

## **A SELECTION OF TRIBUTES TO DENIS GOLDBERG ON THE OCCASION OF HIS PASSING ON 29 APRIL 2020**

*After Denis's death and subsequent memorial, the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust and House of Hope and the Goldberg family received a deluge of much-appreciated messages of condolences, memories, gratitude, admiration and commitment to taking Denis's work forward. We collated all the messages so that we will have a permanent record of all of them. Here we have selected a small proportion of the messages and tributes to share on our websites so as to give a small sense of the many different ways in which Denis touched people's lives.*

*Barney Pityana*

Sad to receive so early this morning news of the passing away of Cde Denis Goldberg. Cde Denis was forever full of life and larger than life and one can hardly imagine him without life. Please accept our condolences and may his family and loved ones be comforted by the knowledge that Cde Denis lived a full life, contributed himself wholly to the causes for the advancement of this country and her people. Hamba kahle Cde Denis. May his soul Rest In Peace.

*David Kenvyn*

Denis was my dear friend and comrade, and a hero of the liberation struggle. He was a wise, witty man committed to the liberation of his people, and he was an inspiration to so many of us who knew him. There really are not words for such a loss. We must ensure that his legacy is honoured.

*Jacqueline Derens*

I met Denis not long after his liberation and I will always remember his keen humour and hearty laugh.

I met him in Hout Bay in 2014 and he was so happy to show me his "art gallery".

He and his comrades of Rivonia made South Africa history a glorious page of the everlasting struggle for freedom and dignity.

I shall never forget him

*Ruth Weiss*

I'm distressed at this news as will be so many. May I send you my sincerest condolence for this loss of a great and remarkable man. I understand and sympathise with your grief, which I and Denis' countless friends, share with you, as do I... The world, not only South Africa is the poorer for his passing.

*Robyn Nagy*

I was very fortunate to be introduced to Dennis in 2001 in London, when he was running the Community Heart organisation. He helped me to have 21 old school computers (I was a teacher at City of London School) upgraded and sent out to South Africa (Inanda Seminary School), where I later took a school trip to visit. I had the pleasure of having Dennis and his partner

Edelgard around for dinner and in hearing their incredible stories. In the same year, at the re-opening of Inanda Seminary, I was privileged to meet others involved in the South African freedom movement, including Madiba. Dennis was an incredible man and I will never forget him... It was a privilege to have known him and the world is a better place because of him.

*Lutz van Dijk*

Each of you will have his own memories of Denis.

We will never forget that he was one of the first to visit our HOKISA Children's Home in Masiphumelele, after it was opened on 1 December 2002 by Archbishop Tutu.

He was a hero in many ways, never giving up, never losing his very own sense of humour, not even when he became so seriously ill a few years ago.

His "House of Hope" in Houtbay will live on...

and many new generations of young people will continue to ask: "Wow – who was this Denis?"

And learn from him.

*Dr. Jan Matthias Braun*

As a young student in Scotland I had the pleasure of meeting and working with Denis at Glasgow Caledonian University, when he served as honorary President of our students' association. He inspired us with his humour, kindness and great patience and with a fantastic laugh that captivated his audience at our annual Burn's suppers. He is a quite unique person.

We will remember him as a person who lived what he believed: Life, that is beautiful.

*Dannie Kagan*

I am crying as I write this email, it is not with sadness for his passing, but for the wonderful man he was. I am so glad that he managed to see his dream come true in the Foundation and the birth of his centre, surely, this must now just be 'on hold' until we defeat this pandemic.

*Guy Redman*

Much as Denis was not well for the better part of the past few years, it does not hurt less that he is no longer with us. We will take strength from his legacy which he bequeathed to us – and that is HOPE. The House of Hope will rise to be a beacon of unity and hope for the community and as always, you can count on our support to ensure the realization of this noble vision.

The sod turning event remains one of the most profound events I have attended in my role – it was simple yet so powerful. That never relenting spirit to remind us to always remain hopeful and focused on our dreams even during the most difficult of times. He had less health than the rest of us in the room but radiated so much hope!

