear family. Our heartfelt condolences on the passing of Larry. We have many fond memories. Larry was a real "mench". Pearl and Isaac Robin*

Isaac Robin - April 18, 2025 at 05:11 PM