

# Dead

## is a four letter word

By JO ANN STEVENSON  
Times Staff Writer

Dead is a four letter word, which like most other four letter words, is not often used in polite society, says Rabbi Earl Grollman, author of the book, "Talking about Death; a dialogue between parent and child."

### Don't hide behind words

Grollman disagrees with using euphemisms, such as saying to a child whose grandfather has died, that he's gone away on a long journey. The child knows this journey is different because last time Grampa went to Miami everyone was happy. Children could begin to fret if their parents go on

a weekend jaunt or a business trip. They may feel angry that Grampa hasn't sent any post cards and feel rejected because he didn't say goodbye.

The kindest way to tell a child about a death is to be sure there is time enough to spend in follow-up and say, "Your grandfather is dead. You will never see him again in this life." Tell them that whatever they are feeling is OK. Tell them you are experiencing pain too and that you don't know all the answers. When it comes to death we're all children.

### Talk about funerals

It is advisable to tell children about funerals and what happens at funerals, at a time when there is no emotional connection to a death. Use the death of a pet as a chance to hold a burial in the backyard and allow a time of grief before replacing the pet. Then when there is a death, ask the child if he would like to attend the funeral in a way that shows you would like him to come if he feels he wants to.

To very young children, death is reversible. They play good guys and bad guys until they're all dead and then they play something else. Slightly older children believe in their own bionics. Death may happen to those around them but

never to themselves. Freud believed that adults progress towards the acceptance of their own mortality, but Grollman suggests we rarely achieve that kind of acceptance.

At parties, adults laugh about death because they can't talk about it. When they were younger, they would laugh about sex for the same reason.

"When a child asks why his fish is swimming funny, don't flush it down the toilet. Let it die and let the child say shalom or goodbye," says Grollman.

### God: The fall guy?

"Sometimes theology gets in the way," said Grollman. "To explain that God took a young person because he was so good just makes no sense. The child will try to be bad so God won't do the same for him, and may wonder if all the living are too bad for God to take. That sure isn't my God," said Grollman. The reality of the situation is that some die young — good and bad.

When we say Grampa died because he was old and sick, even that can be ambiguous to a child. All old people are not sick and all sick people don't die. To a child, anyone 15 years older than himself is old. He may watch with trepidation as his parents battle with a flu bug or a common cold.

"Heaven can be a difficult concept for children. They

may watch the sky during rainfall expecting the spiritual body to come down again," Grollman said.

Terms like life after death conjure up visions of this life after this death. Words need to be explained and reality should be made clear, no matter what the theological beliefs are. When we say the dog was put to sleep, the child could become afraid to go to sleep at night.

### Clergy not always helpful

In a survey conducted by funeral directors it was found that people felt the clergy was not very effective in helping them through grief. In a book, *Conflicts of the Clergy*, Grollman learned that clergymen tend to have difficulty with the acceptance of death and that they choose their careers as a reflection of that attitude. They often feel hypocritical or ill prepared to offer release or relief to a family in grief.

This is a death denying, death defying culture. Grollman has learned to listen to the variety of emotions from grief to anger to guilt and to let that release take the initiative in healing.

"Children often get shoved aside during a death. Their feelings should be heard and the truth should be shared with them kindly and patiently even through one's own hurt," Grollman said.

## His people love to sing and often win

By BETTIE BRADLEY  
Times Community Editor

His father said, "Here's a baseball, go out and play." His mother said, "Oh no you don't. Practice your music."

By most measuring sticks, music would seem to be the winner, although Clive Dunsdan is seen pretty often on a tennis court and a baseball diamond.

Clive Dunsdan lives with his wife, Pat, and their two children on Pagehurst Court, and makes the daily trek to Applewood Heights Collegiate, where he heads up the music department.

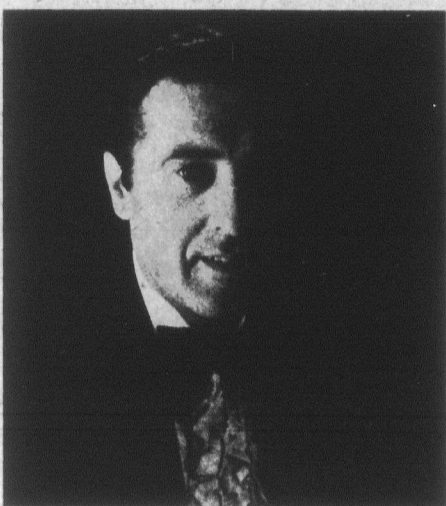
But that's just the tip of the proverbial iceberg. His mark has been made in the world of choral music, where he has done his country proud. In 1977, his Toronto Concert Singers were selected by the CBC to represent Canada in the European Choral competition sponsored by the BBC — and they reached the semi-finals, where they lost to France.

Dunsdan started the group nine years ago. Initially, it was just a group of friends meeting weekly to share their love of choral singing. Since, it has grown to a choir of 40 members — all highly skilled and carefully screened.

