

The Delray Democrat

Remembering “Radical Jack”

A Life Well Lived¹

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Jack Lieberman, a fixture of progressive politics in South Florida for five decades, died of COVID-19 on August 30, 2020. Dubbed “Radical Jack” and expelled from Florida State University in the late 1960s, he wore the mantle proudly and is remembered lovingly by the many whose lives he helped and changed.

It is perhaps fitting that I just happened to put on my “Remember Paul” t-shirt this morning, a few hours before I heard of Jack’s passing. I first “met” Jack after searching online for “Paul Robeson t-shirts” sometime back in the early aughts.

About a decade later, and before moving to Florida, I actually did meet him.

Sandy and I were leaving a rally in DC when one of the many people hawking books, buttons, and other political paraphernalia suddenly called out, “Hey, that’s my shirt,” pointing at Sandy, dressed in a Paul Robeson shirt. I yelled back, “Are you Radical Jack?” He said, “yeah,” and Sandy said, “well, we’ve just been giving out your website to everyone.” The Robeson t-shirt actually did create quite a stir among the Old Lefties in the crowd, but sadly most people were unfamiliar with that giant of a man.

To read more about Jack by those who knew him better, go to

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/363632-evan-ross-my-jack-lieberman-story-a-life-of-service>

<https://haitiliberte.com/beloved-south-florida-activist-jack-lieberman-dead-of-covid-19-at-70/>

<https://www.facebook.com/jack.lieberman.7>

You are sorely missed, Jack. Rest in Power.

¹ *The Delray Democrat*, September, p. 7.