May his soul rest in peace.

*Sue Ball*

On behalf of myself personally and the Hout Bay Museum Board of Trustees, we should like to extend our condolences to David and all the members of Denis's family and friends.

In recent years, the Board was privileged to have been able to interface with him and the members of the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust. We are sad that he did not live long enough to see his great enterprise established in brick and mortar but rejoice in his extraordinary spirit that will live on in such a material and constructive way in Hout Bay. His indomitable character will remain an inspiration to us all and we are more determined than ever to see his dream for Hout Bay realised.

Denis's memory will live for generations to come in the annals of the history of this country and we are proud that our Museum is associated with him.

*Sandi Sijake and family*

It is with great sadness to receive the news that one of the last pillars of our pioneers and implementers of the struggle to emancipate the people of South Africa as a whole has left us. He gave the main purpose and courage to many young ANC, Congress alliance and freedom fighters to stand fast, honest and as part and parcel of the most down trodden. From the Mamre MK base after the founding of MK, we called him "Comrade Commandant" as he worked closely with late comrade Looksmart Ngudle, a gallant leader in his own right. Comrade Denis, after seeing the lie in the colonial architecture and system, he never looked back but worked day and night to eradicate it and in its place to erect the foundations for human happiness. From that young age onwards we have been inspired by his dedication mainly during times when many critics characterized our course as that of misguided individuals from the lunatic fringe of our society. He did not tell us to soldier on but by practical selflessness commitment showed us how to soldier on against adversities.

With these few memories with bleeding hearts we salute our great commander and leader. To the family, relatives, comrades and friends we express our heartfelt condolences. Those who had known the practical side of the struggle for the emancipation of the people of South Africa say your loss is ours too.

*Cliff Bestall*

Expected his time was not long but can't help being deeply saddened by his death.

I once sat in his house amongst all the art works interviewing him for Gabby Ginsberg's film on Albie. Denis told me the story of how Albie was convalescing in his apartment in London after the bomb did its damage. He walked into the room in which Albie was lying and Albie asked, "Is it worth it?" meaning was the continued struggle against apartheid worth the death and suffering of so many comrades. At this point Denis couldn't control a flood of tears as he told me about the test to his own commitment in those words. He never wavered and remained a mensch and stalwart of the struggle and I felt deeply privileged to share the moment.

*Lynn Carneson McGregor*

Very sad to hear about Denis. He knew me since I was a bump in my mother's stomach and advised me about my love life because I was allowed to write to him when he was in prison. He has always been a visionary, committed to the people, and a courageous man. His ability to communicate the essence of an issue simply and passionately reached minds and hearts more than the longest speech. The work he did for HEARTS kept many people alive. His love of art, music and dance will keep our spirits alive for many years.

Denis was a member of our extended family for all my life, he cared deeply for his prison mates and he is one of our struggle and post struggle heroes who always went enthusiastically for what had integrity and if possible, joy. He also spoke out for what was wrong. His wisdom and sense of humour will always stay alive even if he is no longer with us physically.

*Chitra Karve*

Please accept the condolences from all of us at Action for Southern Africa (ACTSA). Those of us from the Anti-Apartheid Movement remember Denis with such warmth and affection, as well as admiration for his unstinting positive commitment to a free South Africa. I remember him well when he lived in London, all those years ago. He was always a cheerful, energetic person who pulled no punches when he felt something needed to be said. He carried on working with the AAM's successor body ACTSA once he went home, and has been a source of strength and inspiration to us all. He gave us all hope.

*Paul Goldreich*

The Goldreich family received your sad news with shock. We hope that Dennis had a peaceful end. He was a truly wonderful man with whom we had a very long and sustained relationship.

*Joyce Leeson*

The going of Denis is a loss to progressive people and especially anti-racist activists everywhere. He never gave up the fight, because the causes to which he gave his life, justice and equality, have yet to be achieved in South Africa or anywhere else the world.

My late husband, Archie Sibeko (Zola Zembe to those who knew him in exile) greatly admired and respected him as a consistent fighter for the sort of society that ANC had been founded to achieve - not just with equality on paper, but with really equal chances for all.

