



Alan Brent Caplan

February 7, 1964 - July 4, 2018

Funeral services for Alan Brent Caplan will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, July 8, 2018, in the sanctuary of the Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim at 2021 Turner St. in Alexandria. Rabbi Raina Sirotky will officiate with Rabbi Emeritus Arnold Task assisting. A graveside service will follow at the Jewish Cemetery, Main Street, Pineville, under the direction of John Kramer & Son Funeral Home.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M., on Saturday, July 7, 2018, at Kramer Funeral Home. Visitation will resume from 12:00 P.M. until the time of service on Sunday, July 8, 2018, at the Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim.

Brent is preceded in death by David Caplan and Katie Fineman Caplan (great-grandparents); Abe and Jeannice Begnaud Caplan (grandparents), Lester I. Bloomenstiel, Sr (grandfather), Marvin L. Caplan (uncle) and Gene Safford Caplan (aunt); Jacque Segal Caplan (aunt).

Those left to cherish his memory include Stacey Stepp Caplan (wife); A. Ben Caplan (son), Sam L. Caplan (son); David and Norrine Bloomenstiel Caplan (parents), all of Alexandria, Louisiana; A. Marc Caplan of Baltimore, Maryland, and Donald Robert Caplan and his wife, Amanda Caplan of Highland Park, Illinois (brothers); Lillian H. Bloomenstiel (grandmother) of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Kyle, Connor, and Cole Debevec of Alexandria (stepsons); Tommy Stepp (father-in-law) and Betty Stepp (step-mother-in-law) of Ball, LA. Daryl Stepp (brother-in-law) and wife Stephanie (sister-in-law) of Denham Springs, LA and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Brent Caplan, a native and lifelong resident of Alexandria, Louisiana, has passed away following an almost year-long struggle with brain cancer. Brent was a loyal companion and compatriot. Everywhere he spent time, he made friends and had a wonderful knack for keeping up with them, even before online social networking. He attended First United Methodist Church kindergarten, Cherokee Elementary School, and J.B. Nachman Elementary School. He attended Brame Junior High School and Bolton High School,

where he graduated in 1982. He graduated from Louisiana State University in 1986 with a degree in Business Administration, and attended a summer program in Rome, Italy, conducted by Louisiana Tech University. After college Brent went to work in Baton Rouge at the Maison Blanche department store in the buying department and was promoted to men's clothing buyer. He returned home in 1991 to join the family business, CAPLAN'S, in time to celebrate its one-hundredth anniversary. The rest of his career was spent as a team leader there.

Brent was a man who believed in working hard to further what he felt was important. He served on many national professional organizations' committees and boards. Brent served on a committee of the National Retail Organization, the board of directors of the National Association of Uniform Manufacturers and Dealers, and on the board of Universal Unilink.

Brent loved Alexandria and participated in a number of civic activities. He served as president of the Downtown Alexandria Lion's Club. He chaired the Central Louisiana Better Business Bureau. He served as president of the board of directors of the Rapides Symphony Orchestra. He was a longtime member of the CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Foundation board of directors. Brent proudly served as president of the Central Louisiana Regional Chamber of Commerce. He served on the board of directors of The Central Louisiana Community Foundation. He also served on the Alexandria Housing Authority. Brent served several terms on the board of directors of the Jewish Temple, Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim.

He was a tireless businessman and a civic leader as well as a devoted husband, father, son, and brother. He will be remembered by all who knew him as a man at home in Cenla, a man who loved working with his parents in the family business, a man whose fondest pleasures were the music of Frank Sinatra, the original series of Star Trek, West Wing and Mad Men, the films of Mel Brooks, the books of Robert Caro and James Fenimore Cooper, and the baseball victories of the New York Yankees. Brent's life was as rich in happiness and contentment as it was short in years, and the blessings he received from a loving family and a congenial community were ones he passed on to everyone he met in kindness, respect, and affection. His memory endures and this too will remain a blessing for all who knew him.

Pallbearers honored to serve will be Connor Debevec, Andrew Bindursky, Duane Blackwell, Jonathan Ginsburgh, Aaron Ginsburgh and Jacques Roy. Honorary Pallbearers will be Tommy Antoon, Kyle Debevec and Cole Debevec.

The family requests memorials be made to the Endowment Fund Congregation Gemiluth

Chassodim, 2021 Turner St., Alexandria, LA 71301.

Cemetery

Events

Jewish Cemetery
Main Street
Pineville, LA, 71360

JUL 7 First Visitation 05:00PM - 08:00PM
Kramer Funeral Home
2905 Masonic Drive, Alexandria, LA, US, 71301

JUL 8 Second Visitation 12:00PM - 02:00PM
Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim
2021 Turner St, Alexandria, LA, US, 71301

JUL 8 Service 02:00PM
Congregation Gemiluth Chassodim
2021 Turner St, Alexandria, LA, US, 71301

Comments



“ Stacey very sad to hear of Brent's passing on behalf of myself and my family we send our heart felt prayers and condolences.

