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Ушел из жизни необыкновенный человек -

## Сай Фрумкин

Выражаем глубокие соболезнования  
*Эллочке, Илюше и всей семье.*

*Наташа и Дима Ратинер, Ирина и Эди Браун,  
Мая Гибалевич с семьей*



Ушел из жизни

## Сай Фрумкин

замечательный, легендарный человек с нелегкой судьбой, посвятивший себя борьбе за свободу евреев, нашу свободу.

Благодарность Саю – огромна, скорбь от потери – безмерна.

Удивительным и жизнерадостным человеком Сай останется в нашей памяти.

Наши искренние соболезнования *Элле и семье.*

*Боря и Марина Смородинские,  
Лева и Вика Смородинские*

Ассоциация ветеранов Второй мировой войны Лос-Анджелеса глубоко скорбит по поводу смерти всеми уважаемого

## Сая Фрумкина

бывшего узника нацистских концлагерей, создавшего Ассоциацию бывших узников, переживших Холокост, активного борца за выезд евреев из бывшего Советского Союза, друга нашей Ассоциации.

Вечная память этому замечательному человеку.

Выражаем соболезнование *семье и близким* покойного.

*Комитет*

АССОЦИАЦИЯ БЫВШИХ УЗНИКОВ, ПЕРЕЖИВШИХ ХОЛОКОСТ, С ГЛУБОКИМ ПРИСКОРБИЕМ ИЗВЕЩАЕТ, ЧТО БЕЗВРЕМЕННО УШЁЛ ИЗ ЖИЗНИ ЗАМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫЙ ЧЕЛОВЕК, БЛЕСТЯЩИЙ РУКОВОДИТЕЛЬ И ОРАТОР, НАШ БОЛЬШОЙ ДРУГ И ПОКРОВИТЕЛЬ



## Сай Фрумкин

С УХОДОМ ИЗ ЖИЗНИ САЯ ФРУМКИНА НАША АССОЦИАЦИЯ И ВСЯ РУССКОЯЗЫЧНАЯ ОБЩИНА ПОНЕСЛА БОЛЬШУЮ УТРАТУ. МЫ ГЛУБОКО СКОРБИМ И ВЫРАЖАЕМ ИСКРЕННЕЕ СОБОЛЕЗНОВАНИЕ ЕГО *СЕМЬЕ.*

*Комитет Ассоциации*

# Сай Фрумкин

Глубоко скорбим о смерти близкого нам человека, единомышленника, проложившего всем нам путь в Америку.

Искренние соболезнования  
*Эллочке, Илюше и всей семье.*



*Лёня и Белла Франк*





Выражаем глубокое соболезнование  
*Эллочке и сыну с семьей*  
по поводу смерти любимого мужа, отца и дедушки

## Сая Фрумкина

Скорбим вместе с вами.

*Семья Маковоз*



Выражаем искреннее соболезнование  
*Эллочке* в связи со смертью мужа,  
прекрасного человека

## Сая Фрумкина

который боролся за всех эмигрантов.

Всегда будем помнить.

*Администрация и коллектив  
Dvorsky School*

Ушёл из жизни

## Сай Фрумкин



замечательный, мужественный, жизнелюбивый человек, прошедший в юные годы фашистские концлагеря, президент Южнокаалифорнийского совета в защиту советских евреев, много лет активно боровшийся за права евреев в бывшем Советском Союзе, наш друг.

Скорбим вместе с *семьей*  
и разделяем постигшее ее горе.

*Алла и Ефим Столярские, Фаина и Ефим Куц,  
Елена и Владимир Баркон, Нинель и Борис Меламед,  
Лиза Григоривкер, Наум Сапожников, Нюся Гейхман,  
Григорий Цыгутник, Полина и Маркус Клинберг,  
Юля Шихельман, Мира и Евсей Эпштейн, Яков Флейберович*

HIAS  
(Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society)  
LOREO  
(Local Russian Émigré Organizations)

Глубоко скорбим в связи с кончиной  
видного общественного деятеля  
и замечательного человека

## Сая Фрумкина

Не сомневаемся, что дело,  
за которое боролся Сай,  
будет продолжено,  
и память о нем сохранится навсегда.

*Гидеон Аронофф  
Президент и Исполнительный Директор ХИАСа*

*Марина Белоцерковская  
Директор русского отдела ХИАСа*

*Джин Борц  
Директор программы LOREO*



# Si Frumkin dies at 78; Dachau survivor worked tirelessly to assist Soviet Jews

By Jon Thurber

Los Angeles Times  
May 18, 2009

**I**n the late 1960s, as reports of repression of Soviet Jews began to increase, a question began filtering to the West: "Why have you forgotten us?"