A sad loss of a great man.

*Georgina Jaffee*

It is with deep sadness that I hear of Dennis passing but know it is also a relief especially during this time when visits to him were curtailed. I last spoke to him about a week ago and he sounded down and dispirited which was so unlike him. I have had the privilege and enjoyment of interacting with Dennis these last years and only have admiration for him - his optimism, generous spirit, wisdom; his historical bravery - his unique world

view - his political independence and his integrity and above all his commitment to human rights and the pursuit of justice. I will miss my visits to him which were warm and appreciative.

I continue to be committed to helping with the House of Hope and working with you all as I think that Denis's personal story is one which future generations will benefit. We have to continue to build a democratic and non-racial country and Denis was fully committed to this and inspires us to do the same.

Long life and may you find strength during this time of mourning and stay and find peace in the memories of a great human being whom we will all miss.

*Christopher Hudson*

I write on behalf of the members of the Probus Club of Hout Bay to express our sorrow that Denis Goldberg is no longer with us in life although we feel sure that his legacy will live on South Africa and in Hout Bay, where he made his home in later years. We were privileged to be entertained by Denis at his house last year and the happy memories of that visit will be with us into the future.

*Sue Rabkin*

Dennis was in prison with my late husband David, and his kindness and sensitivity to me and my children during their period of captivity and for many years after, will never be forgotten. He was a lovely man and South Africa is the poorer for his loss. May he rest in peace.

*Birgit Morgenrath and Thomas Krehwinkel*

Denis was our long-standing friend, a true comrade who taught us a lot about the struggle and the outstanding personality it needed to be and to stay a fighter. He still stuck to the basic values of the freedom charta and never got tired to preach them.

Me, Birgit, had moreover the opportunity to assist him writing his autobiography for Germany. A big experience.

We will miss Denis, a humane and witty friend. We always remember him with greatest respect and affection.

*Dieter and Ruth Gerhardt*

Dear Debbie,

Denis's passing is a very sad occasion for those that served time with him in Pretoria Max... I fondly cherish my memories of him and his unremitting concern for and kindness to his fellow prisoners and subsequently for all those that were fortunate enough to come into contact him... May he now rest in peace.

*Pascale Lamche*

If I may, I'll set out some of my favourite memories of Denis.

When I first met Denis, I was making a film called *Accused Number One: Nelson Mandela*, in 2003. He greeted me with all the warmth and charisma of his powerful, liberated soul. He was a knock-out. A combination of

brilliant intellect, healthy and sardonic scepticism and immense humour. I spent many months watching his face in my rushes, his impish joy as he took me through the hand drawn plans for the ingenious device that partly clinched it at the Rivonia trial, and his eyes when he had settled down to tell me the whole story, with time and grace and his magnificent powers of storytelling. There were times when he was immensely moved by his own account and, of course, all of us privileged enough to be watching him, in the garage outside his home (at that time in Pretoria), all of us gathered as the film crew, filming and recording him, watching him, were moved in equal measure. The depth of his gaze. By turns grave, or sparkling, suddenly, gleeful at a private joy. His careful pauses. The way he knew how to unfold a story, like a great and venerated actor. Theatre would have been a magnificent space for him too. In a second life. We were transported to that experience. The bravery of resistance. The unquestioned moral imperative of resistance. The actions taken. The risks. The absurdity of the Rivonia gathering on that day – the awful lottery, the bungling police who stumbled, almost by chance, on the biggest political haul of the entire struggle! And then the aftermath and cruel punishment. Unimaginable, to be incarcerated far, far from your comrades, surrounded by rabid white national criminals, a solitary beacon of truth, but a marked man. What courage and strength, to have survived that!...

We met again many years later and I visited him in his home in the Cape, surrounded by all his remarkable art. A memorable time once again. And we talked then, of other, later parts of the story. Of Winnie Mandela and many other things. I was enriched by his perspective and his generous warmth as ever.

He will be greatly missed. What a contribution he made! To the best of human thinking and feeling. To the best of South Africa!

