SPILKA,
Dr. Mark

PJB 3-15-01

**SPILKA, Mark**

March 15, 2001. Beloved husband of Shelly Regenbaum Spilka. Residence: 294 Doyle Ave., Providence. Dear father of Jane Eckelmann, Providence; Rachel Spilka, Milwaukee, WI and Aaron Spilka, Pawtucket. Caring Step-father of Betsy Farnum, Lincoln; Polly Fraga, Philadelphia, PA, Shir Regenbaum, Bedford, NH; and Livi Regenbaum, Lawrence, KS. Loving brother of the late Jack Spilka. Devoted grandfather of Rahel and Zahara Spilka. Funeral Service 11 AM Tuesday at the SUGARMAN-SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL, 458 Hope St, Providence. Relatives and friends are invited. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to your favorite charity. Shiva will be observed at his late residence Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday 11 AM-1PM & 8-11 PM; Friday 11 AM-1PM and Saturday 8-11 PM.

# Brown Prof. Mark Spilka, 75; author, distinguished scholar

PROVIDENCE — Mark Spilka, 75, of Doyle Avenue, a former English professor at Brown University, and a published author, died Thursday at Miriam Hospital.

He was the husband of Shelly Regenbaum Spilka. Born in Cleveland, a son of the late Harvey and Zella (Fenberg) Spilka, he had lived in Rhode Island since 1963.

Mr. Spilka graduated magna cum laude from Brown in 1949, and received his master's degree and Ph.D. from Indiana University.

In 1967, he became a professor at Brown, previously working as an associate professor. In 1990, he was designated the Israel J. Kapstein Professor of English. He served as chairman of the English department from 1968 to 1973, and was the director in 1974 for the National Endowment for Humanities summer seminar. In 1974-1975, he served as president of the Conference Editors of Learned Journals and the Modern Language Association.

A published author, his works included critical studies of D.H. Lawrence, Ernest Hemingway and Charles Dickens. He also was an editor for various essays and books, and for the periodical Novel: A Forum on Fiction.

He had previously worked as an editorial assistant with American Mercury, and as an instructor and, later, as an assistant professor at the University of Michigan.

Mr. Spilka had been a visiting professor at the Graduate Institute of Modern Letters at the University of Tulsa, at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel, and at Indiana University.

He was named a Harry T. Moore Distinguished D.H. Lawrence Scholar, an Indiana School Letters Fellow, a Guggenheim Fellow, and a National Endowment for Humanities Fellow.

He was a member of MLA, serving as president of the Dickens Society, AAUP, and Phi Beta Kappa.

He served in the Army Air Forces from 1944 to 1946.

He was a member of Temple Emanu-El, and celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at the age of 63. He was involved with the Brother to Brother program as a counselor to male batterers.

Besides his wife, he leaves two daughters, Jane Eckelmann of Providence and Rachel Spilka of Milwaukee, Wis.; a son, Aaron Spilka of Pawtucket; four stepchildren, Betsy Farnum of Lincoln, Polly Fraga of Philadelphia, Shir Regenbaum of Bedford, N.H., and Livi Regenbaum of Lawrence, Kan.; and two grandchildren. He was the brother of the late Jack Spilka.

The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 11 a.m. in Sugarman-Sinai Memorial Chapel, 458 Hope St.