



Stanley J. Aronoff

June 8, 1932 - January 31, 2024

SENATOR STANLEY ARONOFF

CINCINNATI-Aronoff, Stanley J., age 91, passed away January 31, 2024, beloved husband of Janet C. Aronoff, devoted father of Tracy Aronoff and the late Jay Aronoff and Leslie Aronoff, dear brother of Bonnie (Ray) Gibson, loving grandfather of Toria (Brian) Schottenstein and the late Zachary Aronoff, loving great-grandfather (Poppi) of Juliette Schottenstein, and loving Stanpa of Brianna Carson, Jeffrey Carson and Hannah Jane Carson. Private services. A Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions to Cincinnati Arts Association and School for Creative and Performing Arts.

Stanley Aronoff was born in North Avondale on June 8, 1932. He graduated in 1950 from Walnut Hills High School, where he is recognized in the school's hall of fame for distinguished alumni. Shortly after earning both Bachelor's and law degrees from Harvard University, he returned to Cincinnati to practice law. In 1960, he was recruited by Hamilton County Republican Party leaders to run for a seat in the Ohio House of Representatives, which he subsequently won. There, he offered a bill that would create the Ohio Arts Council. This is only the beginning of a long history of Aronoff's contribution to the Cincinnati arts community. He served three terms in the House and moved to the Ohio Senate in 1967. During his long tenure in the Senate, he chaired many committees, including the Finance Committee. He won reelection to the Senate in 1976. He served as president pro tempore from 1985 to 1988 and

Ohio Senate president from 1989 to 1996. The Cincinnati native was a former Ohio Senate president who spearheaded much of the city's development from the early 1960s to the mid-1990s during more than three decades in public office. He pushed through vital legislation, steered state funding and arm-twisted governors on issues to help Cincinnati. His most lasting mark on the city, the Aronoff Center for the Arts, was a culmination of his 30-year dedication to championing the local arts community. The center houses three performance spaces as well as the Weston Art Gallery. Some other notable projects that benefited from state dollars through Aronoff's intervention are the Cincinnati Convention Center expansion, Garfield Place, Bicentennial Commons at Sawyer Point, the conversion of Union Terminal into the Museum Center and improvements at Music Hall. He remained entrenched in the arts throughout his life, dedicating time to organizations such as the Cincinnati Association for the Arts, the Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and the Classical Music Hall of Fame.

After his political career, Aronoff worked as a lawyer and lobbyist. He returned to private practice with Aronoff, Rosen and Hunt. He also became a consultant through two consulting companies: Aronoff & Associates, Inc., and State Street Consultants.

In 2005, Aronoff received the Irma Lazarus Award during the Ohio Governor's Awards for the Arts ceremony. The award is given to a person or organization that has helped shape public support for the arts and brought greater recognition to Ohio.

The Aronoff Center isn't the only building to bear his name. He also shares his namesake with academic buildings: the Aronoff Center for Design and Art at University of Cincinnati and the Stanley J. Aronoff Laboratory of Biological Sciences at Ohio State University.

"I want to be remembered for the good deeds, for some of the unnoticed

constituent work we did ... I want to be remembered for more than the bricks and mortar. I want to be remembered as a person who cares about people."

Tribute Wall

DA

“ I had the privilege of knowing Stan Aronoff as a friend and as a neighbor in our Miami Beach condominium building from about 2008 onwards. Stan was a true gentleman in every sense of the word. He was generous with his time and insightful knowledge of politics and human nature. He was surprisingly humble for such an accomplished man -- I became aware of his record on my own. He was genuinely kind with his invitations -- to dine in local restaurants, to a concert in Lincoln Center with a tuxedoed Stan on stage as the master of ceremonies (!), to a personal tour of the his namesake center and downtown Cincinnati. What a pleasure it was to know Senator Stan, a good friend and wonderful human being. Your memory is a blessing, Zekher tzadik livrakha.

David - June 06, 2024 at 02:47 PM



“ In the early 70's, I worked at Frisch's in Hartwell. Stanley Aaronoff , when in town, was a regular breakfast customer there. He was a truly nice man, who treated everyone with the same respect. I'm happy to have known him.

Liv Bisher - February 18, 2024 at 08:49 AM

LP

“ In the mid 70s my father-in-law attained fifty years in business. I had a lobbyist friend in Columbus who suggested he ask Stan to produce a Senate congratulatory resolution to mark the occasion. We had a family luncheon at The Cincinnati Club and Stan came to present the resolution. The iconic Paint sign at Fourteenth and Vine is still in place marking the place of business for Cincinnati Color Company.

Lee Patrick - February 11, 2024 at 11:01 AM

DP

“ I was the best of friends with Jay going back to 6th grade in the early 70's and spent a lot of time at the Aronoff house growing up, Stan spent a lot of time in Columbus and with me being a taller kid, Vicky would use my height to her advantage to change light bulbs in the high ceilings of the house 🤦 it didn't matter if it was a couple of weeks before I saw Stan he would always thank me without fail, not sure how the conversation would get started between Vicky and Stan, seemed trivial to me but he always knew and made me feel special and appreciated for helping. Thank you Stan!!!

David Patrick - February 05, 2024 at 12:26 PM

BE

Hi my name is Bree. Jay was my big stepbrother(I miss him. Stanpa as we called him , was the Best Stepfather anyone could ever hope for. We become Best friends over the last 26 years. Reading all the post over the last few weeks, reinforces what he always showed me and the rest of our family. Stanpa I'll miss you for the rest of my life .

B C Email - February 29, 2024 at 09:11 PM



“ I knew Stan and Vicky from 1970, until I left Cinti in 1976. I worked on his campaign. I worked in the Taft campaign and met really good people. I was not a party Gopher. I fit into to the people he knew and worked with.

Stan was a smart and a good man. I worked for him. He loaned me money to finish college ; loaned me a car for 1 1/2 years. He got me egress to a US Senator, so I could lobby pro Federal Union and I tell you the handful of Republicans who would do that today is small.

I am saddened he passed. Bis die Zeit

Jeffrey Saul - February 01, 2024 at 08:35 PM