



Edward J. Katz

July 7, 1958 - January 14, 2022

Edward J. Katz, 63 of Asheville passed away on Friday, January 14, 2022, at Solace CarePartners surrounded by his family.

Tribute Wall



“ You don't realize how many memories you have of a person until you are asked to share one. All of a sudden, many raced to fill my head, making it difficult to choose. I knew Ed at one of the primes of his life (I'm sure he had many) when he was in his 40's. Ed and Miriam had moved to Asheville from Detroit and were my new next-door-neighbors. We became good friends and bonded over the summer heat drinking wine while waiting for the Power truck to reset our transformer in the backyard that seemed to blow every evening, amazing kitchen dinners made from scratch ingredients and thought provoking conversation to match, and those 4 hour special treat restaurant double dates with a special story told by one of the best story tellers around (Ed, if you haven't guessed with edits from Miriam, of course). Another standout memory is when Ed realized he had outlived the age that his father passed away at (which was young) and how he then started running, eventually running for miles around town. He never had the physique of a runner but he blew me away with his stamina and focus. Another moment popping up is when I was in CO and the blizzard came to Asheville (in the 90's). I had adopted a golden chow mixed dog that didn't like men (took a year and a half to warm up to my boyfriend) and Ed was no exception. However, during the blizzard my dog sitter couldn't get to my house and the garage door came down and trapped the dog in the garage. Ed bravely slogged through the snow, got the garage door open and freed the dog knowing it might not be a welcome reception. It's what true friends and neighbors are willing to do.

Ed and Miriam as a true bonded couple will live long in my memory as they grappled with moving to a totally different southern culture, dealt with work politics/tenure, and an ever expanding family. This last was what eventually caused them to move away from north Asheville and become new neighbors to folks in west Asheville. As often happens, we all became more wrapped up in our own worlds and eventually lost touch. However, there have been moments throughout the years since when we would briefly touch and those old roots would still manifest. This is one of them.

Thank you, Ed and Miriam, for creating these memories and allowing me to speak of them. I send out a celestial toast to Ed.

Barbara Kostic

Barbara Kostic - January 26 at 11:59 AM

EP

“ I was Dr. Katz's student in Humanities 324 (then 224) at UNCA many years ago, and his teaching changed my whole way of thinking about the "Modern World" and my place in it. When I started working in an office on campus, he and I paired up for several of the General Education Review Task Force listening sessions; it was fun to be his faithful note-taker and fellow listener. When I started teaching Humanities 324 at UNCA, I tried to bring his wisdom, humor, and insights into every class. Dr. Katz, my mentor and friend, I'm so grateful for your example. You will be missed.

Ellen Perry

Ellen Perry - January 20 at 07:37 PM