



# "47" Alumni Newsletter

"47" Alumni Association of the Deaf, Inc.  
(P.S. 47/J.H.S 47/J47)  
225 East 23<sup>rd</sup> Street – Room 216  
New York, NY 10010



E-mail: [alumni47@aol.com](mailto:alumni47@aol.com)

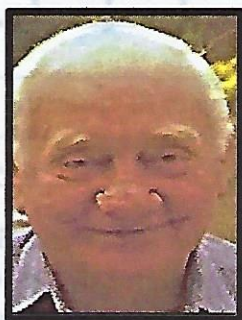
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## *Norman Finkelstein '40*

July 5, 1923 – March 12, 2019

The passing of our esteemed alumni Norman Finkelstein on March 12, 2019 was a deep loss to the entire "47" Alumni Association of the Deaf community.

Norman Finkelstein, a native New Yorker, became deaf when he was six years old, from spinal meningitis. He graduated from Public School 47 in 1940 and Murray Hill High School. Upon graduation, he embarked on a career in the printing trades, serving 20 years as a pressman and 19 years with the New York Daily News. He was a long-time member of the International Typographical Union. Norman retired at age 59, but he did not fade into the shadows, no siree. His resume is nothing short of astounding.

He served as president of nine organizations – the Naismith Social and Athletic Club for the Deaf, The Pelicans Social and Athletic Club, Union League of the Deaf, Beth Or Temple, Brooklyn Association of the Deaf, New York Association of the Deaf, Eastern Athletic Association of the Deaf, Broward County

Association of the Deaf, and the Jewish Community Center Association of the Deaf. At the age of 83, he accepted a second term as president of the Jewish Community Center Association of the Deaf in Sunrise, Florida. He also served as vice president of the American Athletic Association of the Deaf, now the USA Deaf Sports Federation, and on numerous non-profit organization boards.

As if being everyone's president wasn't enough, Norman served as a sports coach, leader, and writer. He was official scorer for AAAD basketball tournaments for five consecutive years. No fewer than three organizations elected him to their hall of Fame: The USA Deaf Sports Federation, The Eastern Athletic Association of the Deaf, and the Jewish Deaf Congress. He received the Gallaudet University Alumni Association (GUAA) Pauline "Polly" Peikoff Service to other Award and "47" Alumni Association of the Deaf Hall of Fame.

Norman has been married to Beverly Finkelstein for 72 years. They have two children, Steven and Simon, and a granddaughter, Jessica.

In recognition of and appreciation for his extraordinary leadership to the Deaf Community, Norman Finkelstein received the "Hall of Fame" Award during the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of "47" in 2008.