



## Irving Koren

August 5, 1922 - June 30, 2011

Irving Koren, 88, of Eden, WI, died Thursday, June 30, 2011 at the Fond du Lac Lutheran Home, after a brief illness. He was born August, 5, 1922, in Waupaca, Wisconsin a son of Carl and Sylvia Spiegel Cohen. Irving grew up in Waupaca where he helped his parents run an egg business. He graduated from Waupaca High School and served with the United States Navy during World War II, aboard the LSM 52 and later the LSM 139. He took part in seven invasions, including Lingayen Gulf, Bataan, Leyte, and Corregidor. Irving participated in a World War II Veterans Honor Flight to Washington, DC in 2010. On May 19, 1946, he married Hilda Kula in Waupaca. Irving was a member of Temple Beth Israel, Fond du Lac, Jewish War Veterans, B.P.O.E. Lodge #57, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Eden Gun Club. As an entrepreneur, Irving owned multiple businesses throughout his life including Koren Enterprise, Co-Ord, Master Source, River's Edge Gallery, and was a partner in Dutch's Sport Shop, all located in Fond du Lac. He administrated, along with his wife Hilda, a cooperative group buying program for over 500 Shakey's Pizza Parlor locations. He was the executive director of the International Franchise Association, and administered a group buying program for the International Union of Gospel Missions and Christian Camping International. He was also a past member of the Wisconsin Association of Nursing Homes. Irving was the co-developer of the Overland Heights subdivision in the Town of Empire. Irving also served several terms as treasurer for the Wisconsin Alliance for the Mentally Ill, founder of Twin Lakes

Fishing Association, and a past member of the Board of Trustees of Marian University. Irving lived a robust life and had many interests including gourmet cooking, traveling, fishing, hunting, and reading. He was the consummate host of gatherings with friends and family. He was a loyal friend to many, made friends fast, and knew no strangers. Irving was a lifelong, proud Democrat. Survivors include his daughter, Karen Lasker, and grandson, Charles Amidon, both of Naples, Florida. He is also survived by his partner of the past ten years, Kate Strassman. Other survivors include: two sisters: Ruth Chudacoff, and Leah (Donald) Lewis, his cousin, Charlie Cohen; and numerous nieces and nephews. Irving was preceded in death by his parents; his son, David; and his wife Hilda. Special thanks to Nancy Fields, Irving's loyal bookkeeper for over 40 years, and to Carol and LeRoy Boudry for years of unwavering assistance at Irving's home in Eden. Special recognition and gratitude to dear friends Michelle Majewski and Larry Reynolds. The funeral service will be held at 11:30 a.m., on Sunday, July 3, 2011, at Mach Funeral Chapel & Crematory, 31 E. Division Street, Fond du Lac, with Gary Wolfman officiating. Burial will follow at the Temple Beth Israel section of Rienzi Cemetery. The visitation will be on Sunday at Mach Funeral Chapel & Crematory from 10:30 a.m. until the time of service. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate memorials to The Brody Project for Animal Assisted Therapy, PO Box 112304, Naples, FL 34108. [www.thebrodyproject.org](http://www.thebrodyproject.org) Irving's family wishes to thank Drs. Eric Edel and Robert Van Scoy (retired) of the Mayo Clinic for their kind and compassionate care of Irving and his wife, Hilda, over the years.

# Tribute Wall

JE

“ Since our relocation to Fond du Lac in 2006, we had a number of opportunities to meet and interact with Irving at the Woodland Estates Assoc. meetings. In a short time, we came to appreciate his sincerity, friendliness, and desire to always do the right thing, a rare character trait today. We are thankful to have met such a fine man and our prayers and sympathies are with his loved ones at this time.

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**Jim and Dorothy Erickson** - July 04, 2011 at 02:58 PM

JW

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**Jim and Dorothy Erickson of Fond du lac, WI** - July 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ My sympathy to the family. I worked for Irving & Hilda (1968 timeframe) when they owned "Co-Ord". I am also sorry to learn that both Hilda & David have passed away.

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**Pat McFarland** - July 01, 2011 at 04:06 PM

WM

“ Irv was a neat guy--always friendly and fun to be around. He will be missed.

*We looked forward to meeting up with him and Kate on their semi-annual trips to and from Naples. They were good for each other at a time in their lives when each needed what they had together. Another member of The Greatest Generation is gone.*

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**Wayne Mayo** - July 01, 2011 at 02:00 PM

JG

*I wish I had seen this long before today. I knew Karen Koren in high school and wonder if Irving was her father. She had a brother named David. Would love to find Karen. From, Julia Graves, Bainbridge Island, WA*

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**Julia Graves** - January 27, 2019 at 02:31 AM

JM

“ *My condolences to you, Kate, and to all of Irv's family and friends in this loss. I did not know him well but found him to be a kind and gentle soul who cared deeply about others.*

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**Janet McCord** - July 01, 2011 at 09:24 AM

WF

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**Wayne Mayo of Orlando, FL** - July 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PT

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**Pat McFarland of Columbia, TN** - July 01, 2011 at 12:00 AM

FC

“ Irv was the kindest, gentlest, and most caring man we ever knew. He lived life with passion and gusto and had a wonderful sense of humor. You could not help but love him. It will be so sad not to be able to call him on his birthday and sing to him the way we did every year. He looked forward to it as much as we did. We loved him very much and will miss him terribly. Fred and Celeste

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**Fred and Celeste Christ** - June 30, 2011 at 11:33 PM

FW

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**Fred and Celeste Christ of Fond du lac, WI** - June 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Irving Koren

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**Joyce & Tom Jahns** - January 01, 1753 at 11:16 PM