I salute you Comrade, dear Denis.

Sad but so very glad to have known you.

### *Uno Pereira*

Somehow, I always imagined that seeing the House of Hope so close to being built would be that extra vitality boost that would allow his brilliant mind to shine through.

But unfortunately, like the rest of his life, this has been a constant struggle against adversity.

His unforgettable presence as well as his invaluable contributions and sacrifices to the ideals that he defended, uncompromisingly, throughout his whole life, will forever be an example of what we as individuals and as a society should strive for.

We will soldier on in making his House of Hope dream come true, while keeping true and committed to his wishes and memory.

I do believe that although not yet physically built yet, his presence is already felt on every drawing, on every render, on every corner and curve of this beautiful celebration of life... and what an amazing life it was.

*Joan Kalyani Oehme*

Condolences from me and family on the loss of our dear Comrade Denis Goldberg, who had endlessly fought for the eradication of the brutal Apartheid System and for a multiracial South Africa, and after freedom, he endlessly committed himself for the wellbeing of the poor children in South South Africa..We will miss him a great deal.

Hamba Gahle Denis

*Dwyn Griesel*

KMA was introduced to Denis Goldberg in 2008, by a mutual friend. A synergy ensued that resulted in Denis' patronage which lasted until Denis became gravely ill in 2017.

Throughout his time at KMA, Denis brought us into every conversation, every presentation and every relationship he had with potential donors. We remain forever grateful to Denis for the lasting and loving relationships we have formed with people in Germany, the UK and Scotland, and the USA, due to his influence.

Many fun years were spent performing at his events and, most importantly, at his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations, in 2013.

We held great pride in honouring our Patron at our soirees, Teachers' concerts, public performances and professional concerts, knowing that we were always playing in his honour.

Our experience of Denis was a passionate, kind and determined man, deeply affected by the injustices that he saw in the world. Whilst he gave up all he held dear for the cause he pledged his conscience to, the pain that left gaping holes in his heart were clear for all to see.

We will always remember the smiling, slightly amused look on his face whenever he visited our children. He was constantly amazed at the resilience and happiness our young people showed him and I like to think that deep down inside, he knew that he had a hand in that.

Rest now, dear friend, you have done more than your part and honoured what you set out to do so many, many years ago. Leave the rest up to us now, the guardians left in charge of those who will see our world, and our country, into a new dawn. We promise to do our best and carry the torch for you. All shall be well, Dear Denis.

*Helene Passtoors*

Hamba Kahle, dear comrade Denis.

We all knew him or about him and admired him. He was of that generation that brought forth incredible activists and freedom fighters. The generation also that fought and suffered for so many years before liberation came in sight. He was of those South African whites who knew evil when he saw it and identified fully, in heart, soul and body, with the struggle for freedom for all.

All that I knew. But I didn't know the man behind the stalwart.

Then, in 2010, I had the great privilege of staying a few days with him in his amazing house in Houtbay. And he talked. He was a lot more lucid than many at the time. And he had plans, many plans. His ageing body was already trying to make him slow down, but no, he took me down to the

Houtbay harbour, he showed me the beauty and the continuing misery among the beauty. He talked about all he still planned to contribute to the ongoing struggle for a better South Africa. And he did so.

When I received the first pictures of Denis with the children in his House of Hope, I saw his joy, his love, his dreams that he had made come true. He had been very tired and often very ill the last years but he didn't give up until he was sure the children of Houtbay had their place to go, to be happy and to see a brighter road in their lives.

Thank you, comrade Denis, for all you did and your shining example, the spear you left to pick up. We won't forget.

*Statement on behalf of the ANC's "London Recruits" on the death of anti-apartheid fighter Denis Goldberg.*

We London Recruits, enlisted during the struggle by the ANC and SACP to help with clandestine support within South Africa, wish to extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of Denis Goldberg, whose personal sacrifice and contribution to the fight against Apartheid was and remains an inspiration for so many. Some of us had the privilege of meeting him a few years ago. His integrity and strength, generosity and kindness – qualities critical in the fight against injustice – had not diminished with the years but had, rather, been enhanced. He was a man of principle and a man of stature. A man also of humour and good will. We salute him. We think of you all – his family, his friends, his comrades and fellow South Africans – with love and sympathy at this time of loss.

