



Michael Leonard Hirt

FEB 19, 1934 - NOV 17, 2016



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Michael Leonard Hirt

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Dr. Michael Leonard Hirt passed away on November 17, 2016, with his family at his side, following a brief illness. He was born on February 19, 1934, in Horodenka, Poland (now Ukraine), to Amalia Hirt (Reis) (d 1994) and Artur Abraham Hirt (d 1955).

Dr. Hirt and his immediate family arrived in the United States in 1944 with a group of about 1,000 European war refugees, the only refugees admitted to this country by the U.S. government during World War II. After spending approximately 18 months in a refugee shelter in Oswego, New York, he and his family lived in the Lower East Side of New York City. They relocated to Des Moines, Iowa, in 1948. Dr. Hirt married his first wife, Myrna York, in Iowa in 1956. He attended Drake University in Des Moines, obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in 1954. He then attended Iowa State University, receiving a Master of Science degree in 1955. He completed his formal education in 1958 at the University of Nebraska where, at the age of 24, he earned his Doctor of Philosophy in psychology.

He entered the United States Army in 1958 and interned at Walter Reed Hospital until 1959. After a one-year assignment as a Second Lieutenant at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, he was sent to Korea where he served until 1961. Upon his return, he was assigned to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he was promoted to Captain. He was honorably discharged in 1962.

His post-army professional career began in 1962 at National Jewish Hospital in Denver, Colorado. In 1963 he moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he held joint appointments as Assistant Professor at Marquette University and the Veterans Administration until 1964. He then moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he served as an Associate Professor until 1967. He finally settled in Kent, Ohio, where he served as a full Professor at Kent State University. During most of the 1990s he served as the psychology department's Director of Clinical Training. While in Kent he also consulted at several State mental health facilities. He retired in 2001 and lived the remainder of his life in Copley, Ohio.



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He was an avid tennis player, remaining active in the sport until he was 80. He took annual trips to South Carolina, enjoying the company of his family, and taking long beach walks during which he liked to reflect on many of his life events.

Dr. Hirt is survived by his spouse, Sheila Pearlman of Copley, Ohio; older brother Joseph Bernard Hirt (Dorothy) of Pennsylvania; sons Arthur Michael Hirt (Diane) of Elmhurst, Illinois; David Scott Hirt (Lisa) of Kent, Ohio; and Jeffrey Alan Hirt (Maureen) of Bainbridge, Ohio; and grandchildren Emily, Sarah, Jennifer, LiWen, and Aaron.

Graveside service will be held on Friday, November 18, 2016, at 11:00 AM at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Solon, Ohio. Donations may be made to the Akron General Hospital Visiting Nurse Service Justin T. Rogers Hospice facility in Akron, Ohio, or the American Cancer Society.



Events


Michael Leonard Hirt

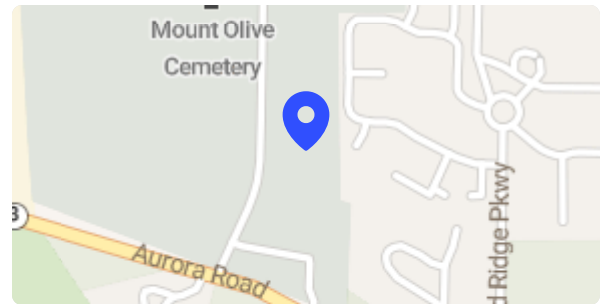
FEB 19, 1934 - NOV 17, 2016

Graveside Service


 **Friday**, November 18, 2016

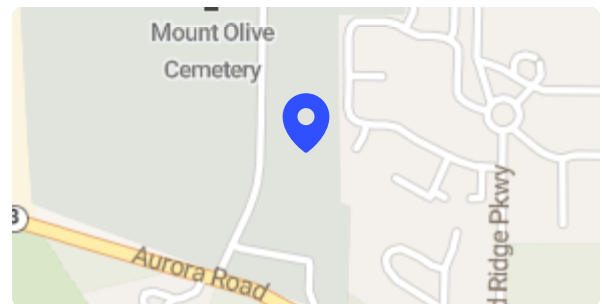
 11:00 AM ET

 **Mount Olive Cemetery**
27855 Aurora Road, Solon OH 44139



Cemetery Details

 **Mount Olive Cemetery**
27855 Aurora Road, Solon OH 44139





Tribute Wall

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MC

Melva Cole posted:

With Sympathy and caring At this it is only God who speak the word that can ease the pain. Trusting that God will be very close to you now and hoping that it comfort you to know that God cares about you and understand your pain. May yhese words bring you comfort (2 corinthians I:3,4) Praise be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ the Father of tender mercies and the God of all comfort who comfort us in all our trials.

November 18 at 5:15 PM

MC

Melva Cole posted:

With Sympathy and caring At this it is only God who speak the word that can ease the pain. Trusting that God will be very close to you now and hoping that it comfort you to know that God cares about you and understand your pain. May yhese words bring you comfort (2 corinthians I:3,4) Praise be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ the Father of tender mercies and the God of all comfort who comfort us in all our trials.

November 18 at 5:02 PM

SS

Sarah Suniga posted:

Dr. Hirt taught me so much during my time at Kent State as a psychology doctoral student. He played the most significant role in shaping the psychologist I am today. I find myself saying to my trainees word-for-word the wisdom he passed on to me. I will truly never forget you, Dr. Hirt. Whether I liked it or not, you were right 99.9% of the time. Thank you for being a touchstone in my life.

November 17 at 10:28 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Michael by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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