Indiana Jewish Historical Society Honoring Hoosier
Jewish Legends Sunday, August 30, 2020
Dr. David Mayer Silver

David was born in Pittston, Pennsylvania in 1918. The family was believed to have immigrated to the US from Russian occupied Poland. He was educated in Kokomo, Indiana and graduated from Shortridge High School in Indianapolis. He joined Phi Beta Kappa at Butler University and earned his PhD at the University of Illinois - Champaign in American History. During his tenure with Butler, Silver’s contributions were recognized with the University’s highest awards: in 1955 the J.L. Holcomb Faculty Award, presented to one deemed to have made the greatest contribution to the University; in 1987, the Butler Medal, given by the Alumni Association for extraordinary contribution to the University; in 1990, an honorary doctor of letters degree from his alma mater. In 1990, Dr. Silver decided that his own collection of Lincoln materials would enhance that of Butler’s. So, he and his wife established the David M. and Anita C. Silver Lincoln and Civil War Collection & Fund.

Most important to him was his beloved wife of 60 years, Anita Cohen Silver, and his sons Terrance and Greg. He authored the timeless historical book Lincoln’s Supreme Court. The book addresses the efforts of Abraham Lincoln to save the country from civil war calamity by his appointments to the United States Supreme Court. David passed away in 2003 at the age of 88.
As the youngest son of Isaac and Grace Levy, William has carried on the tradition of leadership in the Sephardic community in Indianapolis. The synagogue that Isaac Levy helped to found, Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation, is still going strong with Judge Levy as one of its pillars. In 1991 he worked with Rabbi Dennis Sasso to organize a continuing education course at IUPUI on the history and culture of Sephardic Jews. Like his father, Judge Levy also serves as a member of the Rochessim, the Sephardic Burial Society. He often tells people he has a unique burial obligation that, “when we take the casket to the cemetery, I open the casket and I put sand in their eyes and I touch their forehead then shut the casket. I’m the last person to touch them. This is the greatest mitzvah because it is an act that can never reciprocated.”

In his preface to the Neighborhood of Saturdays book, Judge Levy wrote, “Finally and most importantly, let the message of this book be: If this entire world could live in the same spirit of understanding and tolerance that this old Southside neighborhood enjoyed for all of those years, what a wonderful place it would be, could be, and should be. It is doable and takes some effort, but it is always worth a try. It is never too late. Thank you, Southside neighbors, for all the lessons learned.
Sheila Greenwald

Sheila’s volunteer efforts have spanned both the Jewish and the secular community. For over 65 years she has been involved in BBYO, playing an instrumental role in the Indianapolis chapters and serving as an AZA and BBG advisor, as well as an adult board chairperson to the city and region. She was involved in these organizations: B’nai B’rith Women / Jewish Women International, Bureau of Jewish Education & BJE Auxiliary, Jewish Community Center Youth Committee, Council of Jewish Women, and the Dolls for Democracy program. She has also been a board member, president, and volunteer for the Indiana Jewish Historical Society for almost twenty years. Likewise, Sheila has contributed immensely to the secular community, serving as a volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House and as a Girl Scout troop leader and member of the Hoosier Capital Girl Scout board. She currently serves on the Hooverwood Guild Board. Sheila’s many contributions have been recognized by numerous organizations. She has been the recipient of the Ivan Chalfie JCC award for Distinguished Service to Jewish Families and the Community. She also received the Advisor Gold Key award by the International BBYO Committee for service and was the recipient of the KIO Inaugural Distinguished Service Award in December 2014. At the same reception, she was honored with the renaming of the Indianapolis BBG chapter to Sheila Greenwald B’yachad BBG #43 – an honor rarely bestowed upon a living person. The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis gave her the Liebert I. Mossler Community Service Award in 2015 and the Kehilla Community Service Award in 2018 for leadership and commitment to the Indianapolis Jewish Community. Sheila’s also proud of her wonderful family: Shelly, her husband David and their daughter Adina of California; Robert, his wife Erin and their children Danielle and Eddison of Indianapolis; and Rochelle who also lives in California.
Anne grew up in a New York City neighborhood with many synagogues and ethnic restaurants, but said that Muncie has a wonderful world-class symphony, and world-class music performance facility at Ball State University. Dr Anne Eliades practiced medicine specializing in Pediatrics in Muncie, Indiana for over 35 years. She continues teaching family practice to medical students at IU Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie. She also teaches nurse practitioners at IU Ball Memorial Hospital. An award that is given out annually is named after her, the “Anne Eliades Family Practice Teaching” award. Anne has been instrumental in the Delaware County Child Abuse Awareness program for over 30 years. She was the cofounder of the annual Interfaith dinner which brings together people of all faiths in the Muncie area. It is currently in its 13th year.

Anne is very involved in The Muncie Synagogue which dates back to the 1850s. It was officially formed in 1885 and Temple Beth El was built at Jackson and Council streets in 1922. In “The Sunday Star Press” of Muncie a story about the Temple Beth El pictured the inside of the sanctuary: its stained-glass window and a great story about the members, services, Torahs, and their small library among other highlights. Anne was quoted saying, “We just don’t have enough people. But we’re still here and we’re still doing everything”— including maintaining a particular piece of Muncie’s religious history. Her family includes husband John and children Stacie and Stephen.
Shortly after World War II, Rabbi Shuback, then of East Chicago, had been until his recent retirement, the spiritual leader of Beth Sholom and motivating power for just about every good cause in town. He was also an historical figure. As an 18-year-old in 1938, he buried his father after the Gestapo murdered him. Later, Julius was lucky enough to be sponsored for passage to the United States by a relative. However, three years later, his mother and sister died in the gas chambers of Auschwitz. A memory from Carol Smulevitz Friedman: “Listening to the deep rich baritone vibrato of Rabbi Shuback, his amazing operatic chanting of the psalms and religious readings... It was like being at the Metropolitan Opera at every service. Rabbi exploded in joy at the birth of babies, Brit Milat ceremonies, B’nai Mitzvot and weddings of his kids.”

When posting a picture of Rabbi Shuback on Facebook, numerous comments brought smiles and tears to those remembering him. He was a very fine man, indeed. He loved his congregation, was a comedian. One of the wisest men, always had a joke to share. He received rabbinical leadership awards from the State of Israel Bonds, the United Jewish Appeal, and the Jewish Life Line. He was lauded for outstanding service to the community on at least three different occasions by two mayors. Rabbi Shuback passed away on March 13, 2005. He was preceded in death by his wife Jewel Dorothy Shuback, with whom he was married for 60 years. He is survived by two children Joyce Hertz and Fred Shuback and five grandchildren.
Hoosier Jewish Legends Hall of Fame


**2017** Mark Greenberg, Muncie Ron Klain, Indianapolis Eva Mozes Kor*, Terre Haute Leon Mordoh*, Indianapolis David Wolf, Indianapolis

**2018** Lois and Sidney Eskenazi, Indianapolis Gerald Kraft, Indianapolis David Pizer*, South Bend Janice Roger, Indianapolis Joan Wolf, Indianapolis

The mission of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society is to collect, preserve, publish, and share the history of the Jewish experience in Indiana.