## **IRENE AND ABE POLLIN HUMANITARIAN AWARD**



The Lerner Family is deeply committed to Jewish causes at home and in Israel, demonstrated through their support of vital organizations, including: The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington; Hillel at The George Washington University; Ohr Kodesh Congregation; The Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School; Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy; JCC Maccabi Games; Israel Bonds; The ADL Concert Against Hate; The Koby Mandell Foundation; The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; and the Weizmann Institute of Science. Ted and Annette are founding members of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

The Lerner Family has maintained a multigenerational commitment to the Washington area JCC programs, with Mark Lerner serving on the Bender JCC Council of Advisors, Debra Lerner Cohen having served for 20 years on the board of the EDCJCC, and Ted's granddaughter Jaclyn Lerner Cohen currently serving on the board of the EDCJCC. As President of the family's foundation, Marla Lerner Tanenbaum leads the philanthropic efforts for these important institutions.

The Annette M. and Theodore N. Lerner Family Foundation was established in 1986 to support a variety of cultural, medical, and educational organizations in the greater D.C. area, among them: Food and Friends; Shady Grove Adventist Hospital; Hadley's Park; The Scleroderma Foundation of Greater Washington; Imagination Stage in Bethesda, MD; Georgetown Day School; Junior Achievement of the Greater Washington Area; The Washington Nationals Dream Foundation; and The Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy, among many others.

Theodore N. Lerner and his wife Annette, their son Mark D. Lerner, daughters Debra Lerner Cohen and Marla Lerner Tanenbaum, their daughter-in-law Judy Lenkin Lerner, and their sonsin-law Edward L. Cohen and Robert K. Tanenbaum are the principals of Lerner Enterprises and principal owners of the Washington Nationals Baseball Club, the National League Eastern Division Champions in 2012, 14, 16, & 17.

In addition, the family is a partner in Monumental Sports & Entertainment, the sports investment group that owns the 2018 NHL Stanley Cup Champions Washington Capitals, WNBA Washington Mystics, NBA Washington Wizards, AFL Washington Valor and Baltimore Brigade and the Capital One Arena.

Ted Lerner was raised in Northwest Washington D.C, graduating from Roosevelt High School in 1944. (His gym instructor was future sports luminary Red Auerbach.)

After serving in the U.S. Army during the latter part of World War II, he attended The George Washington University on the G.I. Bill where he received his undergraduate degree. In 1947, he earned an L.L.B from The George Washington University Law School, where he met his future wife, Annette Morris, at a fraternity dance. While in law school, he sold homes on the weekends.

In 1951 he founded Lerner Enterprises with a \$250 loan from Annette. Today, Lerner Enterprises is the largest private landowner in the Washington area, having developed office, retail, hotel, entertainment and residential projects that include Tysons Corner Center, White Flint Mall, The Spectrum at Reston Town Center, Washington Square at Connecticut Avenue and L Street NW and Tysons II. In 1985, *Washingtonian* wrote, "Odds are that every adult in Washington has lived, worked, or shopped in a building developed by Ted Lerner."

In addition, Lerner Enterprises is a partner in Chelsea Piers, a 30-acre sports and entertainment complex located on the Hudson River in New York City.