Gregory "Greg" Rachal Class of 82

Gregory "Greg" Rachal - August 08, 2018 at 12:59 AM



“ So sad to hear this news. Love to Noreen and David - cannot imagine your loss. Brent gave me my first job in college. He was a mix of hilarious and strict as a mentor. He enthusiastically worked around my college schedule and counseled for years after. He's recommended me for every job I've ever had. We so lucky to have worked for him, known him, and have been influenced forever by him. Much love.

Erin Cochran

Erin Cochran - July 17, 2018 at 09:08 PM



“ Mr. Caplan was a wonderful person. He was a big Johnny Carson fan and he loved the fact that I am from his hometown in Norfolk, NE. I had the pleasure of meeting him when I lived in Alexandria for a few years when I worked at Spirits. My thoughts and prayers go out to his friends and family. He will be missed.

LeAnn Baker

LeAnn Baker - July 12, 2018 at 11:57 PM



“ Donald -
Sending Thoughts & Prayers to you & your Family.

Karen Butter Phillips

Karen Butter Phillips - July 10, 2018 at 03:44 PM



“ So sorry to for your lost of a great man and guy. I love to talk to Brent when I would go to Caplan's. He all ways made me feel like I was at home and just at ease getting what I wanted and needed. I really like Brent and He remembered you out of the store to. mat he RIP GOD BLESS.

David Mayfield - July 10, 2018 at 10:36 AM



“ Rest in Peace Abe

Randy Chenevert - July 09, 2018 at 01:42 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time.
-Michael Silver

Michael - July 09, 2018 at 10:48 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Brent's passing. He was a great person. Friendly to everyone. Met him in Junior high and throughout the years he remained the same friendly person. He will be greatly missed. Edna Morris and family.



Edna Morris - July 08, 2018 at 02:56 PM



“ Norrine and David,
We wish we were there to tell you how much we feel for you. We hate that this happened, and that we knew nothing about it. Please know that our love and prayers are with you.
Hope we will see you on one of our visits back home.

In love,
Frances and Nippy

Frances Blair - July 07, 2018 at 11:28 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Alan Brent Caplan.



July 07, 2018 at 08:35 PM



“ Our prayers and thoughts are with the Caplan family during this sad time.

Sherwin & Cynthia Juneau
Marksville, La.

Sherwin & Cynthia Juneau - July 07, 2018 at 11:23 AM



“ THE SHIP OF LIFE

by John T. Baker

Along the shore I spy a ship
As she sets out to sea;
She spreads her sails and sniffs the breeze
And slips away from me.

I watch her fading image shrink,
As she moves on and on,
Until at last she's but a speck,
Then someone says, "She's gone."

Gone where? Gone only from our sight
And from our farewell cries;
That ship will somewhere reappear
To other eager eyes.

Beyond the dim horizon's rim
Resound the welcome drums,
And while we're crying, "There she goes!"
They're shouting, "Here she comes!"

We're built to cruise for but a while
Upon this trackless sea
Until one day we sail away
Into infinity.

Our condolences,

Jennifer and Darryl Aguilar

Jennifer Aguilar - July 07, 2018 at 11:14 AM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Alan Brent Caplan.



July 07, 2018 at 10:56 AM



“ I met Brent at a conference I was attending with Stacey. I was so happy that my dear friend had found such a sweet, fun, happy and loving mate. I wish I would have gotten to know Brent more. I will miss his New Yorker comic strips on Facebook!

My prayers for Stacey and all of the family during this sad time. May God hold you, comfort you and strengthen you.

Mary Swiggum

Mary Swiggum - July 07, 2018 at 08:31 AM



“ Stacey,
Prayers for you, the boys and the entire family.

Hugs,
Susan Gremillion West

Susan Gremillion West - July 07, 2018 at 04:25 AM



“ Such shocking and tragic news to learn of Brent's passing.

I had the great pleasure to work closely with Brent on his promotional sales at Caplans. From the first time we met, when he and David laid out the detailed blueprints of the new Caplans store he was designing, I immediately recognized the intellect, the workmanship, the retail acumen, the passion and the vision of this

extraordinary man.

We developed a personal as well as business relationship. Brent was as good a person as I've ever known; his kindheartedness, his humor, his bold sense of purpose and accomplishment, along with his deep-seated feelings of family, community and Jewish heritage. I often joked half-kiddingly how Brent would be the ideal candidate for the Democratic governor of Louisiana one day.