This year the Toronto Concert Singers will represent Ontario in the national semi-finals of the mixed choir class choral competition sponsored by the CBC.

Later in the year they will be guests of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra as well as giving two performances of their own and making guest appearances.

His passion for music extends to encouraging young people to explore and develop their talent. He has been a choir director and church organist at St. James United Church on Burnhamthorpe Road for 11 years, developing a youth choir of young people ages 13-18.



Clive Dunsdan's Toronto Concert Singers will represent Ontario in the CBC-sponsored choral competition.

He recently entered his youth choir in a national competition sponsored by MacLean Hunter Cable TV — and they walked away with first prize (\$2,000).

The money was added to an existing church fund which provides bursaries to young people ages nine-18 who want to train their voices.

Auditions for the Toronto Concert Singers are held in June. Anyone who would like to audition (or perhaps be added to the mailing list), call Linda Clark 769-7780 or Ken Kessler, 698-6935.

His father, who was a soccer player, brought to Canada from England, didn't really lose the sports versus music battle. If Dunsdan's first love is music, he concedes that his rare, spare time is spent bringing his tennis game to a fine edge.

## Zonta International

### Here and abroad, the work goes on

Zonta International is a service organization of executive women in business and the professions. As leaders in the communities, members of Zonta have pledged

themselves to conduct community projects which meet significant civic, educational, or social welfare needs and to improve the legal, political and economic status of

women. The Colombia urban project is an international service interpreting Zonta's dedication to the education and health care of women and

children, to the improvement of the status of women, and to the support of the United Nations. Peel and service projects include: The Peel County Girls Group Home.

The donation of a wheelchair to the V.O.N. Mississauga, Mississauga Meals on Wheels, and the Mississauga Association for the Mentally Retarded toy library.

Special Purchase of

# WIDE FITTINGS

Regular to 22.90

## \$14.99

# ingeberg

shoes

Excellent Range of Sizes available

Sheridan Mall Mississauga  
2613 Eglinton E.  
Sheridan Mall Pickering  
588 Bloor West  
Charles Promenade  
923-5708  
Commerce Court  
Hillcrest Mall  
Cloverdale Mall

## Auction draws crowds

People who had never set foot in Peggy Law Interiors (on Dundas Street, near Highway 10, and who would probably not shop in a Peggy Law shop again, jammed the store last Saturday looking for bargains.

Peggy Law held an auction, prior to closing at this location.

There was a line-up when the doors opened at 9 a.m., potential buyers were registered (complete with bank account numbers and identification, please) and the fun began — with coffee, sandwiches and cold drinks provided by the hostess.

Two auctioneers were kept busy, non-stop, as buyers bid for fine pieces.

The auction was to have finished at 5 p.m., but at 6:30 p.m. the weary auctioneers were still at it, the temperature in the store was sizzling and buyers were still out-bidding one another.

**ALL CANADIAN TENNIS CAMP**  
16 Courts & Swimming Pool  
"TENNIS THE RIGHT WAY"  
Junior and Adult Day Camp  
With Former Canadian Champion

**PIERRE LAMARCHE and HARRY BRITAIN**  
Former Australian Junior Champion

**ONTARIO RACQUET CLUB**  
822-5240  
884 Southdown Rd. Mississauga, Ont. (next to the Clarkson GO Station)

# CUSTOM-MADE DRAPES

GUARANTEED 7 Day delivery

OR MONEY REFUNDED

Custom Made Drapes At Substantial Savings

Our "direct from the mill buying" programme from the mills around the world ensure you of high quality and low prices. Our low prices do not in any way affect Mayfair's usual top quality expert workmanship.

**FREE SHOP-AT-HOME-SERVICE**  
Mayfair Consultants will bring samples of a wide range of fabrics to your home or office. Choose your draperies at your leisure without obligation. For day or evening appointment telephone now 661-2131

**GUARANTEED 7 DAY DELIVERY**  
On custom made drapes or money refunded.

Yes, we can and will guarantee a 7 working day delivery from our huge inventory. Delivery must be confirmed at time of order.

**25 YEARS SERVING METRO**

For a Day or Evening Appointment Call **661-2131**

5441 YONGE ST. (at Finch)  
223-9651

1807 LAWRENCE AVE. E. at Pharmacy  
751-1574

4699 KEELE ST. S. of Steeles,  
661-2131

1187 HURONTARIO Mississauga  
274-2579

2673 EGLINTON AVE. E. at Brimley  
267-8297

# Sales Help

Lipton's Bloor and Sherway Gardens shops are growing and have positions open for professional sales help who have an eye for better fashions, a love for retailing and meeting women with discriminating tastes.

Applicants will command a better than average income and excellent company benefits if you meet our requirements.

Must have at least 3 years specialty shop experience.

Our Customers deserve the best.

For personal interview, please call—

Mr. Coffey                      Mrs. Weinreb  
259-9635                      or                      275-1222

## LIPTON'S