

IN MEMORY OF Wayne M. Goldstein



November 8, 1952– April 27, 2009

Few people I've met had the fire of life burning so bright in them as Wayne.
Dean Brenneman, AIA, Former MPI Treasurer

County Programs and Politics - Montgomery County Civic Federation

Dear Wayne,
Please tell me, tell us all, that you are still with us. You are still fighting the battles for a better community. You are still railing against injustices in our communities. You are still advocating for historical preservation. You are still telling your funny anecdotal stories, each with a good moral lesson embedded within. You are figuring out which hat to wear for tomorrow's hearing, and polishing your notes about the key facts and the points you need to make. You are looking over the agenda for the forthcoming Civic Fed meeting, and deciding which actions to support.... and why it makes sense. Please, Wayne, we know you're up to something so very clever.... and we know we'll see you at the next civic event. We were so proud of you for being named a recipient of the 2008 Educational Excellence Award from the Maryland Historical Trust Board of Trustees.



And we all vividly remember and applauded you being honored with The Star Cup trophy award for outstanding public service to Montgomery County, presented at the 2008 Montgomery County Civic Federation's Annual Awards Banquet. Damn, you've done so much for all the rest of us. So, you know what, let's get together next week and rant about the many issues yet to be resolved. And, dear friend, please guide us through the maze... as you've always, always done with your hard work and brilliant insights. We love you, Wayne, with that friendly twinkle in your eye, that broad smile, compassion in your voice, and a dashing rake to your cap. Here's to you, Wayne Goldstein !
From Byron and Naomi Bloch, just two of your countless friends – Montgomery County Civic Federation

Marc Erlich and Wayne with Star Cup 2008



County Council President Phil Andrews (D-Gaithersburg-Rockville) (above) praised Mr. Goldstein for his tenacity, research abilities and advocacy for historic preservation. He said Mr. Goldstein's death "is a terrible blow to the community."

Statement by County Executive Isiah Leggett on the Passing of Wayne Goldstein, April 28, 2009

I am deeply saddened by the untimely passing of Montgomery County civic activist Wayne Goldstein. Wayne was an earnest and perceptive watchdog on County government and County politics but he never let that earnestness get in the way of a delightful sense of humor and love of life. Wayne could disagree without being disagreeable. I will remember the ever-present fedora, the satiric testimony before County Council hearings, and the bundle of energy and idealism that was Wayne.

Wayne was a strong and effective advocate on historic preservation, land use, and the environment, as well as an avid proponent of our CountyStat program to measure results and performance in County government.

"I have lost a friend. Montgomery County has lost an institution."



I cannot believe the sad news. Wayne was so young and full of plans and energy that is difficult to accept that he is not longer with us. I will be for ever indebted to him for saving COMSAT.

My warmest regards.

Cesar

In Memoriam Wayne M. Goldstein

President of Montgomery Preservation Inc.
2002-2009

On behalf of the board and members of Montgomery Preservation, Inc., it is my sad duty to report the death of our President, Wayne M. Goldstein, from a heart attack on April 27, 2009. Wayne collapsed on the steps of the Stella Warner Council Office Building on his way to a hearing. How appropriate that Wayne left the world doing what he loved: working with and for local government, championing neighborhoods and citizens, and pursuing righteousness under the law. Wayne believed wholeheartedly in civic activism and a government that was directed by and responded to the citizens it governed. He worked tirelessly within that framework in many positions with the Montgomery County Civic Federation, as a columnist for the Montgomery County Sentinel Newspaper, and as an unprecedented four term President of Montgomery Preservation Inc.


During his terms of office and under his leadership, MPI worked to save the Comsat Laboratories Building in Clarksburg and championed many other historic sites in Montgomery County. He led the on-going fight to protect the Historic Preservation laws of Montgomery County and through these laws, its tangible history. This is a fight that MPI will continue in his honor.

His many friends and colleagues are devastated by the loss of his knowledge, clear analysis, candor, strong voice, and his loyalty and friendship. It is a sad day for the preservation community in Maryland.

Wayne is shown top left with Kathy Hulley, Clarksburg Civic Association, receiving the Maryland Historical Trust Award for Excellence in Education. The award was given for his work in organizing the planning charette and educational program to save the Comsat Laboratories Building in Clarksburg MD.

To the left is Wayne with Cesar Pelli at the Pelli-Comsat charette in June of 2006.


Montgomery Preservation Inc.
In Partnership with
Montgomery College - Rockville
Proudly Presents



**The 20th Annual
Montgomery County Awards
for Historic Preservation**

Tuesday June 6, 2006

6:00 p.m. Reception
7:00 p.m. Awards Program
7:30 p.m. Peil on COMSAT
Preserving a Modern Masterpiece



International architect Cesar Pelli, designer of the Petronas Towers in Malaysia, speaks on the significance of the Montgomery County COMSAT building in his career.

