

And who can forget her presence at the ASLH annual meetings where she joined in and often stimulated the intellectual discourse, not to mention the good-natured hilarity. 'Presence' she had. She could not help but look a bit aristocratic, but in fact as one friend recalled, 'she was self-effacing in a way that was a relief in crowds of self-trumpeting academics.' She distrusted faddism in the profession, hated pretension and demagoguery, and detested bloviating politicians (and professors). She had a passion for rationality and social justice—which meant she was frequently at odds with modern American political culture. It was easy and fun to get her going on that subject, on her latest trip to Italy with Bob, or on the glories of Venice—we did not have to entice her. Mostly we all joined in on some current issue in legal history, some promising new line of inquiry, or some old wisdom, perhaps. How Kitty managed to find time for all those lunches, coffees, breakfasts, and dinners with old friends and new acquaintances still remains a mystery. As her friend Chris Tomlins recalled, 'she graced us by her presence.' For many of us she represented all that is good and true about the profession. She was a scholar's scholar, a teacher of teachers. What we will do without her is hard to imagine.

R. Kent Newmyer

ALVIN M. JOSEPHY, JR.

Alvin M. Josephy, Jr., award-winning journalist, World War II Marine Corps combat correspondent, magazine and book editor, and preeminent historian of the American West and American Indians, died on October 16, 2005, at his home in Greenwich, Connecticut. He was ninety years of age.

Josephy was born in Woodmere, Long Island, on May 18, 1915, and raised in New York City. He was educated at Horace Mann School, where he began his journalism career on the school

newspaper, interviewing writers of the day, including John Galsworthy, G. K. Chesterton, and H. L. Mencken, whom he had come to know through his uncle, the publisher Alfred A. Knopf. Josephy attended Harvard University for two years but the Depression forced him to leave and accept a screenwriting offer at the Metro Goldwyn Mayer studio in California. He returned to New York and in 1936 began work for the *New York Herald Tribune* as a reporter.

Several years later, he moved to radio station WOR as director of news and special events and then, with the onset of World War II, Josephy moved to Washington, D.C., to work for the Office of War Information as its radio bureau's chief of special events. He joined the Marine Corps in 1943 as a combat correspondent, serving in the South Pacific with the Third Marine Division. Carrying heavy recording equipment, Josephy covered the battles in Guadalcanal, Saipan, Guam, and Iwo Jima. He received a Bronze Star for his work in Guam when he landed with the advanced troops, recording for the first time an on-the-spot account of an amphibious assault in progress, called an 'epic' by a later commentator. In 1946 he wrote his first book, *The Long, the Short and the Tall*, an account of his Marine Corps experiences, published by Alfred A. Knopf.

Josephy was a foreign correspondent in Guatemala and Mexico (where he interviewed the exiled Russian revolutionary Leon Trotsky), an associate editor of *Time* and vice president and editor-in-chief of American Heritage Publications. At American Heritage, he joined Bruce Catton, Oliver Jensen, Richard Ketcham, and Ray Billington, all future members of the American Antiquarian Society—Josephy was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in October 1977. *American Heritage*, the magazine, had great influence on historians and the general public. Among early articles by the young Josephy were 'First "Dude Ranch" Trip to the Untamed West,' 'The Last Stand of Chief Joseph,' and 'These Lands are Ours,' subjects indicating the future direction that his scholarship would take.

Josephy was author of more than a dozen authoritative books cited for their literary quality as well as their exacting research: *The Patriot Chiefs*, *The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the Northwest*, *Red Power*, *Now That the Buffalo's Gone*, *The Civil War in the American West*, *The Indian Heritage of America* (a National Book Award nominee), and *500 Nations*. His long and dramatic career, spanning most of the twentieth century, is recounted in *A Walk Toward Oregon: A Memoir*. It was named one of the top one hundred books of 2000 by the *New York Times*. One last book, *Lewis and Clark Through Indian Eyes*, is scheduled for publication by Alfred A. Knopf in 2006.

