



David Joseph Boysen

February 10, 1945 - August 12, 2018

No obituary found for this tribute.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Dear family,

I knew Joe from high school. Sometimes we would walk home together and often we would be seated (alphabetically) in classes together-- joe and john-- I didn't know about david.

What I will remember him most for is his chutzpah in Problems of Democracy for writing one of his papers on "Jewish Scholasticism during the Middle Ages". Due to a paucity of source material, he invented quotes and Jewish names to author them. (Not true, but like.. "no matter how bad things get, you have to go on living even if it kills you." --Rabbi Liv Ordyevitze, from The Job Commentaries, p. 46 [Warsaw, 1415].) If I remember right, the names were more sexual, scatological and controversial besides being funny.

He was kind of my Mort Saul..sardonically funny and he made me laugh three times -- The first time embarrassingly --when he told me the joke that I didn't understand but wanted to appear that I did. The second time two hours later when I ironically told myself that I finally got it. And then finally, for the third time angrily two days later when I realized that I hadn't really understood it at all and that it probably wasn't even meant as a joke and that I had laughed foolishly at it and Joe had done it on purpose.

I remember him kindly and a bit sadly (like JFK) because he seemed to never be satisfied.. he was always becoming.. We were different; but I would call him a friend. He once told me that what we in our times needed was a Jonathan Swift-- and I think he wanted to be him and cut through the hypocrisy of doublespeak. It is a hard life for a critic and they do not have many friends. I hope he found complete-ment with you.

*I will always remember him!
-- john borsos*

john borsos - September 07, 2018 at 12:40 AM