Presentation of the COMSAT Center Redevelopment Charette
June 3-June 6, 2006 - Montgomery College-Rockville Technical Center
Led by PELLI CLARKE PELLI Architects

Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center
Montgomery College-Rockville



What Wayne did was cause trouble – endless trouble. Wayne was the best researcher in Montgomery County. There was nothing he couldn't figure out. There was no information, no matter how ancient or obscure, that could elude him... Wayne loved facts – *especially* embarrassing facts. He would use them to torment the powerful, whether in private industry or in government, and pressure them to come around to the interests of the county's residents. He was a resource for all of us. If you couldn't figure something out, you just called Wayne. He either knew what you needed to know or he knew someone who did. Hundreds – maybe thousands – of civic activists originally met through Wayne.

Wayne loved historic preservation. He lived for battles like Falkland Chase and Mike Knapp's historic preservation law. He loved tutoring young activists. The tribute to Wayne Goldstein does not end today. It goes on every time a neighborhood mobilizes against a proposed rezoning. It goes on every time an amateur historian opposes a building tear-down. It goes on every time a parent questions the school system. It goes on every time a citizen challenges bureaucracy in our eternal quest for a voice in government. Whether they know it or not, they are all Wayne's kids. And wherever Wayne is, he'll be watching us and rooting for us with that super-sly smile —Steve Kanstoroom

Amy Presley, (seen at right at the Pelli Charette) a member of the Montgomery County Planning Board who rose to prominence when she and other Clarksburg residents uncovered irregularities in the planning process, said Mr. Goldstein had been one of her early tutors, helping her sort out the often confusing documents on file at the planning agency and describing what builders and developers are required to do.



"I have never met a more tirelessly selfless community advocate than Wayne Goldstein," Presley said. "I knew him as a tenacious and passionate leader, a brilliant and compassionate friend -- my personal primer into the world of preliminary plans, site plans and the mysterious 'Code.' "

His most prominent early role was his unsuccessful attempt to stop Montgomery officials from razing the historic Silver Spring Armory to make way for a \$321 million "town center"

Mr. Goldstein began his testimony before the county Planning Board in an eye-catching way: opening an umbrella and doing his best imitation of Gene Kelly's song-and-dance routine of "Singin' in the Rain." (right, Wayne mugs for the camera.)



Most of the armory had been demolished by the time a judge issued an order halting the work. "There's a tremendous amount of principle involved here," Mr. Goldstein told The Washington Post. "We're doing this to say, 'This was an important, historic building and this still is an important site, and we had a right to be heard and not be pushed aside.' "

I first came to know Wayne during my time on the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board. We remember him for his production during the 1990's of an acerbic, superbly crafted, Michael Moore-ish video challenging the necessity of building the new jail in Clarksburg. Historic preservation became his passion and he fought against the potential loss of mature trees and open space adjacent to Montgomery College and the break up of the historic Falkland Apartments, both in Silver Spring. He proactively organized a charette to try to devise the best possible reuse of the Comsat Building designed by the famed architect, Cesar Pelli in the I-270 corridor.



Wayne recognized early on that County residents are almost always at a disadvantage when challenging well-financed development interests and their law firms in rezoning, special exception and land use cases. Years ago, he developed his own expertise at researching land use issues. His testimony in support of local communities was invariably complete, detailed, articulate and compelling. Last year there was a site plan being considered for the redevelopment of Bethesda Metro Center. The land use attorneys representing several different business interests spent some time squabbling and shouting at the Planning Board and behaving childishly. Wayne, in his own inimitable style, testified quietly giving the perspective of the Civic Federation's Land Use Committee. The Planning Board paid him their highest tribute saying that at least Wayne and the Civic Federation always presented their testimony with dignity unlike the lawyers who had been embarrassing themselves and the legal profession all day.

...People like Wayne actually provided a sorely needed balance to County Government. During my time as President of the Montgomery County Civic Federation, Wayne asked me to host a forum on "Citi-stat", the program developed and used by then-Mayor O'Malley to streamline the city government of Baltimore. The Civic Federation held the forum, and O'Malley made his presentation. We were sufficiently impressed that we pressed Ike Leggett to consider using the same approach to improve the County's government if elected to serve as County Executive. Now that Ike Leggett is in charge, "County-stat" has been initiated and is said to have saved approximately 5 million dollars just in the last year. I hope Ike implements the remaining components of County-stat as a tribute to Wayne Goldstein.

... Wayne never sought election to public office, and most residents are probably unaware of how much he contributed to their quality of life. I will personally miss my friend Wayne, his infectious smile and quiet dignity, and his relentless quest for better government. Montgomery County has lost yet another major champion of the people when they lost Wayne Goldstein.- Cary Lamari

I knew Wayne as a close friend, a fierce defender of the environment and historic preservation," said Steve Kanstoroom, also a civic activist and past County Council candidate. "He selflessly gave 110 percent to improve the quality of life for county residents, often for people he had never met, never asking anything in return."

I am so sorry about Wayne's death. He was such a force for historic preservation and for Montgomery County citizens. Without the advice and assistance that he and you gave to our group fighting to preserve Wild Acres, the improbable result never would have happened: all three historic buildings and almost nine acres of environmental setting added to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation! I'm heartened that Montgomery Preservation will continue to fight to protect Montgomery County's historic preservation laws and tangible history. Sincerely, Ann Bowker

This is such sad and tragic news. -Debbie Rankin, Director, Montgomery County Historical Society

MONTGOMERY PRESERVATION INC.