For almost fifty years, Josephy played an active role in supporting American Indians in their struggles for self-determination, treaty rights, and sovereignty. Stewart Udall, secretary of the interior in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations and for whom Josephy served as a consultant in 1963-64, recalled: 'Alvin M. Josephy was a valued friend for over forty-five years. From the late 1950s, in his books and articles beginning with his first book for American Heritage on American Indians and their history, until his masterful summation in *500 Nations*, he was the most important creative interpreter of the history and culture of Native Americans. His authoritative voice influenced the opinions and actions of presidents and members of Congress. He was always in the forefront of the fight for Indian rights and justice. As a spokesman for Native people he had no peer.'

Over the years Josephy was a consultant to many private, governmental, and Indian organizations, including the Ford Foundation, the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and the National Congress of American Indians. In the late 1960s, he was the author of a special report on change in Indian policy for President-elect Nixon, which ushered in the era of tribal self-determination. His work advanced a dialogue that in the 1960s included for the first time the voices of native peoples describing their own history of many thousands of years, their

democracies, and cultures. Josephy's scholarship and advocacy laid the groundwork for this movement.

During the early 1970s, he wrote for *Audubon Magazine* on the environmental impacts of large industrial projects on the life of the West. Through his interest in the history of American Indians he was able to link the history of the land and native peoples with the emerging environmental movement. This had a sweeping impact on a generation of environmental historians, including Richard White, Patricia Limerick, and Char Miller.

Josephy was a trustee of the Museum of the American Indian in New York and from there was elected founding chairman of the board of trustees of the Smithsonian's new National Museum of the American Indian, a place for American Indians to tell their own stories and interpret their own culture. The museum's director, W. Richard West, a member of the Southern Cheyenne, noted: 'We feel his presence every day . . . his imprimatur is on every aspect of the Museum.' His continuing influence is also felt by Indian Arts and Crafts Board, which Josephy served as vice chairman. The noted Curator of Indian Arts and Crafts George Horse Capture remarked: 'He was a heroic figure, a pioneering figure. We treasure him.'

Over the years Josephy was frequently honored and won many awards. He was a Guggenheim Fellow and was awarded an honorary doctorate of humanities from Albertson College in Caldwell, Idaho. In 1965 and 1968, he received the Golden Spur Award and the Western Writers of America Award of Merit for his book, *The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the Northwest*. In 1995 he received the Wallace Stegner Award at the Center for the American West at the University of Colorado. In 1996 he was presented the Oregon Governor's Award in the Arts and, later, the Oregon Book Award for a distinguished career in Oregon letters.

Josephy served as president of the Western History Association in 1993 and 1994, was on the board of the Society of American

Historians, the Association on American Indian Affairs, the United States Capitol Historical Society in Washington, D.C., the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Western Folklife Center, and Friends of the Earth.

All who knew him have special memories. One of my warmest memories is his discussion of taking his young family annually from Connecticut west to the distinctive Nez Perce country of Oregon. Another memorable occasion was when he was honored by the Western History Association in 2004, when many of his friends talked about their times together at his home in the Wallowa mountains of eastern Oregon, talking about history, battles fought, and the beauty of the American west, while sipping martinis. Another memory is of the opening of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, when Josephy, Vine Deloria, Jr., Billy Frank, Jr., and others celebrated the opening of the museum with the acknowledgment of how much we all owe Native Americans.

Alvin M. Josephy, Jr., was preceded in death by his wife of fifty-six years, Elizabeth Peet. He is survived by his brother Warren Josephy of New York City, his daughters Diane Josephy Peavey of Carey, Idaho; Allison Wolowitz of Old Greenwich, Connecticut; and Katherine Josephy of Enterprise, Oregon; and his son, Alvin M. Josephy III, of Olympia, Washington. He also leaves eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Robert C. Baron

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