

AZKARAH: Jack Gottlieb (1930-2011)

Composer – Author – Editor – Arranger – Conductor –
Teacher – Mentor – Pianist – Lecturer and Professor of
Sacred Music – Musician and FRIEND.

Jack Gottlieb, our beloved honorary ACC and GTM member died in February 2011. Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion-School of Sacred Music bestowed an honorary doctorate in celebration of Jack's 80th birthday this past year. Jack received his BA from Queens College, NY, an MFA from Brandeis University and a DMA from the University of Illinois.

Synagogue composer Max Helfman, his first mentor, was the one to inspire him to write sacred music. Jack also studied with Aaron Copland at the Berkshire Music Center.

From 1958 to 1966, he was Leonard Bernstein's assistant at the New York Philharmonic.

In 1967 his sacred service, Love Songs for Sabbath, was performed in St. Paul, MN, and is preserved on the Milken Archive/Naxos recordings along with six of Jack's other choral works.

From 1973-77 he was the first full-time professor of music at the HUC-JIR-SSM.

In 1977 he re-joined the Bernstein Office, Inc., (then called Amberson Productions) as the publications director, and was a consultant for the Bernstein estate, at the time of his death.

Jack was named by the New York Philharmonic as the Leonard Bernstein Scholar-in-Residence for this 2010-2011 season.

He was past president of the American Society for Jewish Music and received numerous awards, most recently from the Zamir Choral Foundation "in recognition of his lifetime contributions to Jewish music." Among his compositions are Songs of Godlove.

Jack's published books include *Working with Bernstein*, a memoir and *Funny, It Doesn't Sound Jewish: How Yiddish Songs and Synagogue Melodies Influenced Tin Pan Alley, Broadway and Hollywood* and they have both received rave reviews nationwide.

Jack wished there be no public funeral. Those in the New York area marked his passing by attending services at

Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York in March 2011 where his music was performed by Cantor Lori Corrsin, GTM member organist Scott Warren and the Emanu-El choir. A sermon that Jack was to deliver was also read.

Plans call for a memorial concert marking his first *Yahrzeit* in 2012.

May Jack's name and memory be for a blessing.

Good-bye dear friend.

Read and submitted by:

Dr. Jayson Rodovsky and Cantor Joshua Breitzer