



## Stanley Greenstein

February 1, 2020

Both county executives made Newsday's 50 Who Run Long Island list. As did town supervisors, the region's top prosecutors, political party bosses, a future U.S. senator and the bishop of Rockville Centre.

Mortgage broker Stanley Greenstein made the list too, each time it was published in the 1970s.

Greenstein — who died Feb. 1 at 91 at the Calvary Hospital hospice in the Bronx, said his son-in-law, Justin Meyers — was part of “a smooth network of five men whose firms have a basic lock on the Island's market,” Newsday wrote in 1974, the first time Greenstein made the list.

The firm he would eventually take over, the Seldin Organization, started in 1900 and has processed and placed more than \$1 billion in financing for the metropolitan area in condominiums as well as developments since 1945, according to the firm's website.

The Seldin Organization “puts together condominium applications and construction financing for builders, working as middle men with the banks,” Newsday wrote in the 1974 article.

He also lobbied Albany on behalf of brokers' interests, helped veterans get mortgages, and helped lead the Long Island Builders Institute, the New York State Builders Association as well as other organizations.

“Greenstein has managed to maintain power through expansion of interests. One successful venture has been to set up financing for condominium conversions,” Newsday wrote in 1978, the second time the list came out. “For

instance, if a Great Neck apartment house owner finds that his expenses exceed profits from rental increases, he might consider converting his building into a condominium project.”

In 1967, Greenstein helped move the firm's office from Jamaica, Queens, to Valley Stream, “following its customers to where they are ... the mortgage action today is moving steadily eastward,” *Newsday* wrote at the time. “Now the center of activity has shifted to Long Island,” he told *Newsday* in the article.

Greenstein first came to the firm in the 1950s. He had put an ad in the newspaper seeking work, and Seldin answered and hired him. He later became a partner and bought the others out in the late 1960s.

Stanley Greenstein, who also went by Stan, was born Feb. 28, 1928, to Louis Greenstein, who owned a men’s apparel firm and invested in real estate, and May [Safferstone] Greenstein, a homemaker. He was born at the couple’s house in the Bronx, on Harrison Avenue, and raised in the borough, the youngest of three children. The family, of Lithuanian and German ancestry, were Orthodox Jews.

He graduated in 1945 from DeWitt Clinton High School. In 1949 Greenstein graduated from what is now New York University’s Leonard N. Stern School of Business.

Between 1946 and 1947, he served in the Army, earning the rank of sergeant, according to military paperwork provided by Meyers, the chief of staff for the Suffolk County district attorney, Timothy Sini.

Greenstein held entry level jobs in advertising in New York City and worked on the account for Lucky Strike cigarettes.

A *Newsday* article published on Aug. 25, 1967, highlights Stanely Greenstein, who was a mortgage broker.

He moved to East Meadow in 1956 with his first wife, Gloria Greenstein, whom he married in 1952, to raise their children in the suburbs and for business opportunities, Meyers said. The couple separated in 1975 and

divorced in 1978.

Later that year, he married Jane Ellen Holfelder. The two met at his firm and she later became his partner there and continues to operate it.

In addition to his wife, Jane, he is survived by his children, Mark Greenstein, of West Hartford, Connecticut; Gail Greenstein of Maplewood, New Jersey; Gary Greenstein of Bethesda, Maryland; Scott Greenstein of Harrington Park, New Jersey and Tracey A.G. Meyers of Babylon.

His older siblings, Jerome I. Greenstein and Florence Kiehn, predeceased him, as did his daughter Lori Greenstein, who died in 1961.

His funeral and burial were Feb. 4 at Beth El Cemetery in Paramus, New Jersey. The family declined to provide a cause of death.

# Cemetery Details

## **Beth El Cemetery**

735 Forest Avenue  
Paramus , NJ 07652

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stanley Greenstein*

November 16, 2022 at 07:31 PM



“ *Uncle Stanley sent me a telegram when I won class president in 5th grade. Christa Ulich*

**Christa Contos** - February 09, 2020 at 05:00 PM



“ *Dear Jane , scott, Tracey,, Gloria, gail,Gary, Mark and family, Stan the man was a wonderful person, funny, energetic and caring. So sorry he has passed. God bless him. We will miss him. With love and dearest sympathy. Barbara. Therese and Justin. Sorry we could not be there*

**Barbara. Therese and Justin** - February 04, 2020 at 07:05 PM



“ *I loved Stanley. He was a kind, caring, intelligent man. I remember his smile, his laugh, and most of all his sense of fairness. The times I spent with him and Jane at their home, are some of my fondest memories. God speed Stanley. You will be greatly missed because you were so greatly loved.  
Marion aka Aunt Tiger*

**Marion Holfelder** - February 04, 2020 at 11:21 AM

MH

“ I loved Stanley. He was a kind, caring, intelligent man. I remember his smile, his laugh, and most of all his sense of fairness. The times I spent with him and Jane at their home, are some of my fondest memories. God speed Stanley. You will be greatly missed because you were greatly loved.  
Marion aka Aunt Tiger

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Marion Holfelder - February 04, 2020 at 10:54 AM

LL

“ Dear Aunt Jane and family,

*I was outside thinking about what to say and a flock of geese flew overhead; it was beautiful!*

*I know it is a tremendously sad time for you.*

*Just knowing Uncle Stan was a gift! He was the most genuine person I have ever known!*

*Once you were in his heart you never left it and he let you know it.*

*He gave me some advise a few times. He would say "It's always better to do something than nothing." I don't know, it made sense to me. I constantly say it to my children and I will more than likely say it to my grandchildren. Just a piece of solid advice that I will never forget.*

*Words cannot express how wonderful a man he was or how saddened we are. He will be truly missed and guiding us from above.*

*All our love and sympathy*

*Lisa, Rachel and Eve Levy*

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Lisa Levy - February 03, 2020 at 06:16 PM

LH

“ Stanley was a special man. He loved his family to no end, was extremely intelligent and caring and was always willing to inconvenience himself to help others. He treated me as if I were one of his own. He was gentle in giving advice and yet comfortable in speaking the truth.  
I will miss him and can still hear him saying a a big hello.

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**Larry Holfelder** - February 03, 2020 at 02:50 PM

MH

“ Stanley always had a sense of humor. I loved that about him. When I was young I never watched the news & he poked fun at me asking who was the Vice President? It always gave me a chuckle. He was always warm & kind to me but he had the most generous spirit & always made you feel loved & welcome every time I visited. I am truly going to miss him, he was a wonderful man but I do know one day I will see him in heaven probably talking finances with everyone there. Lol - my love to my sister Jane who faithfully took care of her husband when it was overwhelming difficult & hard to do. Only God gave her the strength & glad she was able to endure such great difficulty for many years. Peace to the Greenstein family & know Stan is in the arms of our Lord. Love to all. Marilyn Hales

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**Marilyn Holfelder Hales** - February 03, 2020 at 09:16 AM

MS

“ Stanley was the most amazing kind caring person I ever knew he was a wonderful friend dad and husband he will be missed maria

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**M Strocchia** - February 02, 2020 at 07:31 PM