Signatories:

Sean Hosey, Alex Moumbaris, Ken Keable, Mary Chamberlain, John Rose, Tom Bell, Katherine Salahi, Pete Smith, Bob Newland, Steve Marsling, Stuart Round, Ramila Patel, Bevis Miller, Will Gee, Norman Lucas, Gordon Hutchins, Mike Milotte, Denis Walshe, Joy Leman, Eddie Adams, Daniel Ahern, Diana Ellis, Peter Sinclair, Cathy Dolphin, George Paizis, Roger Allingham, Graeme Whyte, Bob Allen.

*Sean Hosey*

Plaudits are rightly flowing for Denis Goldberg in South Africa and throughout the world.

I had the honour of sharing a cell block with Denis for five years, 1973-78, in the Pretoria Central Political Prison. White political prisoners only, black ones were on Robben Island, as befitted the madness of Apartheid.

Many people have recollected Denis's outstanding bravery and courage before and after his 22 years in prison. I only spent a small proportion of this time as a fellow prisoner with him, but I want to testify that his bravery and courage did not stop at the prison gates.

He demonstrated it on many occasions, in an environment which was hostile, punitive, and dangerous.

I would like to share with you three such examples [the third of which is reproduced here]. They demonstrate his guts, tenacity, and kindness.

### 3. DENIS'S RABBI

Though not a religious man, Denis did, whilst in prison, see a Rabbi about half a dozen times a year. He told me he enjoyed the philosophical debate.

However, a bonus to the visits was one of the rare treats that was permitted us – the annual ‘Passover Parcel’.

This was a food hamper of appropriate Passover foodstuffs, all of it a delightful delicacy compared to our prison diet.

Excitement would build for weeks with anticipation, because Denis shared everything the Rabbi brought with the rest of us. I never suggested to him that his ‘philosophical debates’ might have had an ulterior motive!

But that was Denis, generous and always supportive of his comrades. There are, and no doubt will be, many physical memorials in South Africa to Denis and other comrades of his generation, who gave so much to the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa.

However, from my knowledge of Denis, I believe that he would feel his, and their, memories would be better cherished by the present and future South Africa honouring and implementing the ideas and principles that they fervently believed in and fought for.

Dear comrade Denis, I salute you.

#### *South African BDS Coalition*

On behalf of the South African BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) Coalition we extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of Denis Goldberg, whose outstanding role in the struggle that overthrew Apartheid serves as an inspiration for countless mortals throughout the world. Intrinsic to his belief was his outstanding humanism, internationalism and solidarity with all people struggling to free themselves from discrimination and oppression. Denis was a moral guide to the Palestinian people, among others, in their just cause. From an early age he was affronted by Israel's colonial-racism and abhorrent treatment of the indigenous Palestinian people. He was an impassioned activist in the Palestine solidarity movement in South Africa and internationally right through to his last days. He often explained: *"Having lived through apartheid in South Africa. There's no doubt in my mind that Israel is an apartheid state."* He believed that Arabs and Jews could live in harmony in a system based on equality for all. This was his guiding principle in the struggle to free South Africa and a lesson for the world. Denis Theodore Goldberg's good life was one of tireless service and sacrifice for the people.

#### *Wolfgang Ebert*

With sadness and great dismay we heart that Denis died. With grief we think of Denis as a person who has made our lives richer and we are thankful these days for a multitude of encounters that Denis has made possible with his relentless commitment.

Shortly after his daughter Hilly died and Denis married Edelgard in April 2002, we were able to welcome Denis to Wuppertal for the first time.

From this first contact, a large number of visits followed, during which Denis visited with me more than 20 schools, adult education institutions and universities. On each visit he reported in his lectures on his struggle for freedom and human rights and against racism. Hundreds of pupils experienced Denis as someone who fascinated them and who was a concentrated and attentive listener in personal conversations.

