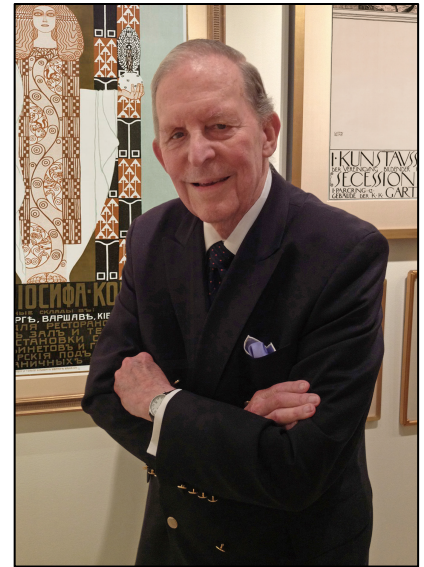


Remembering My Late Husband, LeRoy E. Hoffberger, on the Occasion of His Birthday

Today, June 8, 2020, would have been the 95th birthday of my husband, LeRoy E. Hoffberger, of blessed memory. To honor Roy's memory and legacy, I have made a donation to the Friends of LeRoy E. Hoffberger Graduate School of Painting Fund at MICA. I made my initial gift to this fund in 2014 to honor the publication of Roy's memoir, *Measure of a Life*. I am especially proud to support the first-year students in their production of a catalogue of their impressions recorded during the Covid-19 pandemic and the opening reception for the class of 2020, whose graduation works will be shown in exhibits at Art Cake in New York City, exact dates and events to be announced.

In thinking about Roy and looking through my papers, I came across a tribute to him written by Michael Yockel and published in the January 2017 issue of *Baltimore* magazine. I'd like to share that tribute today with family and friends. Stay safe. Be well.



Paula Gately Tillman Hoffberger

Leroy "Roy" Hoffberger, 91

After securing grants and donations from businesses and foundations, plus state bond money, the American Visionary Art Museum needed one last financial infusion to ensure its 1995 opening. Unhesitatingly, AVAM co-founder Roy Hoffberger—attorney, businessman, philanthropist, and art collector—reached into his own pocket to auction off a clutch of his cherished German Expressionist works on paper.

Hoffberger personified *menschdom*, walking the walk and talking the talk, a philosophy encapsulated in the subtitle of his 2014 memoir *Measure of a Life*: What we leave behind is far more important than how far we get ahead.

His family's foundation, which he chaired, has benefited numerous local medical, academic, and religious programs, and he gave privately, too.

"Roy had so much impact on the arts in Baltimore in so many directions," says former BMA director Doreen Bolger. "It's actually hard for me to think of anyone else who approaches his stature. He was a co-founder of AVAM. He was chairman of the board and a major donor to MICA, arguably the nation's leading art school—the graduate program in painting bears his name. He formed an amazing collection of rare German Expressionist works, a significant number of which have been given to the BMA.¹ Any one of these legacies would qualify him for everlasting gratitude. But all three? Wow!"²

¹ Editor's note: In November 2016 in accordance with Roy's will, Paula Hoffberger facilitated their bequest of Vienna Secession posters to the BMA. The posters were shown in exhibit, *Sacred Spring: Vienna Secession Posters from the Collection of LeRoy E. Hoffberger and Paula Gately Tillman Hoffberger*, March 25, 2018, to July 29, 2018.

² Michael Yockel. *Baltimore*. "In Memorium: We Bid Farewell to the Luminaries We Lost This Year." January 2017, page 172.