And during good times and bad, I welcomed and appreciated Brent's willingness to offer his friendship and sound advice whenever needed.

To learn of his battle with brain cancer these last ten months is a painful reminder of the fragility of our lives and of our need to make each and every day we have count. Brent's years were far too few, but he will be remembered as a good and kind man whose qualities we can emulate.

My deepest condolences to the entire Caplan family on this sad, sad occasion. May the joy of Brent's life be a blessing to all.

Rick Natelson

Rick Natelson - July 06, 2018 at 05:21 PM



“ Mr.david and me. Noreen and family my deepest sympathy and love and prayers.
Fabius Didier

FABIUS DIDIER - July 06, 2018 at 02:58 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alan Brent Caplan.



July 06, 2018 at 01:15 PM



“ With sincerest sympathy....Nancy Smilie

Nancy Smilie - July 06, 2018 at 11:24 AM



“ Brent was always a true supporter and a realist when it came to his opinion(which is rare).He was truly first class from the moment I met him and a true gentleman as well. The community has truly lost an amazing spirit. It's been awhile since we've seen each other, but I I've always and admired your values, vision and family love. My condolences to the Caplan family.

Rest well Brent.....
Horatio Isadore

horatio isadore - July 06, 2018 at 11:12 AM



“ The world has lost a gentle & kind soul & is poorer for it.
Our heartfelt sympathies to all who loved Brent,
Tom & Daphne Robinson

Tom & Daphne Robinson - July 06, 2018 at 12:49 PM



“ Deepest sympathy to all his family and friends.

Pauline Hicks - July 06, 2018 at 09:47 AM



“ Stacey and family,

I discovered a quote from a woman named Jamie Anderson that has helped me try to wrap my heart and my mind around times like this. I'd like to share it with you as you celebrate Brent's life.

"Grief, I've learned is really just love. It's all the love you want to give, but cannot. All that unspent love gathers up in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, or in that hollow of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go."

My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Bob Clinkingbeard

BOB CLINKINGBEARD - July 06, 2018 at 09:37 AM



“ My most sincere condolences to the Caplan family. While I wasn't friends with Brent, I have known his family for many years. I can't remember a time when when someone from the Caplan family wasn't involved in giving back to the community. It's a wonderful legacy which I'm sure he has passed on to his sons. My heart aches that

you lost him so young.

Elizabeth Ward - July 06, 2018 at 07:40 AM



“ Our hearts are full of sadness for you and your family. Polly and Dan Henderson

Polly Henderson - July 06, 2018 at 12:26 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Alan Brent Caplan.



July 06, 2018 at 12:21 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Brent's passing.He was a fine young man and a friend to all who knew him. He will be sorely missed.....Harry Gross

Harry Gross - July 05, 2018 at 10:45 PM



“ We always loved coming into Caplan's for school uniforms. Sure we needed school clothes, but it was really about community. Brent always met us at the door with a smile, and figured out our needs no matter how crazy the kids were being. We caught up on family and friends. He exuded a genuine kindness I will always remember, and he will be greatly missed. What a sweet soul

kristine Antoon - July 05, 2018 at 08:57 PM



“ Gone way to soon. RIP Brent. You will remembered as a person if giving of yourself to so many needs and causes. Prayers for your family.

Zelda M. Beall - July 05, 2018 at 11:31 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alan Brent Caplan.



July 05, 2018 at 08:38 PM



“ If adulthood is when humankind bursts forth from Mother Earth like a new bloom, then our childhood friends are the roots that lift us up and give us the grit to rise. Brent is there, in my happiest childhood memories, he and Andrew. Impressing us with his smarts, making us laugh with his boyhood wit and making us smile with that grin. From 1st United Methodist Kindergarten to Brame Jr High ~ Brent was there, a part of my roots, a part of my tribe. I'm proud to have known him and to have watched him grow into the man he became. He was a gift. My most sincere condolences are with you all.

Bobbie Long Vinson - July 05, 2018 at 07:45 PM



“ I knew Brent when I worked at caplans in the late 70's and early 80's. We loved to talk about the Jewish and catholic faiths. I saw him about a month ago amd he still had his wonderful smile. He always asked if i was ready to come back to work. “They needed a head cashier.” Love and prayers to all of the caplan family

kelly ducote - July 05, 2018 at 07:33 PM



“ המקום ינחם אתכם
בתוך שאר אבלי
ציון וירושלים

May the Almighty comfort you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

LB - July 05, 2018 at 06:54 PM



“ Ben,

We are so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our prayers.