Even though Denis was subjected to physical and psychological violence and grueling prison conditions during his 22 years in prison, he authentically conveyed to his young audience his beliefs in human dignity, tolerance and humanity...

During our visit to Hout Bay in February 2018, we saw the satisfaction with which he saw the political shift from President Zuma to President Ramaphosa, as his greatest concern in previous years was that Rivonia's legacy could be gambled away. It is good to know that Denis was still able to experience this change and the House of Hope in Hout Bay will soon be facing its final destination.

#### *Max Sisulu*

We feel as if a member of our own family has passed away because Denis was much loved by our parents, Walter and Albertina Sisulu. Denis and my father were great friends who enjoyed a mutual love and admiration.

Denis was a feisty, courageous character. You could not commit acts of sabotage against the apartheid government in the early 1960s without a healthy dose of courage and a bit of madness. That courage and touch of madness landed him in the dock at the Rivonia Trial, the youngest and the only white trialist to be sentenced along with Mandela, Sisulu, Mbeki, Kathrada, Mlangeni and Motsoaledi. His incarceration in a whites-only prison in Pretoria for 22 years did not break his bonds with his comrades. Our father Walter commented that when they reunited decades later, it was as if they had never been apart.

We loved Denis for his generosity, his keen sense of humour and the fact that he never wavered in his ideals, always speaking truth to power. He was down to earth and honest, choosing a simple life instead of material riches which he could have come easily to him. We always admired the way in which he coped with his long struggle with lung cancer with great fortitude, always deflecting attention from himself, focusing instead on the marginalised and voiceless. He was young at heart right until the end and we are so thankful and blessed to have had him with us for this time. He is one of the last of a remarkable generation. We will cherish his memory always.

#### *Kimon Bizos*

George and the Bizos family will always remember Denis with deep respect and affection. His joyful humanity and fierce intelligence gave him a passionate and energetic commitment to the struggle. He was formidable, unrelenting and irrepressible. We remember him in Downing Street in 2016, when he, George and others involved in the Rivonia trial received the Freedom of the City of London. He then somehow extended a scheduled five minute meeting with UK Prime Minister David Cameron into a hard-hitting 25 minute session where he grabbed the opportunity to campaign. We send our condolences to Denis's family and to the wider circle of people whose lives he touched. We will remember him. Well done for a life lived to the full, Denis. Rest in peace.

*Elaine Unterhalter*

I remember Denis most clearly from his time in the ANC in London, probably in the late 1980s. He was a dynamic figure, with a warmth, humour, openness that was so engaging. He probably understood all the tensions, divisions and rivalries more clearly than the people who were engaged with them. But he wasn't daunted or cowed. He would just talk and talk to you, if there was a disagreement. And then he would laugh, and say let's eat something or have a coffee. Among his amazing achievements was always to be practical, and to see what was the most useful practice to undertake... There was a detachedness to being far away in an exile community, which could make some people retreat into ideas. But Denis always attended both to the ideas and what practical help could be given to put ideas into practice. HEART, with its stress on health and education together, was massively innovative - way, way ahead of its time. I can see that same innovation and acute assessment of what needs to be done to enlarge our sense of being human in House of Hope. I've heard a few people describe Denis as a mensch, and it is a fitting tribute evoking his generosity, humaneness and the warmth entailed in the way he recognised equality. But I also think it so fittingly evokes his insight that we must do the best with what we have, that politics is lived in small and big encounters, and that hope isn't abstract, anyone can make it happen.

*Richard Kilpert*

It is with great sadness that the staff of Zeitz MOCAA learned of the passing of the great man.

He visited the museum only a few months ago to see the Kentridge show and ended up spending a long time in the children's exhibition, asking about the stories behind it.

His enduring commitment to the rights of all citizens of this country has culminated in his belief that the arts can unite and empower individuals and community through common expression.

There have been so many tributes to the legacy that Denis Goldberg leaves behind. We add our voice of thanks to the countless people who have benefitted from the sacrifices he made, and the lessons we can share through our work.

