



City of Cambridge

R-51.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 6, 1999

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

- WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Leonard "Lenny" Zakim on December 2, 1999; and
- WHEREAS: Leonard was the Executive Director of the New England Regional Office of the Anti-Defamation League; and
- WHEREAS: Leonard lead many tours to Israel and to the Holocaust Museum in Washington; and
- WHEREAS: Leonard was instrumental in forging relationships between persons of Jewish and Catholic faith; and
- WHEREAS: Leonard's passing will leave a void in the lives of all his surviving family, his wife Joyce; his children Joshua Isaac, Deena Ann and Shari Gayle; his parents Gerald and Phyllis Zakim; his sister Elayna R. Kirshtel; his brother Stuart I. Zakim; his mother-in-law Edith Greenspan and his father-in-law Leon Wolf; and
- WHEREAS: Leonard will be sorely missed by all he touched and loved; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of Leonard Zakim at this time of such personal loss; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Zakim family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council December 6, 1999.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Lenny Zakim, 46, devoted life to battling bigotry

From Page 2

each one individually," said Janaya Majied-Janey, who runs the Young Graffiti Masters program in Dorchester. "He always spoke from the heart and there was nothing phony about him."

Frail but with a strong voice two weeks before his death, Zakim sang in the band that played for the annual awarding of grants from The Lenny Fund — a charity that Zakim's friends began to support grassroots small-scale social service endeavors. The graffiti artists' program benefited. Pale and tired, Zakim did not let his illness deter him from leading 12,000 students in cheers against racism at the Fleet Center last month during the massive annual Team Harmony rally he started six years ago.

A child of the 1960s who grew up in New Jersey, Zakim leaves an unprecedented legacy of bringing together Boston blacks and Jews.

Eighteen years ago, he began the first Black Jewish Seder in the city — an event that drew six people the first year and exploded to more than 650 last spring at the New Covenant Christian Center in Mattapan. "Len Zakim was our teacher, our spirit and our leader in the fight against hate, intolerance and injustice," Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino said.

From the desecration of local cemeteries to the discovery of anti-Semitic propaganda, Zakim became a familiar voice in the region against prejudice.

"Lenny always knew, as I did because of him, that you cannot stand by and let incidents happen without standing up," said Attorney General Thomas Reilly. "Lenny always stood up."

Zakim helped lead many tours of Israel as well as annual pilgrimages to the Holocaust Museum in Washington. "He was a man who for his entire adult life has had his vision directed toward improving the human condition," said his friend Janice Ditchek.

Zakim also took on the work of improving relations between Catholics and Jews. In October, the Pope conferred knighthood from the Order of St. Gregory upon Zakim —



LEONARD ZAKIM: 'He always spoke from the heart.'

the highest blessing the Vatican can bestow on a non-Catholic.

In his hospital room the day before Zakim's death, Bishop William Murphy of the Archdiocese of Boston leaned in to hear his friend's words. "Wouldn't this make a great picture?" Zakim said, according to friends. Known for his sense of humor, his love of the Grateful Dead and Bruce Springsteen, Zakim lived by the Kennedy-era ethos of "Why not?"

"He was about change. He wouldn't tolerate no," said Richard Coles, chief of the civil rights division of the state office of the attorney general and a longtime friend.

Throughout his battle against cancer, Zakim became a visionary for change in how medicine treats the disease. Under care at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Zakim advocated the integration of nontraditional cancer therapies such as acupuncture and massage. The center recently established the Zakim Center for Integrated Therapies.

"He was an incredible person in so many ways," said Dana-Farber president Dr. David G. Nathan.

Zakim came to Boston in the 1970s for law school. Coles recalled supervising his work in the storefront offices of Greater Boston Legal Services in the Grove Hall section of Roxbury.

By his third day, Zakim had more than 10 cases, Coles recalled. "It was so classic Lenny," he said.

900 Death Notices

ZAKIM

Lenny of Newton on December 2, 1999. Beloved husband of Joyce (Wolf) Zakim. Devoted father of Joshua Isaac, Deena Ann and Shari Gayle, all at home. Loving son of Gerald and Phyllis Zakim of Wayne, N.J. Devoted brother of Elayna R. Kirschel of New City, N.Y. and Stuart I. Zakim of Edison, N.J. Dear son-in-law of Edith Greenspan and Leon Wolf both of N.Y. Services at Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward St. Newton on Friday December 3, at 12:00 Noon. Shiva commences Saturday evening 7:30 to 9:30 P.M. and Sunday through Wednesday 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. and 7:30 to 9:30 P.M. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to The Lenny Fund c/o T.P.L. 77 Franklin St. Boston, MA 02110. Arrangements by the Breznick-Rodman Funeral Directors, WEST NEWTON.

Lenny Zakim, champion of civil rights, dies at 46

By J.M. LAWRENCE

Civil rights activist Leonard "Lenny" Zakim lost a four-year struggle with bone cancer yesterday after a life spent fighting bigotry and bringing people together across lines of color, income and religion.

"He became the soul of Greater Boston," U.S. Rep. Edward Markey said, "ensuring that every denominational and ethnic

group saw themselves as part of one community."

Zakim, 46, of Newton, the executive director of the New England Regional office of the Anti-Defamation League, died early yesterday at Brigham and Women's Hospital surrounded by his wife, Joyce, his twin 13-year-old daughters, Shari and Deena; and a 16-year-old son, Joshua.

His funeral will begin at noon today at

Temple Emmanuel on Ward Street in Newton.

News of his death created waves of grief from the top levels of government to an inner-city classroom where graffiti artists learn the hateful history behind their swastikas.

"He knew all of my students by name,

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BROWNS TIE: Goals by Joe Thornton and Anson Carter erase a 2-0 deficit as the B's skate to a 2-2 draw with the Caps. **Page 116**

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UNITY: GOP presidential candidates, from left, Gary Bauer, Texas Gov. George W. Bush, Steve Forbes, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, are all smiles prior to last night's debate in Manchester, N.H.

GOP rivals try to dent Bush's a no

**By ANDREW MIGA
and JOE BATTENFELD**

MANCHESTER, N.H. — George W. Bush tartly defended his fitness to be president as he made his de-

bate debut last night, fending off potshots from his five GOP foes over his tax cut plan, Social Security and abortion.

"I've got a record of leading," the Texas governor declared.

Bush trumpeted his gubernatorial chief executive credentials, seeking to defuse what has been his most glaring vulnerability as a candidate: lack of knowledge on foreign policy. "I had foreign policy as gov-

R 51 ✓

MS

VMG-

K-T

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entire City Council.

MS
VMA
KT
all

R5/ ✓

Res to be prep on the death of
Leonard Zahim

12/2/99 @ 1205

MS.

Leonard Zakim (home)

John Benoit

✓

Anthony Fennia, ~~already~~ called in

Olga Cappucci

✓



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Resolution #51 1263R

Councillor Sullivan, Vice Mayor Galluccio,
Councillor Triantafyllou and entire
membership re: resolution on the death
of Leonard Zakim.

In City Council December 6, 1999

ORDER ADOPTED