



Ralph John Lowenstein

February 9, 1932 - August 1, 2025

Ralph John Lowenstein (born Hans Rolf Loewenstien) of Cincinnati passed away peacefully on August 1, 2025. Ralph was surrounded by his family, friends, and the many memories of the lives he impacted over his 93 years. Ralph was born on February 9, 1932, in Duisburg-Hamborn, Germany, to his parents Max and Hilda (née Goldberg) Lowenstein. At the age of six, Ralph escaped the atrocities of Nazi Germany via the Kindertransport, accompanied by his younger brother Edward (age four). The boys spent 1½ years living in England under the loving care of Ruth Stern until they were reunited with their parents in New York City. The family then spent six months living in Flushing, NY, with their Aunt Ilse and Uncle Erich before being sponsored by their Uncle Ernest (Ernie) Lowenstein to relocate to Cincinnati. Ralph became a PROUD American citizen on August 8, 1946.

Ralph attended Avondale Elementary School and Walnut Hills Junior High before graduating from Hughes High School. He then attended Ohio University, where he earned a degree in Photography. During his time at Ohio University, Ralph met the love of his life, Fran Sirkin. Ralph and Fran were married for 66 years until her passing in 2021. They raised their family in Finneytown before retiring in Blue Ash. After college, Ralph served as a Lieutenant in the United States Army and was stationed in Long Island City, NY. Following his honorable discharge, he began a career as a salesman for H. Wolf & Sons. He eventually became President, CEO, and co-owner of the company, helping to build it into one of the largest screen-printing sportswear

manufacturers in the United States. Ralph retired from H. Wolf in 1989. Throughout his career and retirement, Ralph demonstrated a strong commitment to service and community. He served twice as president of the Cincinnati chapter of SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives), helping many local business owners achieve their goals. Ralph was also president and a longtime supporter of the Jewish retirement community Glen Manor, leading numerous refurbishment projects. Later in life, Ralph volunteered weekly at Radio Reading Services for the Cincinnati Association of the Blind. A devoted father and father-in-law, Ralph is survived by his children, Jim Lowenstein (predeceased in 1986) and Joey (Bill) Goetz. His legacy lives on through his three grandchildren: Emma Goetz, J.R. Goetz (Shelby), and Cooper (Hannah). "Pa" was deeply involved in their lives and was extremely proud of each of them.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, August 10, 2025 at 11:00AM at Rockdale Temple, 8501 Ridge Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45236. A gathering will be held at Rockdale Temple following services. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Nancy and David Wolf Holocaust & Humanity Center or Hospice of Cincinnati.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG **10**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Rockdale Temple
8501 Ridge Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45236

Tribute Wall

JM

“ I have had the honor to know Ralph for 45 years our time started when I was hired at H.Wolf & Sons to work along the office staff. We then later connected when I was able to help him and Fran with the personal insurance and when my role changed I asked him to be my mentor via SCORE. I wanted to work with one of the greatest sales professionals I knew! I will be forever grateful for the many hours of his encouragement, support and wisdom over all these years. And the time Fred and I doubled dated with him and Fran. Joey, Bill and family
Thank you for sharing your dad, grandpa with us his impact will live on forever.

Jean Mabry - August 10, 2025 at 08:58 AM

MW

“ I was also privileged to have had the opportunity to meet Hans Rolf (Ralph) at The Glen. Although he missed his friends in Cincy dearly, he treasured his time here with Bill and Joey. Albeit brief, Ralph touched many of us with his inspiring story shrouded in his gentlemanly nature and humility. May we all continue to live out his values, and may his memories bring comfort, peace and joy to the Goetz family.

Mike Waters - August 09, 2025 at 11:38 PM

MW

“ I was also one of the privileged to have had the opportunity to meet Hans Rolf (Ralph) at The Glen. Although he missed his friends in Cincy dearly, he cherished his time here with Joey and Bill, and in his new home, he touched many of us with his inspiring life story shrouded in his gentlemanly nature and humility. Albeit brief, it was a blessing to have visited with Ralph, and in some small way carry some responsibility forward in honoring his values. May his memory bring peace and comfort to the Goetz family.

Mike Waters - August 09, 2025 at 11:01 PM

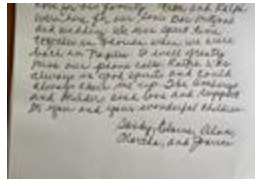
TD

“ My deepest sympathy to the Goetz family. Thinking of you during this difficult time and sending my love and prayers.

Tammy Denzy - August 06, 2025 at 12:01 PM

AD

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Ambergs and Melder from Detroit+ - August 06, 2025 at 11:29 AM

CP

“ Earlier this summer at The Glen I had the honor of listening to Ralph share his story of escaping Nazi Germany and reuniting with his family in New York. It was miraculous and left me in tears of awe. I will never forget it. May his memory be a blessing.

Christian Paschke - August 05, 2025 at 07:13 PM

RS

“ As a Finneytown faculty member, I could not have wished for a more supportive community member than Ralph -- along with his Fran, of course. The entire community has lost a stalwart friend. I have only warm memories of times spent with Ralph, Fran, and Joey. Condolences to Joey, Bill, those treasured grandchildren, and all whose life Ralph touched.

Rose (Finkelman) Solomon - August 05, 2025 at 03:27 PM

BK

“ So many fond memories with the Lowenstein family fo over 60 years. We all gew up together!! Our sincere sympathy and Love to Joey,Biill and family. Bev and John and family

Beverly Koenigsberg - August 03, 2025 at 08:48 PM