In these uncertain times, we extend the hand of friendship and collaboration, and look forward to many more creative sessions with your learners from House of Hope.

Thank you, Denis, for inspiring us.

*Jane Bodin and Michael Williams*

Denis was a man of huge charm. And very sexy. Even in his eighties! He had a wonderful voice and extraordinary command of language, Simple, direct and emotive. You could sit and listen to him for hours. As people did all over the world.

We met Denis in England in the 1990s in connection with one of his projects Community H.E.A.R.T. In particular the campaign for people, especially children, to donate a book and 10 pence (a contribution towards the cost of shipping) to South African young people...

Denis leaves an inheritance of the House of Hope. Perhaps his greatest legacy is in the hearts of those he touched.

*Mandy Sanger*

Condolences to you all on the loss of a great comrade, uber-mensch in the spirit of Che Guevara's, 'A revolutionary is driven by feelings of great love' - a spirit of great love for the most vulnerable people of the world is what Dennis Goldberg leaves us with!

*Lynn Abrahams*

Whilst his passing is a huge loss to our country and nation, I am satisfied that Cde Dennis's journey's through life was imbued with human values which was a personification of ubuntu. He was a selfless leader who dedicated his entire life to the struggle for democracy and ensuring our freedom, which is often taken for granted. It is my pledge to ensure that his legacy will remain and therefore I dedicate myself to uphold the values and principles that he stood and fought for. Indeed we have lost a giant, but his legacy has multiplied. Thank you Cde Dennis for being true to the struggle for non-racialism, non-sexism and a true democracy.

Thank you for the beautiful memorial service that was put together in his honour. It was very befitting and the speakers all did justice to his legacy...

*Carohn Cornell*

The broadcast memorial event for Denis Goldberg was really very moving and I got the feeling he would have loved it: the video, the grandchildren, the president in his ANC tie, the local choir, old gentleman Andrew Mlangeni and all....

I was very glad to come to the grand concert and to hear what might have been Denis G's last impassioned speech. I'd heard him a couple of times before, once at the District Six Museum Homecoming Centre at a Reclaim the City event, where he was speaking truth to power all right. By the way, I'd arrived early and saw an old man in a wheelchair near the entrance of the Centre, observing the people coming in. We got talking and he introduced himself as Denis, no surname. He asked me some searching questions about Reclaim the City and my connection (I'd been interviewing black Sea Point residents who were campaigning for affordable social housing in the area). When I asked him about his connection he said something like, 'I'm retired but I try to be an active citizen'. That's when I realized which Denis I was talking to. Wonderful how he kept on and on.

*ANC Denis Goldberg Branch*

**PASSING ON OF CDE DENIS GOLDBERG**

It is with great sadness that we learn of the passing of our stalwarts, Comrade & Friend, Denis Goldberg.

He has passed on from his sleep this morning, he passed on peacefully. We send our Condolences to the closest Family, the closest Friends, us the Denis Goldberg Branch & the entire South Africans.

Cde Denis has passed on at a very tough time where we are hard at work trying to contain the Coronavirus disease. This will hamper us from participating fully in his sending off.

As a Denis Goldberg Branch named in his honor, we are also in greaving moment. May Cde Denis Goldberg Rest In Peace.

He was one of the 2 remaining Rivonia Trialists remaining together with Cde Andrew Mlangeni.

*Simon Fanshawe*

I will always be so grateful to him for characteristically giving time and care to an eager admirer and putting up with my, probably impertinent, questions. Like “what did all that time in solitary teach you?” “How things worked”, he replied, “I know how everything works because I got the manuals and studied them”. He was such a delightful and enjoyable person to talk to. And he took his loyalty and commitment to the struggle yet he wore his part in it so lightly. Always with a sense of history but always looking forward. I feel very privileged to have known him.

