

Dear Temple members and friends,

We were sad to learn today that Jerry Gall passed away last night after a period of ill health. We extend our deep condolences to Karen, Melanie, Wendy, and Andrew, and to all of Jerry and Karen's immediate and extended family and friends. The funeral will take place tomorrow, Monday, at the Jewish Cemetery at 4 p.m. Rabbi Harari just left today for a conference in Boston; Rabbi Kunin, who has known both Jerry and Karen, will lead the service in her absence. There will be a full seven days of shiva minyan services – details to follow. The first service at the Galls' home will take place on Tuesday evening.

Jerry, a man who exuded pride in his family's accomplishments, garnered respect in many circles, as a constitutional law professor, as a volunteer and advocate for human rights in Edmonton, nationally and internationally.

Jerry played a lead organizing role for the 1998 International Conference on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ... "Universal Rights and Human Values: A Blueprint for Peace, Justice and Freedom". The conference included Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Her Excellency Mary Robinson. I recall a packed evening at the Jubilee Auditorium during the conference that offered the general public a chance to hear Desmond Tutu speak for just \$10.

Jerry co-founded the Human Rights Education Foundation, which later evolved into the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights. He is the author of five editions of The Canadian Legal System, a highly acclaimed introductory law text.

“As a distinguished teacher, writer and lawyer, Professor Gall has dedicated himself to the cause of human rights to the benefit of all Canadians. His record of accomplishments stands as a testament to what can be achieved through a commitment to excellence in scholarship and public service. He has been widely honoured for his contributions in the field of human rights. In 1995, the Alberta Human Rights and Citizenship Commission recognized his work and achievements by awarding him the prestigious Alberta Human Rights Award. He was also the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee and the Alberta Centennial medals. Professor Gall was the 2010 recipient of the Law Society of Alberta and the Canadian Bar Association (Alberta) Distinguished Service Award for Legal Scholarship. In 2001, Professor Gall was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada.” (John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights, 2011)

Karen and Jerry have been members of Temple Beth Ora almost since the beginning and we feel this loss for his family in a personal way.