WAYNE M. GOLDSTEIN

As sad as it was to lose the Silver Spring Armory a decade ago, from that experience historic preservation in Montgomery County gained an indefatigable ally. In 1997, landscaper (by day) and Zydeco dancer (by night) Wayne Goldstein jumped into the fray with intellectual rigor and a zeal for justice. He honed his literary, persuasion, and performance skills on behalf of such threatened sites as the Jesup Blair House (Silver Spring), Moneysworth farm (Clarksburg), Park Street Elementary School (Rockville), and the Silver Spring B&O Railroad Station. Increased pressure for large development in older areas intensified Wayne's passion and talents. He joined MPI as vice president in 2000, becoming president two years later and serving in that office until his untimely death. On Wayne's watch MPI championed preservation for Canada Dry, Falkland, and Perpetual Bank (Silver Spring), 1971 Library and Edmonds house (Rockville), Talbott house and Crown farm (Gaithersburg), and Wild Acres (Bethesda), among others. A teacher by example, Wayne proudly accepted the Maryland Historical Trust 2007 award for Excellence in Education for the COMSAT project. He was horrified at reductions in public resources as well as the Knapp Amendment. Wayne's colleagues at MPI already miss his archives and analyses, energy and passion, leadership, midnight e-mails, and most of all his solid friendship.

Eileen McGuckian for MONTGOMERY PRESERVATION INC.

What sad news to wake up to! As we all knew, Wayne was a very special and unique man.. a real asset to MPI and the community.

Meeting Wayne was a blessing. I knew that MPI needed someone who could fulfill its organizational needs; however, at that time especially, MPI also needed a leader who could carry out its advocacy role. I knew I was not that person, thus upon meeting Wayne I quickly pursued him as a candidate for VP to handle advocacy. It took some convincing, but he agreed and I think we made a great team. His ability to grasp difficult, intricate topics and develop a balanced sometimes theatrical! -- response always amazed me. I appreciated him every day. He was quite a character who I know we were grateful to have in our lives. Please send my condolences to his family.

– Former MPI President, Maria Hoey

Wayne Goldstein

I first met Wayne when he was fighting to save the Silver Spring Armory and I was serving on the Historic Preservation Commission. We lost that fight, but he went on to win many others over the years. From the beginning I was struck by his passion to confront injustice and his steadfast belief that greed and ignorance can be overcome. He armed himself with facts and logic and when he found a topic he did not fully understand he did research and asked questions to make sure he did understand.

Wayne was not meek and when needed could take risks, but through it all he always kept his quirky sense of humor – this always eased the tension. Wayne became a good friend and an ideal example for my own efforts in protecting the rights of the community. His loss is a great one not only for the individuals who knew and admired him, but for the larger community.
Susan Soderberg, MPI Board Member

I first met Wayne in 2004 and I grew to admire his tenacity, energy, and devotion to making Montgomery County a better place to live. I tried to find an appropriate way to describe Wayne... I remembered how Johnny Shines described fellow musician and 1930s traveling companion Robert Johnson:

Every day was Sunday with him. Anything you wanted to do, he was for, if it pertained to his music. And he was a born musician. He was not a learned musician, he was a born musician.

Every day was hearing day for Wayne. He was not a learned activist, he was a born activist.

-David Rotenstein, HPC Chair and MPI Member

He is irreplaceable and his death leaves a space that cannot be filled. (Peerless Rockville is) also preparing a memorial to Wayne in our upcoming newsletter

– Terry Lachin, Peerless Rockville and MPI Secretary.

Wayne was such a force for historic preservation and for Montgomery County citizens. Without the advice and assistance that he and you gave to our group fighting to preserve Wild Acres, the improbable result never would have happened: all three historic buildings and almost nine acres of environmental setting added to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation!

We were able to thank Wayne verbally before he died.... I'm heartened that Montgomery Preservation will continue to fight to protect Montgomery County's historic preservation laws and tangible history.— Ann Bowker

The news of Wayne's passing is truly heartbreaking and I can say that there are more than a few of us shaken up at the Trust. Please express condolences to his friends and family on our behalf. We'd like to recognize Wayne's service to the preservation community by awarding him a Preservation Service Award at this year's ceremony. While he was part of the COMSAT team honored last year, his dedication to historic preservation is truly remarkable and he deserves to be honored individually for that service.

Cory Kegerise, Maryland Historical Trust



I am greatly saddened by this loss. Wayne was completely dedicated to preservation and never seemed to tire in his efforts. We will miss him.

Susan Velasquez— MPI Past Vice President

On behalf of Preservation Maryland, I am very sorry for your loss. Thank you for the wonderful memorial and great shot of Wayne.

Sincerely, Tyler Gearhart, Preservation MD



This is awful news, What a shock,

Walt Gottlieb, film producer
Comsat Charette 2006





Wayne M. Goldstein