I do remember one story particularly, which I re-told to Albie when he was here for supper. Denis told me that he had gone to Brian Bunting’s funeral. He told me because I had recruited Stephen, Brian and Sonia’s son, distinctly not a dedicated Communist like them and the founder of Abingworth which is the largest pharma investment fund in the UK, to Sussex Council... As the Guardian obituary said of Stephen’s parents “The Buntings remained fiercely committed to communism, and were known to view deviations from the party line with some severity”. However at the funeral, Denis said, people kept on getting to their feet and going on about what a congenial adversary Brian was in an argument and how open he was to discussion etc... Until Denis could stand it no longer and he leapt to his feet and told everyone with typical bluntness that got a laugh that “Brian was a total Stalinist who never entertained any disagreement whatsoever...” How amazing to have known such a hero and someone who kept hope in progress going in his life to the end. Wonderful man

*Hans-Uli Strohm*

This was really a very good and a very true memorial. True in a way that you all together painted a picture of Denis which was like he really was.

If Denis would not be as humble as he was, he would also have loved it.

Because you really transported the message what he lived for and what was the guideline of his life.

It was so great the whole 1,25 h of it. I had tears in my eyes because I am so thankful. And all what I admire at him it was there in this memorial service. The best thing was that everybody spoke about how big his impact was in the struggle and how humble and normal and down to earth he was. Not taking anything out of what he did for the country and what he could get out of it for himself. I think that this was mentioned so often he would have liked.

*Mansoor Jaffer*

Hamba Kahle

Denis Goldberg

The Cape Cultural Collective joins fellow South Africans in mourning the loss of the great freedom fighter and visionary Denis Goldberg.

At the same time, we celebrate a life well lived in service of the entire nation.

In the sixties, he and his comrades showed immense bravery and selflessness by taking on the might of the apartheid regime. They relentlessly advocated a democratic, non-racial and shared future.

We salute him for the immense sacrifices he made to secure freedom for us all.

We were privileged to have Denis Goldberg as a guest at the Rosa Choir concert at Novalis in August last year and were humbled by the fact that he expressed admiration for the work of the CCC.

We then had discussions with him about partnering with his House of Hope project. He connected us to members of his team and within a few weeks about 15 children from Hangberg and Imizamo Yethu joined the junior Rosa choir. The choir has grown in strength but was disrupted by the advent of the coronavirus. The choir is diverse and sings in three languages, in line with Denis's vision of a united country.

We envisage further collaborations with the House of Hope in the future. As the Cape Cultural Collective we will keep alive the memory of Denis Goldberg by advancing the values he stood for.

*Statement from the Desmond & Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation*

**MOURNING THE DEEP LOSS OF DENIS GOLDBERG**

Denis Goldberg was a mensch, a human being of the highest integrity and honour who eschewed personal aggrandisement and consumptiveness. His lifetime contribution to South Africa and its people was second to none. His passing today aged 87, following a lengthy battle against cancer, conducted with customary courage and grace, feels as if the nation has lost part of its soul.

Denis Goldberg's pragmatic human values and natural compassion shone like a candle, attracting and connecting like-minded individuals and institutions wherever he went.

The Tutu Legacy Foundation was greatly honoured last year to work with him on hosting an exhibition on the Second World War. Based on research by eminent scientist and historians in Germany, the exhibition presented a decolonised history of the war. Titled, *Forgotten Liberators*, it focused on the contribution of two million conscripts from French and British colonies to defeating Nazism.

The Foundation is committed to continuing to honour Goldberg through strengthening its relationship to the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation. He is best known as one of the Rivonia Trialists, a member of the Communist Party who helped establish the ANC's armed wing and was sentenced with seven others, including Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu, in 1964, to life imprisonment. As the only white trialist to be convicted, he could not serve his sentence with his comrades on Robben Island, which was reserved for Black prisoners. He was instead incarcerated in Pretoria, for 22 years. But the Rivonia Trial was just one long chapter in his extraordinary life's work...

Hamba Kahle Denis Goldberg! May you rest in peace and rise in glory.

*Jennie Pogrand*

Resoundingly well done! It was perfect, a deeply moving farewell, a superb tribute to a great human being. A few technical this and that, facts of new technology. Did not matter in the slightest... To everyone who worked on this, thank you, we were able to say farewell and commune.