

In Memoriam: Darryl Feldman '69

Tributes from the Phi Epsilon Pi Fraternity Brothers



DARRYL FELDMAN
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Honor Society/ Varsity
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It is hard to believe that we recently lost our friend and fraternity brother, Darryl Feldman. In college, Darryl's nickname was Moses because he wore a full beard and was Queens College's shot putter. Looking back, the nickname was even more appropriate because it defined who Darryl was. He was wise, kind, a leader and a big-hearted man who I can't imagine ever said a bad word about anyone.

I met Darryl in 1967 as both a Phi Epsilon Pi pledge and through my short-term participation with Queens College's Field Team. Darryl was given the unfortunate responsibility of trying to teach me how to throw the shot. He might have been nicknamed Moses, but he wasn't the miracle worker. Like everything else Darryl did, he treated his failed prodigy with kindness and wisdom. With a kind giggle, he gently shared with me the obvious—that my future was not with the shot.

The past 50 years of knowing Darryl was consistent with the four years of knowing him at QC. Whenever I had a personnel problem, my go-to was to call Darryl for wisdom or a referral. I foolishly thought his willingness to give of his time was unique to me; boy, was I wrong. At a recent Phi Epsilon Pi dinner, I realized what I should already have known: Darryl was there for everyone. There was a table full of us sharing stories about how Darryl was there for us when we needed him.

Among the things I have learned from Darryl's passing is how fleeting our time together is and how important our friendships are. Thank you, Darryl, for being my friend and fraternity brother. There will be an empty seat at the next Phi Epsilon Pi dinner that will never be able to be properly filled.

Bob Jacobs '70

Still in shock from Darryl's sudden departure As kids we would meet at a certain corner and walk to school together typically, he would be unreliable to show up on time, so the deal was I waited until a certain time and left without him he wasn't someone who arrived early. Now I wish he had waited a bit longer before leaving us.

He was always the most concerned and caring friend ready to help others any way he could. He spent his life doing just that. He was very active in the Suffolk County Psychological Association, taught in the graduate programs at Adelphi, mentored many, had a 40-plus-year private practice, and was very involved in treating and comforting first responders and their families after 9-11. A man devoted to his family as were his parents who also left way too soon.

I was surprised to learn that many of our fraters did not know of Darryl's athletic background high school football, basketball, and track (where he set the school shot put record). He continued as an adult and even ran in several marathons and finally I will miss his wild laugh!

Jay Neuschatz '69

Daryl was a great listener. A true friend. Always willing to give aid and comfort. A person whose sensitivities were greatly enhanced by his intellect. You could open up your world to him in good times and bad. I was the child of Holocaust survivors and on many occasions, he would refer information from all media to me. I will miss him terribly, a great loss.

Harry Rubinstein '69