



Louis "Bud" Siegel

June 3, 1925 - February 21, 2025

Louis "Bud" Siegel,

February 21, 2025, age 99, of Mequon. Loving husband of the late Esther Siegel. Caring father of Dr. Lori (Dr. Steven Koppel) Siegel and Abbe (John) Krahn. Adoring grandfather of Sarah, Rachael, Hana Koppel, and Amanda Krahn. Further survived by other family and friends.

Funeral services 11 AM Monday, February 24, 2025 at Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid, 6880 North Green Bay Ave., Glendale. Interment at Second Home Cemetery 3705 S. 43 St., Milwaukee. Memorials to Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid.

To join virtually (hosted by CBINT), https://www.cbintmilwaukee.org/stream/?mc_cid=66fdb08a08&mc_eid=UNIQID

The family will see friends at Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid after burial. On Tuesday and Wednesday from 5-7 PM at 10018 N Kirkland Ct.

Cemetery Details

Second Home Cemetery

3705 S. 43 St.
Milwaukee, WI 53220

Previous Events

Service

FEB **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid
6880 N. Green Bay Ave.
Glendale, WI 53209

Shiva

FEB **25** to **26**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Siegel Residence
10018 N Kirkland Ct
Mequon, WI 53092

Tribute Wall

JK

“ I had the honor of sharing the following words at Buddy's funeral service yesterday. Needless to say, Abbe and I are crushed by dad's passing and overwhelmed with emotions (especially since this happened so soon after Abbe's mom died last September). The amount of "life" we shared with Buddy & Esther can't be measured in days, weeks, or months. It would need to be measured in years. Since we lived so close to them, they were are part of our daily lives. If it wasn't time spent together in person, it was a parade of phone calls. SO MANY MEMORIES!!! So many meals, so many visits, so many wonderful car trips to Illinois & Oconomowoc, so many restaurants, birthdays, anniversaries, and so many videos of these moments. It may be a while before we can watch those. At times, it felt like we were a package deal. If you get Buddy & Esther...you get Abbe, John, and Amanda too. Here is what I said yesterday.

My name is John Krahn, and Buddy Siegel has been a huge part of my life since I met his daughter Abbe in 1983.

As I sat down to put my thoughts to paper, I asked myself, "How do you encapsulate 99 years of living into a brief speech before those who knew and loved him so much?"

Buddy was many things to many people. He was:

- A devoted son,*
- An adored baby brother,*
- a favorite uncle to his many nieces and nephews,*
- a loving husband to Esther,*
- an amazing father to Lori and Abbe (and to me and Steve too),*
- a generous giver to countless charitable causes,*
- A friend and mentor to his co-workers at Standard Electric Supply Company,*
- The kind of person people looked forward to seeing when he attended services here at CBINT (his religious home from the very beginning).*

Knowing him the way I do, I can guarantee you that the one title he

enjoyed most was that of being "Grandpa Buddy". His love and adoration for Sarah, Rachael, Hana, and Amanda was obvious to all who knew him.

He was so incredibly proud of his 4 granddaughters from the day they were born to his being able to watch them blossom into the beautiful, successful women they are today. I could literally see the twinkle in his eyes when his girls were with him celebrating holidays, celebrations, and other special events. Even a phone call from them would fill him with joy.

Buddy was one to never complain. He always had a pleasant attitude and showed respect to everyone he met. What a great example he set for the rest of us. If you asked him how he was doing, he would always say he was doing fine or reply with his classic, "better than yesterday, not as good as tomorrow." If you knew he was physically hurting, you might get a, "I'm feeling a little bit of discomfort" response from him.

While living less than 10 minutes apart from your "HIGHLY ATTENTIVE IN-LAWS" for 33+ years presents a certain set of challenges, the happy memories of weekly Shabbos meals, annual Door County vacations, and just feeling loved will last a lifetime.

John Krahn - February 25, 2025 at 10:19 AM

AK

“ From the day I was born, my grandparents were an integral part of my life. I would tell my friends that I had two sets of parents. There was my mom & dad, and my grandpa & grandma. Some of my earliest memories are with my Grandpa Buddy. He instilled lifelong morals and ethics in me, such as sharing with friends, which becomes *QUITE* important when you are an only child. My Grandpa was highly involved in helping me find my Jewish identity. Weekly Friday night Shabbat dinners would not be complete without Grandpa’s version of kiddush, Grandma’s cooking, and Grandpa’s weekly assortment of desserts he would pick up at Sam’s Club or Costco. We called him our happy little shopper. He would spend *HOURS* in the store. Whether it was to find a moment of piece of quiet, or find the latest sweet treat, he always kept our dessert compartments of our bellies full, and our hearts warm.

