



## Mark Steven Strum

March 30, 1955 - April 2, 2025

After a heroic battle against Merkel Cell Carcinoma and LMD, Mark Steven Strum (Melech ben Meir), a lion of a man, sadly passed away on Wednesday, April 2, 2025.

Mark was born on March 30, 1955, in Brooklyn, New York to Lola and Myron Strum. With his younger brother, Neil, he grew up in Queens, New Rochelle, and New Jersey, where he developed a love of sports, rock 'n roll, and kicking it with his friends from school and camp.

Mark graduated from Alfred University with a degree in Business Administration. He eventually made his way into sales for a short-lived but successful career in healthcare as a sales representative at American Hospital Supply, bringing him to work in Grand Rapids, Michigan and then the Greater D.C. area.

Through work, Mark met his first wife Nancy (nee Kronthal) Shapiro. Together, they moved to Houston where they had two children, Samuel and Rachel, and where Mark co-founded Corporate Care in 1983, growing the company to a nationally recognized corporate maintenance and floor covering business.

Mark met and married his loving wife, Tanya (nee Malev) Strum, creating a beautiful blended family including their children, William and Michaela.

Mark was a passionate, proud yet humble, no-nonsense mensch who cared for the people he loved. Wherever Mark landed, he made lasting friendships regardless of where they came from. A steadfast connector, he brought people together and simply enjoyed helping others. He amassed an impressive collection of music, which he generously shared with those who would listen. With Tanya by his side, he enjoyed his time attending concerts, viewing and collecting art, and travelling the world. He volunteered as an ambassador for veteran's charity Combined Arms, in leadership roles at the Emery/Weiner School and the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, and as an instructor with Tanya teaching TRE (Traumatic Release Exercise) to those with PTSD. A man with an opinion, he always spoke his mind, be it politics, basketball, or which car model is the best.

Mark is survived by his wife, Tanya Strum, of 20 years; brother, Neil Strum; daughter, Rachel Strum; son and daughter-in-law, Samuel and Laken Strum, and granddaughter, Lyla; daughter, Michaela Hollo; son, William Hollo; niece, Amanda Strum; niece and nephew, Jacqueline and Blake Pontello; Tanya's brother and sister-in-law, David and Orit Malev, and their children, Daniel and Maya; and his grand-dogs, Napoleon and Nessie. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lola and Myron Strum, Tanya's father, John Malev, Tanya's mother, Marsha Amdur-Malev, and Tanya's brother, Michael Malev.

Special thanks to his skilled and indefatigable caregiver, Jackie Grizzle, and Doctors Wong and Glitza at MD Anderson Hospital.

The funeral service took place on Sunday, April 6, 2025, at 11:00 am in the Sophia and Jack Bender Memorial Chapel at Beth Yeshurun Post Oak Cemetery, 7445 Awty School Lane, Houston, Texas 77055.

The service was livestreamed and can be viewed at the following link: <https://v>

[enue.streamspot.com/f8d04b5b](https://enue.streamspot.com/f8d04b5b).

In lieu of flowers, please donate to The Innocence Center ([www.theinnocencecenter.org](http://www.theinnocencecenter.org)), Combined Arms ([www.combinedarms.us](http://www.combinedarms.us)), Congregation Beth Yeshurun ([www.bethyeshurun.org](http://www.bethyeshurun.org)), the Margolis Gallery at Congregation Beth Israel ([www.beth-israel.org](http://www.beth-israel.org)), and MD Anderson ([www.mdanderson.org](http://www.mdanderson.org)).

# Cemetery Details

## Beth Yeshurun Post Oak Cemetery

7445 Awty School Ln.  
Houston, TX 77055

# Previous Events

## Cemetery Chapel Service

APR 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sophia and Jack Bender Memorial Chapel  
7445 Awty School Ln.  
Houston, TX 77055

*The service will also be livestreamed at the following link: <https://venue.streamspot.com/f8d04b5b>.*

# Tribute Wall

ED

“ *What a Beautiful service and it meant so much to me and Dave to be able to participate virtually being so far away! We were there in spirit. We are touched by knowing Mark and the happiness he brought to Tanya and the children. It meant so much to us to have you at our wedding!! Dave has some funny stories regarding Mark that I shared in an email to Tanya. Everything shared in the speeches were feelings we feel and shsre. It could have not been said better —A Mench on A Bench!!!*



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**Elisabeth Kaufman DeTone** - April 06, 2025 at 05:05 PM

CL

“ I wanted to dedicate this video to Mark Strum, a huge Bruce Fan, he grew up 12 miles from Asbury Park NJ. I found out this morning from his Brother Neil, that he passed peacefully last night. The Crazy thing is.. I had this strange "desire " to learn this Bruce Song (NYCS) Sat Morning, and I set an unrealistic deadline for myself, of Sunday AM.. basically right now ! I felt like Mark was with me last night, I stayed up all night to finish this video, and I rarely record myself, as it seldom goes well when the camera is on. But I felt so relaxed, like Mark was saying don't worry, and I had so much emotion and feeling, and I unknowingly refer to Mark at minute 8:05 (piu o meno). Its so crazy, I'm telling you last night was crazy. I listened to Greetings from Asbury Park and the Wild and the Innocent and the E Street Shuffle back to back.. and when "Kitty's Back" (what a great song) played I could feel Marks Energy, and we danced in dark to Rosalita, and then when NYC Serenade played (the last song on the album) i felt compelled to make this video. Its 3 hours old. Mark you will be missed by many, ill never forget when we went to the Porsche Driving School in Birmingham Alabama, and one night we went out on the town, and we sang Jungleland, at the top our lungs, and we both knew all the lyrics, as it came up on radio.. so special ! will never forget that ! my condolences to the Strum Family. I'm proud to have shared a true connection, thank you Mark.

*New York City Serenade - a special night with MStrum :*

*<https://youtu.be/164uxzyf9QU?si=vTAvchtgMLqpNqeg>*

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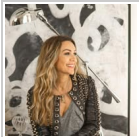
**Clutch3** - April 06, 2025 at 02:49 PM

PB

“ I met Mark around 1971 when his family moved to town, down the street from my family in New Jersey. We became friends shortly afterwards. Through Mark I was introduced to basketball at the local playground, and later on soccer at the High School we both attended. He also exposed me to many contemporary music artists: The Doors, The Grateful Dead, John Prine, Jackson Brown, Joe Cocker, Santana....and many other artists and groups. In 1972, against my best wishes, he dragged me down to Asbury Park to see a local band that was making the rounds of the local bars and venues. Mark felt that this band was going to become very popular someday. Turned out his instincts were correct. It was “Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band. We both attended nearby colleges in upstate New York. Mark at Alfred University, and myself at Ithaca College. On more than a few weekends during. Those years we would get together. Needless to say, those weekends were quite “memorable”. We’ve stayed friends all these years. I will miss him.

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Paul Bogdonoff - April 06, 2025 at 09:43 AM



“ I remember the first time I met Mark. I sat on Neil's sofa next to Neil and Mark came and sat down right next to me. His presence became tender and I immediately felt completely enveloped in love. Mark was calm, warm, reassuring, funny and comforting. I remember having the thought, "wow, I've been flanked by complete love. These are most loving men I've ever known." This moment was deeply etched in my heart and mind. I am so grateful for the Strum men. The world has lost a good man. My deepest condolences and prayers are with you all. The magnitude, light, strength and force of his life will forever be missed.

With love and prayers  
Lisa Faith

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Lisa Friend - April 05, 2025 at 10:26 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Houston Jewish Funerals** - April 04, 2025 at 10:35 AM