The Kuykendall Family

Tracey Kuykendall - July 05, 2018 at 06:15 PM



“ Kathy and I wish we could be with you to celebrate the life of a truly remarkable man. Our lives are richer because of Brent and all of you. Shalom

Don and Kathy White

P DONALD WHITE JR - July 05, 2018 at 06:15 PM



“ Deepest sympathy to all. Brent's life makes life so much better for so many. Brent's joy and constant smile is a wonderful gift to all. He made me a better person.

LB - July 05, 2018 at 06:05 PM



“ Brent and I grew up together, his favorite memory to reminisce was when my parents had a New Years party, he asked my mother to dance and she accepted. Live long and prosperous my friend



Mary Bordelon - July 05, 2018 at 05:07 PM



“ There are just no words to ease this pain and loss. Brent was a wonderful person that was always fun to be around.

My hope is that you all can find the gifts that come from this. Peace be with you all.

Deda Richardson

Deda Richardson - July 05, 2018 at 06:04 PM



“ I am so terribly sorry for your loss.

May peace and strength carry you through this difficult journey.

Christy Blackstone & Family

christy blackstone - July 06, 2018 at 05:57 AM



“ Very sorry to hear this. I lived in Central Louisiana for many years, and thinking back I knew Brent in many ways. I was his customer in his store, and he was great at helping you find the right suit, the right tie, at asking you just the right question to find what you needed, always jovial in the process. I knew him when I was a reporter and chatted with him many times about local business and business trends and just in passing here or there about many topics. He was bright, funny, courteous and a true gentleman. My deepest sympathies to the Caplan family.

Sidney Williams - July 05, 2018 at 05:00 PM



“ The Caplan Family has always been very generous to the community. I remember David and Ed provided new Band Uniforms to Brame Jr High, 71-72 school year. We were sharp. Navy Blue slacks with a crease that could cut, powder blue blazers. White shirts.

My prayers and condolences to all of the extended Caplan Family

Mark Hoffman
Plantation Acres, 1963-2004

From Bonifay Florida now.

Mark Hoffman - July 05, 2018 at 04:48 PM



“ Prayers to the Caplan family. Your family shall forever be remembered by mine family. Sweet memories Otis Washington and Ronnie O Washington Sr., Cynthia W Washington and Sons.

Cynthia W Washington - July 05, 2018 at 08:24 PM



“ My thoughts are with the family and friends of Brent Caplan. Alissa Willet - close family memeber

Lauree Willet - July 05, 2018 at 04:28 PM



“ I first met Brent when I became editor of MR magazine in 1990 and he was one of the most well-respected independent store retailers in the industry. He was handsome, charming, always well-dressed and articulate, very insightful on industry issues and also quite funny. We quoted Brent often in the magazine and his candid remarks and honest assessment of the state of retailing helped put MR on the map. Along with everyone in the men's fashion industry who knew him, I will truly miss my

friend Brent. Much love to all the Caplans, a wonderful family that I've had the pleasure to know for almost 30 years!

Karen Alberg Grossman - July 05, 2018 at 04:25 PM



“ Praying for the family. Adrica Price(Brame Middle School)

Adrica Price - July 05, 2018 at 04:23 PM



“ Brent and I were Facebooks friends as he probably was with so many other people and we knew each other, but I am sad to say that we were not close friends. I wish that I could state that we were as it was very obvious what a nice person he was. I was able to watch him love and nurture his two sons from the sidelines, first at Rapides Parish Library where I was Children's Librarian/Programmer and later at The TREE House where I was a board member and volunteer. He was a wonderful father and my heart goes out to them and the rest of the family. I was delighted to hear when he remarried as he looked so happy with Stacey and I just wish that they would have had many more years together. The Grant family lost a cousin to the same cancer about a year and a half ago and I was worried when I read that he was suffering from it. I will be thinking about all of the family and holding you all in my prayers.

Lois Grant

Lois Grant - July 05, 2018 at 04:16 PM



“ What a beautiful person Brent was. It was a blessing to have known him. I will miss him always. My heart goes out to his entire family.

Liz Silverman - July 05, 2018 at 02:39 PM



“ When my husband and boys and I met Brent at the synagogue in Alexandria in 2003, we asked him how "Kosher" exactly was it and what would we "really" bring to the potluck. He looked at us and said, "Well, I wouldn't bring pigs in a blanket...." This quickly became one of our catch phrases. We shared this story with our other Jewish friends who asked what it was like in rural Louisiana. I kept in contact with Brent via Facebook all these years. I am so very sorry for all of his family, especially for Sam who is so young. God bless all of the Caplans.

Jennifer Lear - July 05, 2018 at 02:33 PM



“ My heart goes out to his family. I had the pleasure of working with Brent early in his apparel career. He was kind , talented and giving. May he rest in peace. Tim O'Connell

Tim O'Connell - July 05, 2018 at 01:54 PM