Growing up, family vacations would not have been complete without my Grandpa Buddy or Grandma Esther. Door County, WI has become one of the most meaningful places to exist in the Midwest because of my grandparents. Wilson’s in Ephraim, or better know by my Grandpa Buddy as *E-fry-ahm*, was one of my Grandpa’s favorite spots for the lunch of champions, ice cream! He would order any combination of ice cream flavors that looked appetizing, even if shortly after ordering, he learned that he ordered not *ONE*, but *TWO* different ice cream creations. To none of our surprise, Grandpa Buddy had licked both bowls clean. Over the years, my grandparents would travel to Palm Desert, CA for 1-2 months and I was fortunate enough to get to visit them twice out there. As a 6 year old, my body could not quite adjust to central standard vs pacific time zones. At the ripe time of 6:00am, pacific standard time of course, Grandpa Buddy would have my bowl of cereal on the table, cartoons on the TV, and would be ready to color, swim, or even take me shopping later in the day, when Grandma was getting her hair done.

No matter what phase of life I was in, Grandpa Buddy was always able to relate to my current passions, dreams, and aspirations. He

drove me to Hebrew School every Sunday morning. As he pulled into our driveway in his large red boat-like Cadillac, we would all exclaim, "Captain Buddy is here!" We would talk, catch up on the events of the week, and sing to tunes on Radio Disney. At 10:00am as the morning minyan was wrapping up in the Jacobson Chapel, our kids service would begin shortly after. We would head downstairs to patiently wait outside the chapel doors for our service to begin, although when Grandpa Buddy was leading them, I would get to sneak in early. I would be SO proud and tell all of my friends, now that's MY Grandpa Buddy.

"I am better than yesterday, but not as good as tomorrow." A phrase that I will hold near and dear to my heart for as long as I live. Each day I will continue to remember that my Grandpa Buddy encouraged all of us to shoot for the stars and no dream was too big. The mark Grandpa Buddy made on my life will stay with me forever. I know he will be with me no matter where I go.

Amanda Krahn - February 25, 2025 at 06:59 AM

FS

“Buddy was a gentle soul, and it was a true pleasure to care for him. Some of my most cherished memories were our Fridays together- his shave day. He always said, Good job and that simple phrase meant so much to me. I had the privilege of shaving him one last time on Thursday. I will truly miss my dear friend. Faye.

Faye Stanley - February 24, 2025 at 02:39 PM

TY

“Buddy Siegel was a wonderful example in my life of how to treat people and always have a positive attitude. I had the honor of working with and for Buddy for over 20 years at Standard Electric and I cherish so many wonderful memories of working with him, traveling to industry meetings with he and Ester. At one meeting, my two daughters actually got to spend time with Buddy and Ester and it left a wonderful memory for both of them and continued for years as a gift always arrived around the holidays with wonderful chocolate which was a very special treat for the entire family. When attending these industry meetings with Buddy over the years, I would watch him carefully between the meetings as I knew he would always quietly sneak away to an ice cream store he had found earlier.....I would follow as often as possible to join him for the ice cream. At his retirement, we made arrangements to have the famous ice cream from my childhood from Cincinnati, OH, "Graeter's" air freighted in for the dessert at the company luncheon. I was so blessed to learn from Buddy during my years at Standard and tried to stay in touch with him as best I could after his retirement. What a tremendous example for all that know him.
Tim & Jan York

Tim York - February 24, 2025 at 01:26 PM

SS

“ Uncle Buddy was an extraordinarily loving and generous “big brother” to me, my sisters, and all of his nieces and nephews from the time he and my grandparents moved into the apartment above ours on Sherman Blvd. He had a permanent twinkle in his eye, and a smile on his face. From our first Siegel family Chanukah, he appeared with an armload of carefully chosen LP record albums and a silver dollar for each of us, passing them out one by one, a joyful Chanukah Claus, in the middle of our basement Rec room. Unforgettable! (I still have every one of those records and silver dollars.) Buddy was also an expert at choosing a bride, our adored and magnificent Aunt Esther, and was an exemplary, devoted husband and father while retaining his Joie de vivre until the very end. Only a few months ago, he requested that Lori and Steve give us all a spin around the lake on their pontoon boat. He was a lover of sports, of music, but most remarkably and unequivocally a beacon for me—and us—of loving kindness, humility, and stability in everything family, and especially everything Jewish: a Siddur at his side and a pun at hand. A warm word for everybody. He was my hero; I tried to marry a man just like him (balding included) . I feel blessed to have had an Uncle Buddy.



Susan Sherkow - February 22, 2025 at 11:58 AM