

## DAVID H. KLEIMAN

David was born and raised in Kendallville, Indiana, a small town (7,500 population), 25 miles north of Ft. Wayne. There were three other Jewish families in town. His parents, Isadore and Pearl Kleiman were recently married when they moved to Kendallville from Chicago to purchase a scrap yard. Their plan was to live in Kendallville for five years and accumulate enough money to purchase a hardware store in Chicago. They loved living in a small town and Kendallville became their principal residence for the rest of their lives. David had a brother Bernie and a sister Carolyn, all graduates of Kendallville H.S. David and Bernie graduated from Purdue and Northwestern Law School, while their sister graduated from Michigan. They were the first generation in the Kleinman family to go to college.

David's Jewish upbringing was interesting--when you lived in a small town in Indiana everyone knew that you were Jewish, David's parents *made sure* that they knew they were Jewish, and that being Jewish made them special. His family belonged to the reformed Temple in Ft. Wayne, although most of David's understanding of the importance of being Jewish came from his parents, and they experienced little, if any, antisemitism growing up in Kendallville.

David married Meta Freeman (from Munster, IN) after his second year in law school. They lived in Munster during David's senior year at Northwestern and Meta taught 1st grade. They moved to Indianapolis in 1959 after graduation. because they already knew Phil and Vivian Pecar (Meta's sister) and it was close, but not too close to their respective parents. They very soon had four sons (Gary, Andy, Scott, and Matt). David has two grandsons (Ben and Alex) and lots of "faux" grandchildren.

As a practicing bankruptcy and commercial law attorney, David was a named shareholder of the Indianapolis law firm of Dann, Pecar, Newman & Kleiman P.C. for nearly 50 years. The firm merged in 2010 with Benesch, Friedlander and he continued on as a partner. David has been elected to the American College of Bankruptcy, and he has been listed in The Best Lawyers of America and Who's Who in America.

As a volunteer, David's has served as a Member of the Boards of the Central Indiana Community Foundation, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Planned Parenthood of Central Indiana, and the William E. English Foundation. He also served as either Chair or President of Boards of the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Indianapolis Foundation, the United Way of Central Indiana, and the Wishard (now Eskenazi Health) Memorial Foundation, raising \$80 million towards construction of a new hospital facility!

As a leader in the Jewish community, David served on the Board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, including a term as President, raising sufficient capital to rebuild the finances of the Jewish Community Center and to make numerous physical improvements to the JFGI campus. He has been active on the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation Board of Directors and IHC's Foundation Board, including chairing an IHC Capital Endowment Campaign that raised \$11 million over four years. He has mentored a new generation of Jewish community leaders, by being an incredible listener, offering wisdom with extraordinary vision. Most importantly, David has been a long-time Member of our own IJHS, having served us as both President and an Officer.

David has been awarded the B'nai B'rith Man of the Year Award, the Indiana Business Journal Health Care Hero Award, the Jewish Welfare Federation Young Leadership Award and the Liebert I. Mossier Community Service Award, the Ivan M. Chalfie Award for Distinguished Service, and the Jerusalem of Gold Award State of Israel, by the Israel Bond Organization.

Today, it is our great honor to add one more well-deserved honor to David's collection, that of being a Hoosier Jewish Legend. Congratulations!