

## TRANSITIONS

### »Dick Levy. 1944-2009

Richard C. Levy died of complications from cancer surgery Feb. 24. He was 64.

Levy had been out since 1967, when he was a graduate student. He moved to Oregon to teach at University of Portland.

Levy was one of the founding members of the Portland Town Council, an early gay rights organization.

Levy once went to work as an aide to conservative Multnomah County Commissioner Gordon Shadburn. His gay friends were aghast, but he responded that it was an attempt to "work from inside." Conservative supporters eventually pressured Shadburn to oust Levy. Later, Shadburn lost his political career after it was revealed that he had relations with young gay men.

Levy helped raise money for numerous gay causes, including Basic Rights Oregon and the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center.

Levy and his partner of 39 years, Larry Hobnet, were among the first gay couples to marry and to register as domestic partners in Multnomah County. Former Portland Mayor Vera Katz and Multnomah County Chair Beverly Stein were their witnesses.

Levy was a college professor, a Multnomah County commissioner in 1984 and a real estate broker during his more than 40 years in Portland.

Beyond his leadership in the gay community, Levy was active in business and neighborhood issues and was honored by the city with the 1998 Spirit of Portland award.

Mayor Sam Adams recalled Levy as "tough and funny and tireless in his work to improve Portland for all Portlanders."

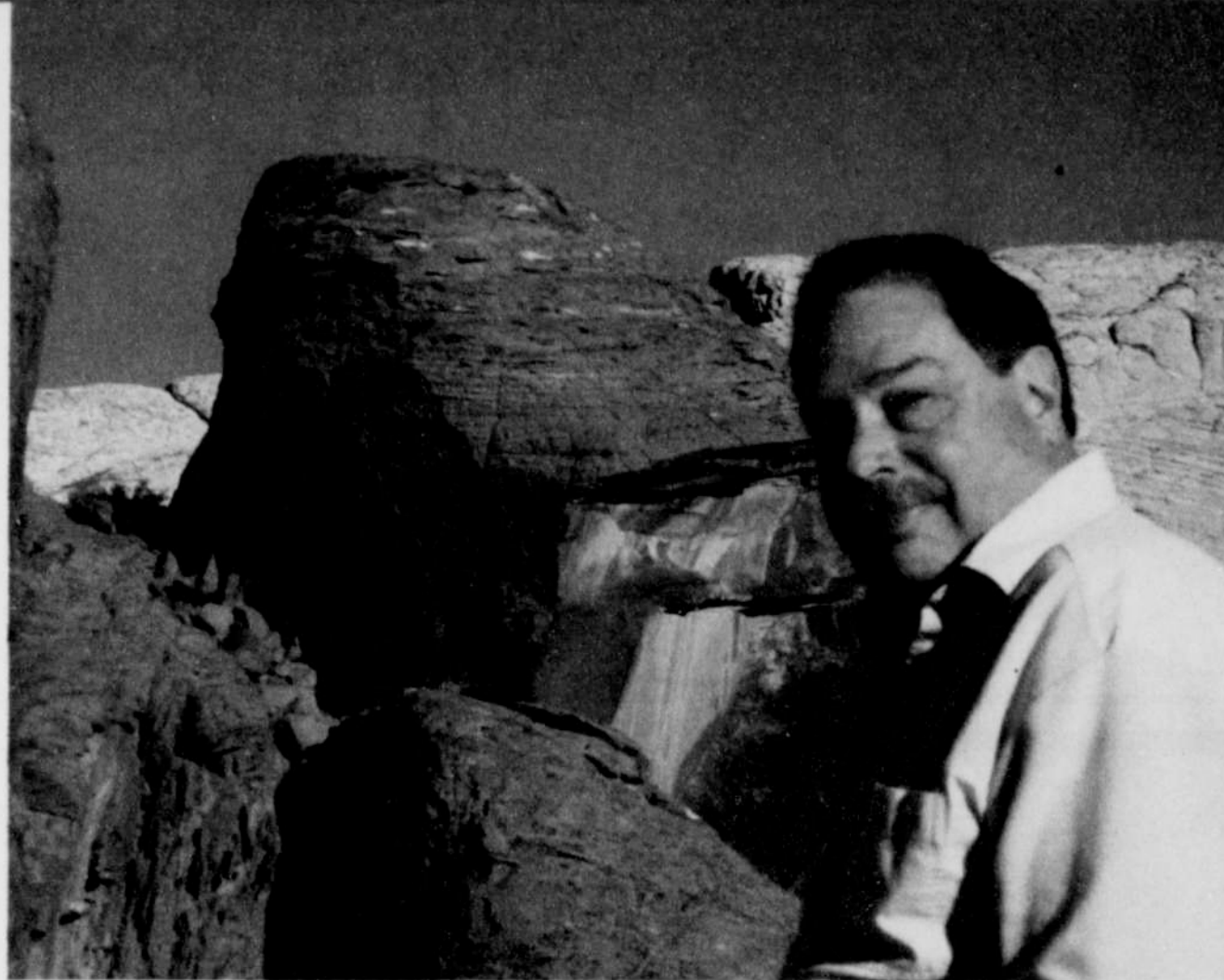
Born in The Bronx, N.Y., and raised in a retail environment where both parents worked in a fabric store for more than 30 years, Levy also was a former retail store manager. He received a bachelor's degree from Harpur College/State University of New York at Binghamton and a master's degree from Michigan State University.

Since 1988 he was a commercial real estate sales and leasing broker. He started with Bluestone Realty and helped form North Rim Realty in 1999. He acquired a Windermere franchise in 2004 and with Craig Gilbert formed PDX Metro Commercial LLC/Windermere Community Commercial Realty.

He was active in the Commercial Association of Realtors, Northeast Business Boosters and Hollywood Business Association and was a Certified Commercial Investment Member. He also served several stints as president of the Irvington Community Association, most recently from 2006 to 2008.

Among his civic activities were being a founding member of the Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Associations, chairman of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, member of the Martin Luther King Boulevard Advisory Committee, vice chairman of the Oregon Convention Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee and vice chairman of Ethos Music Academy.

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Levy also was active in numerous political campaigns and had been a delegate to the Oregon Democratic Central Committee and the 2000 Democratic National Convention.

A celebration of Levy's life will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. March 14 at Ethos Music Center, 10 N. Killingsworth St.

Remembrances may be made to the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center, 2100 S.E. Belmont St., Portland, OR 97214. JO

### CORRECTION

The Feb. 6 article "Funding a Movement" misstated who awards general cycle grants and who receives them. General cycle grants are decided by granting committees made up of community members, board members, staff and volunteers. Also, Equity Foundation only awards grants to 501(c)3 nonprofits and educational institutions.

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