IN MEMORIAM

Mendel S. “Mickey” Kaliff

Mendel S. “Mickey” Kaliff was born September 20, 1924 in San Antonio, Texas and passed away February 16, 2016. His parents were Cecelia Solomon Kaliff, operatic vocalist and Morris H. Kaliff, mounted artillery soldier in WWI and career insurance broker for 50 years. Kaliff was an alumnus of the Texas Military Institute and the University of Texas. In WWII he was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant US Army at age 18, Parachute Infantry, assigned to Office of Strategic Service (OSS), and served behind enemy lines in North Burma. After the war he joined his father’s insurance business which was established in 1917 and became one of the nation’s leading producers of insurance for the outdoor amusement business. He retired from the insurance business in 2000 which is now owned by his son, Mitchell H. Kaliff.

He served as officer or director of: American Israel Public Affairs Committee, Anti-Defamation League, American Civil Liberties Union, Presidents Council Brandies University, Incarnate Word College, Texas Bank, People to People International, US Small Business Administration, Hall of Fame Showmen’s League of America, Name at Lloyd’s of London, Planned Parenthood, and covert member of Texas Cavaliers.

Kaliff is survived by his cherished wife of 36 years, Gemey Gilbert Hutchison Kaliff, children Melissa Kaliff, Melani Kaliff Skybell and spouse Nic, Mitchell Kaliff and spouse Bruce Smiley-Kaliff, Matthew Kaliff and spouse Beth; stepchildren Dr. Renee Hutchison, Gregory Hutchison and predeceased by stepson Jeffrey Hutchison; sister Dorothy Kaliff Jonas and companion Joshua Pierce, six grandchildren and friend Charles Skibell.