Si Frumkin, a survivor of Dachau and a prominent Los Angeles textile manufacturer, heard the question and it reminded him of the days before the Holocaust.

A man of direct action, Frumkin founded the Southern California Council for Soviet Jews in 1968 and over the next two decades would not leave the issue alone. For years his inventive activism could be found in protests at a variety of Soviet cultural events.

When the Bolshoi Ballet came to town, he distributed fake programs outside the Shrine Auditorium telling folks to enjoy the show but added a message about repression. When Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev visited President Nixon at the Western White House in San Clemente, Frumkin released 5,000 balloons with the message "Let My People Go." He hired a helicopter to fly over the Super Bowl with a banner: "Save Soviet Jewry."

Frumkin, who did more than anyone else in the United States to focus attention on the struggle of Soviet Jews, died Friday of cancer at Providence Tarzana Medical Center. He was 78.

"Shaming the free world, especially our government, into doing the right thing was Si's cause," said Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, who as a UCLA student founded the California Students for Soviet Jews at the same time Frumkin founded his group.

"Nothing was more abhorrent to Si than free people sitting on their hands while others in need of help suf-



Frumkin "acted as an ombudsman to a large degree," said his son Michael. "He explained American culture to the emigres."

fered," Yaroslavsky said of his longtime friend.

He was born Simas Frumkinas on Nov. 5, 1930, in what is now Kaunas, Lithuania, to a family of affluent and assimilated Jews who were not actively religious. His father was a prominent automobile and motorcycle dealer.

The Communists took over his father's business in 1940. The Germans went to Kaunas in 1941 and herded the Jewish community into a ghetto ringed by barbed wire. When the ghetto was evacuated in 1944, Si and his father were sent to Dachau. His mother was sent to Poland.

He and his father were forced to work in an aircraft hanger and manufacturing plant for the Nazis.

"I was just 13," Frumkin told *The Times* some years ago. "I carried bags of cement. I unloaded brass. I carried metal rod for construction."

Frumkin's father died 20 days before Dachau was liberated in 1945. Frumkin studied in Switzerland and England before immigrating briefly to Venezuela, where he was reunited with his mother. He arrived in New York in 1949 and graduated from New York University in 1953.

Shortly after graduation, he

moved to Los Angeles and eventually took over Universal Drapery Fabrics, a downtown textile company. At night, he earned a master's degree in history at Cal State Northridge. Once the plight of Soviet Jews caught his attention, he focused on activism.

He tried to engage the local Jewish Federation Council to take an activist role in the name of Soviet Jewry but was met with resounding silence. He was told not to rock the boat as the U.S. was trying to achieve a level of rapprochement with the Soviet Union.

From the late 1960s on, he relentlessly pressed government officials to pressure Soviet officials to open doors for Soviet emigration. He started an "adopt a refusenik family" campaign across the country, using the term applied to Soviet Jews trying to leave. He organized demonstrations that got thousands of people into the streets. He burned Soviet flags and was accused of using intimidation in lobbying travel agents to stop promoting trips to the Soviet Union.

"Virtually everything that was done emanated from Si's head," Yaroslavsky told *The Times* some years ago.

In that article, Yaroslavsky recalled the occasion when a

*Frumkin founded the Southern California Council for Soviet Jews in 1968 and over the next two decades would not leave the issue alone.*

Soviet freighter arrived in the Port of Los Angeles. The two men rented a motorboat and headed out to the ship. Their plan was to paint on its side a sign reading "Let the Jews Go." But how to stay in place when they cut the motorboat's engine? Frumkin solved the problem, Yaroslavsky said, by mooring the boat to the freighter with a toilet plunger.

By 1976, more than 72,000 Jews had been allowed to leave the Soviet Union. Many came to America and Southern California, and Frumkin turned his attention to helping them. He was a founding member of the Assn. of Soviet Jewish Emigres and offered guidance on how to write resumes and go on job interviews. He set up clothing and household giveaways as well as a network of free healthcare providers.

"He acted as an ombudsman to a large degree," his son Michael said Sunday. "He explained American culture to the emigres and told them how to get things done."

In his later years, Frumkin also worked to help Ethiopian Jews emigrate and most recently was involved with the Israel Christian Nexus, an organization of Jews and evangelical Christians that supports Israel's right to exist.

In addition to his son, he is survived by his wife, Ella, and two grandchildren. His son Larry died in 1999.

"He was an integral part of who I am and . . . with the exception of my own parents and family, no one has had so profound an impact on me," said Yaroslavsky, who will deliver the eulogy for Frumkin at 2 p.m. today at Mt. Sinai Memorial Park, 5950 Forest Lawn Drive, Hollywood.

Instead of flowers, his family asks that contributions be made to the organization he founded, the Southern California Council for Soviet Jews, P.O. Box 1542, Studio City, CA 91614.