



Elaine Ephraim Lebowitz

February 21, 1925 - November 23, 2023

Elaine Lebowitz, longtime resident of Austin, passed away peacefully at home on November 23, 2023. At 98, she was still a vibrant, caring woman, and she will be greatly missed.

Elaine was born and raised in Plaquemine, Louisiana, a small town across the Mississippi from Baton Rouge. An only child, Elaine was known for being mischievous and extremely intelligent. She attended LSU on an academic scholarship and was an active member of Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority. After graduating with a degree in biology, she moved to New York City, where she lived with her aunt and worked in radiology. Shortly after she returned to Plaquemine, she visited cousins in Waco, where she met Leon Lebowitz, then a young law professor at Baylor University. They married in 1948 and moved in 1956 to Austin, where Leon began his long tenure as a professor at the UT School of Law. Elaine and Leon were married 72 years.

Elaine filled many roles in her adult life: mother of two, faculty wife, x-ray technician, Volunteer Coordinator for the Travis County Probation Department, proofreader in the Texas Legislature's Engrossing and Enrolling Division, and volunteer for numerous organizations. She was especially active in the League of Women Voters and was a fervent, lifelong supporter of progressive causes. Elaine was also an avid bridge player, continuing to play well into her 90s. She loved being a grandmother and great-grandmother.

Elaine and Leon were members of Congregation Beth Israel for more than 60 years. During that time, Elaine served on the Board of Trustees, was active in Sisterhood, and taught Religious School. She joined one of the first Adult B'Nai Mitzvah classes and became a Bat Mitzvah in her 70's, reading Hebrew with her unique South Louisiana accent. She and Leon rarely missed a Temple event.

Leon sang his last love song to Elaine in 2020. Her son, Brian Lebowitz, passed away in March of 2023. Elaine is survived by her daughter, Amy Greenspan and her husband

Donny; daughter-in-law Lise Goldman; grandson Adam Greenspan and his fiancée Shannon Scott; granddaughter Gina Manlove and her husband Kyle; granddaughter Samantha Goldman; and great-grandchildren Nelly and Miles Manlove. She was fortunate to have the loving care of wonderful caregivers over the years, and the family extends special thanks to Lena, Aida, Judy, and Xochitl.

In March of 2023, Elaine established the Elaine and Leon Lebowitz Eldercare Fund, in association with the Shalom Austin Jewish Foundation, to assist seniors in the community with housing needs. Contributions in her memory may be made to that fund, to Congregation Beth Israel, the Leon and Elaine Lebowitz Endowed Presidential Scholarship at UT Law, or the worthy cause of your choice.

A live stream of the service will appear on the Austin Natural Funerals Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AustinNaturalFunerals> a few minutes before the service begins. A Facebook account is not required to watch. If a pop-up window appears asking you to log in click "not now" and the live stream will be available for you to watch. If the "not now" button does not appear, scroll down on the page and it will come up for you to select.

Previous Events

Computer Accessible Graveside Service

NOV 26. 2:00 PM (CT)

Austin Natural Funerals Facebook Page
<http://facebook.com/austinnaturalfunerals>

A live stream will appear on the Austin Natural Funerals Facebook page a few minutes before 2 PM. A Facebook account is not required to watch. If a pop-up window appears asking you to log in click "not now" and the live stream will be available for you to watch. If the "not now" button does not appear, scroll down on the page and it will come up for you to select.

Graveside Service

NOV 26. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Capital Parks Cemetery
14501 North Interstate Hwy 35
Pflugerville, TX 78860

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Service Recording



Austin Natural Funerals - November 27, 2023 at 10:37 AM

RF

My mother passed away on November 15, 2023– a few weeks before Elaine. I believe my mother and Elaine were good friends. I was taking care of my mom in Houston. My mom was 94. I'm sorry for your loss. Robin Muhlbauer Fleschler. My mom was Marilyn Muhlbauer z"l

Robin Fleschler - August 09, 2024 at 09:42 PM

LG

“ *Amy. Your mother was a force. So strong. So kind. Such a big heart. Our love goes out to you and your family.*

Laurie Gass - November 26, 2023 at 05:53 PM

NS

“ *Amy and Donny, along with your whole family, I am deeply saddened by Elaine's passing. She was a force of nature. I realized, as i looked at the pictures Gina posted, how much she looked like her cousin, Pauline, my grandmother. More like sisters than first cousins. Elaine was our last direct link to Plaquemine. She was a bridge between generations being 15 years younger than Pauline, but only 9 years older than my dad, David. He was extremely fond of her, their bond cemented forever when she told him his first "dirty" joke.*



My family joins me in sending love to all of you at this sad time. May her memory always be a blessing for all of us.

With love, your Santa Fe cousin, Nancy Solzman

Nancy Solzman - November 26, 2023 at 06:33 AM



Sending love to the whole family. May her memory be a blessing to all of us now, and always

Andrea Solzman - November 26, 2023 at 02:01 PM

NW

Amy and family, reading about Elaine's wonderful life takes me back to days of raising 2 young children in the 80's next door to your parents on Cascadera. Your mother was a kind and caring neighbor who reminded me every winter to appreciate not having to bundle my children up in snow suits and mittens to go outside. Leon's whistling with opened window filled our backyard with beautiful music.

After I moved away, I was delighted to see them again from time to time when we both cared for family members at The Renaissance.

What a blessing it is to have had good parents. Yours were very proud of you, Brian and your families. Nancy Whitworth Spong

nancy whitworth - November 26, 2023 at 06:00 PM

LS

“ *Please accept my heartfelt condolences to your family during this challenging time. The inability to visit my second home weighs heavily on me. For more than fifty years, the journey down the road to your house filled me with immense joy. Serving your family was both an honor and a tremendous source of happiness in my life.*



Lena Shaw (Caregiver)

Lena Shaw - November 25, 2023 at 02:22 PM

GR

Lena, you will always be a treasured part of our family. There's no way we can thank you enough for everything you've done over the years for my parents and the whole Lebowitz clan. We love you.

greenspans - November 25, 2023 at 10:09 PM



“ 19 files added to the album Elaine



Gina Manlove - November 25, 2023 at 10:01 AM

GN

Such beautiful pictures of a beautiful life. We all loved her and Leon very much.

Glynda Neuwirth - November 26, 2023 at 09:44 AM

X(

“ *I would like to give my sincere condolences to Mrs Elaine’s family. It was a pleasure working with Elaine she brought so much peace to my heart being around her. She would always tell me “you’re so proficient with everything you do”. She would also make me feel appreciated when she would say I won’t see you until next Thursday??? I’d say nope not until Thursday!!!! And I’d then say I’ll be looking forward to seeing you then and she’d chuckle a bit and say ok. I’m gonna really miss her. It’s gonna take a bit of time for me to adjust to not seeing her again. She will truly be missed* ❤️💔🙏

Xochitl Mitchell (caregiver) - November 24, 2023 at 11:06 PM



Thank you Xochitl for all the care and patience and love you gave to Elaine. We appreciate it so much. Thank you for sharing your kind words and memories. Love, Gina

Gina Manlove - November 25, 2023 at 10:42 AM