SALTZMAN, ABRAHAM

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PROVIDENCE

SALTZMAN, MD, ABRAHAM died May 14, 2011 in Providence, Rhode Island at the age of 91. Husband of Ruth Saltzman for 63 ½ years, Abraham was born March 7, 1920 in New York City to the late Samuel and Anna Lieberson Saltzman.



His early life was strongly influenced by his beloved and industrious uncle, Dr. Frank Lieberson, who nurtured his interest in science and medicine and his highly principled, progressive (and vegetarian) parents who encouraged his natural generosity, tolerance and fairness. Abe, as he was affectionately known by all, matriculated from New York University in 1940 with Phi Beta Kappa honors. After receiving his M.D. degree from SUNY Downstate in 1944, he completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital.

He met his wife and life-long partner, Ruth (Robinson) in the reading room of the Hospital library in 1947; they married 7 months later. His long career included research, teaching, and caring for patients, his true passion. His medical interests were varied, ranging from studying the comparative shoulder anatomy of mammals to continuous extracorporeal dialysis. After moving to Rhode Island to practice in 1950, he received the first NIH research grant in the state for developing clinically meaningful biochemical assays. Always intellectually curious and motivated by the highest ethical standards, Abraham was loved by his patients and staff alike. Dr. Saltzman worked at the Rhode Island and Miriam Hospitals in Providence throughout his 50 years in private practice, retiring at the age of 80 while still vigorous.

Abraham's favorite pastimes included playing the violin (he played a multitude of instruments and played the bass violin in many local orchestras), listening to the music made by his wife Ruth, a professional harpist, reading, photography, investing and being with his family, especially during the