



## Shelly Emmanuel Liss

May 26, 1936 - September 2, 2025

Shelly Emmanuel Liss was born in Detroit, Michigan, on May 26, 1936, to Maryann Sandweiss Liss and Ira Jacob Liss, the first of two children. He passed away on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, in Houston, Texas, surrounded by his family. He graduated from San Jacinto High School, University of Texas, and Baylor College of Medicine and completed his residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Shelly met Barbara Lackshin in 1949, when he was 13 and she was 11. They met at services at Emanu El. Nineteen years later, they married on June 13, 1968. They had two children, Neil and Shannon.

Shelly practiced first at Rosewood Hospital and later at Memorial Southwest Hospital and founded Rehabilitation Associates, joined by his friends from his residency, Dan Morrison and Bob Sine. The group would grow to include nine physicians and provide care for patients in Houston and in the surrounding areas. A respected and well loved leader in his field, Shelly started rehabilitation programs across the city. His career was devoted to helping severely injured patients, including stroke victims and those who had suffered back injuries and other serious injuries, to recover their daily lives and return to work. He was proud to be able to assist his patients, who may otherwise have remained disabled, regain their livelihoods and their ability to support their families.

After retiring, Shelly founded the Retired Physicians' Organization (RPO) of the Harris County Medical Society in 1995, bringing together retired physicians throughout Houston for fellowship, support, and volunteer opportunities. For more than 16 years, Shelly devoted himself to the group, organizing an impressive roster of dynamic speakers for their monthly lunches, publishing a newsletter, and paving the way for retired physicians to continue giving back to their communities. In 2016, Shelly was honored by the RPO with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his leadership and commitment to the organization.

Shelly was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Barbara Liss, his beloved children and their spouses: Neil Liss (Layli) and Shannon Liss-Riordan (Kevin), and his sister Victoria Herzberg and brother-in-law Don Herzberg. He is also survived by many cousins and his adored 3 grandchildren: Shane, Myles, and Jordan Liss-Riordan.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, September 4, 2025, in the Kagan-Rudy Chapel at Emanu El Memorial Park, 8341 Bissonnet St., Houston, Texas 77074.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Shelly's memory to a charity of your choice. To plant trees in his memory, please visit the Sympathy Store.

# Cemetery Details

## **Emanu El Memorial Park**

8341 Bissonnet St  
Houston, TX 77074

# Previous Events

## **Cemetery Chapel Service**

SEP 4. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ As kids we spent may a Halloween walking around Braeswood trick-or-treating! He was a great childhood friend. Seeing his obituary brought back many childhood memories. David Askanase

David Askanase - September 14, 2025 at 06:13 PM

LM

“ My condolences to Mrs. Barbara and the family. I learned of his passing in the Houston Chronicle and the many great things he did and people he mentored. Take care and I'm sorry for your loss.

Luis Madrigal - September 05, 2025 at 09:47 PM

MG

“ I will always remember going to Shelly's condo with my family when I was young and watching the amazing lightning storms from the large windows. The liss's were always an amazing family and we're always there to provide help when we needed it. He will be missed

Matt Glassman - September 04, 2025 at 01:09 PM

KE

“ Kerry purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Shelly Emmanuel Liss.



Kerry - September 03, 2025 at 11:03 PM

KE

“ Kerry planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shelly Emmanuel Liss.

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**Kerry** - September 03, 2025 at 11:03 PM

AG

“ Shelly, was my cousin, medical-mentor, and friend. He was not only instrumental in my decision to go to medical school, but was the reason I selected his specialty of physical medicine & rehabilitation as my chosen area of practice.

Shelly & Barb were very kind to my wife, son and I when we moved to Houston to take up a position in his practice group after his retirement. I will always be grateful to Shelly for his guidance, advice, and close friendship.

A donation was made to AMERICAN FRIENDS OF MAGEN DAVID ADOM in his remembrance.

He will be missed by us.

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**Anthony & Karen Glassman** - September 03, 2025 at 07:55 PM

SC

“ Stephanie C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shelly Emmanuel Liss.

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**Stephanie C.** - September 03, 2025 at 06:32 PM



“ A grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Shelly Emmanuel Liss.

September 03, 2025 at 05:43 PM



“ A close friend of my sister Lanie. I remember Shelly as being more mature than most of his contemporaries. There was never a doubt that he would be a success in life.  
*Buzz Back*

**L J "BUZZ" BLACK** - September 03, 2025 at 04:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Shelly Emmanuel Liss.



September 03, 2025 at 11:48 AM