



Farewell to Leonard Zubrensky



I would like to take a moment to remember Leonard Zubrensky who passed away Thursday at the Milwaukee Catholic House at the age of 93. He is credited with the revival of the Democratic Party.

Leonard served in the army during World War II before earning his law degree from the University of Wisconsin. In 1949 he began his law career with focus on labor issues and worker's compensation that spanned over half a century. In 1968, he led a successful fight against housing discrimination and became an advocate for families in Milwaukee County who had been displaced by highway construction.

Zubrensky was a manager for William Proxmire's gubernatorial campaigns in the 1950s and from 1962-1964 was legal counsel to then-Gov. John W. Reynolds. He drafted all of Reynold's vetoes and saw to it that everyone who wrote to the governor's office got a pamphlet that educated on the importance of seat belt use.

Zubrensky was a proud member of the Democratic Party. He said of his advocacy that he wanted to help people who were unable to help themselves. Later in life he became a health and fitness enthusiast running 23 marathons- the last at the age of 70. He authored two books [Let the Hi-jinks Begin: The Memoir of a Democratic Activist](#) and [How to Live Almost Forever: A Book About Longevity](#).

He was survived by his wife, his younger son, two grandchildren, and a niece. Keeping in the spirit of his life's works, they are asking that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort (WAVE) or to Planned Parenthood.

It was an honor and a privilege to know and learn from this great man. He and his efforts will be missed and not forgotten.