

<https://www.simme.de/deutschland-welt/politik/dw/prominenter-anti-apartheid-kaempfer-denis-goldberg-gestorben;art295,4348436>

30. April 2020, 15:05 Uhr

Update: 30. April 2020, 15:07 Uhr

Prominenter Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg gestorben

Kapstadt (dpa) Jahrelang kämpfte er gegen das rassistische Apartheidregime in Südafrika. Neben Nelson Mandela wurde er verurteilt und verbrachte mehr als zwei Jahrzehnte in Haft. Denis Goldberg hinterlässt in einem noch immer gespaltenen Südafrika ein wichtiges Vermächtnis.



Der Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg ist gestorben.

Der prominente Anti-Apartheid-Aktivist Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Südafrikaner sei nach einem zweieinhalbjährigen Kampf gegen Lungenkrebs gestorben, sagte Debbie Budlender, die Managerin des Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trusts.

Er wurde 87 Jahre alt. Dass er noch so lange gelebt habe, sei ein «Zeichen seiner Entschlossenheit und seines Mutes» gewesen. Etliche prominente Südafrikaner zollten Goldberg und seinem Vermächtnis Anerkennung.

Goldberg habe sich dafür eingesetzt, «dass wir heute ein besseres Leben leben können», teilte Südafrikas Staatschef Cyril Ramaphosa mit. Er würdigte den «mutigen Einsatz» und «lebenslangen Aktivismus» von Goldberg. Die Stiftung des Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfers und früheren Erzbischofs Desmond Tutu teilte mit, Goldberg sei ein «Mensch mit höchster Integrität und Ehre» gewesen. Es fühle sich an, «als habe die Nation einen Teil ihrer Seele verloren».

ch Südafrika zurück. Zwar war er stolz auf den demokratischen Wandel, den Südafrika mit der ersten freien Wahl 1994 vollbrachte. Er übte aber vor allem während der von Korruptionsskandalen überschatteten Präsidentschaft von Jacob Zuma (2009-2018) immer wieder Kritik am ANC.

Auch diese offene Kritik nach dem Ende der Apartheid sowie Goldbergs Arbeit mit seiner Stiftung wurden gewürdigt. «In späteren Jahren hat er die Richtung, die unsere Demokratie eingeschlagen hat, herausgefordert», lobte die Nelson Mandela Foundation. Ramaphosa sagte: «Sein Einsatz für eine ethische Führung war unerschütterlich.»

Mehr als ein Vierteljahrhundert nach dem Ende der Apartheid ist Südafrika nach Angaben der Weltbank immer noch eins der ungleichsten Länder der Welt. Südafrika hat zwar die am meisten entwickelte Wirtschaft Afrikas. Doch rund 30 Millionen Menschen - zumeist schwarze Südafrikaner - leben der Regierung zufolge immer noch in Armut. Die weiße Minderheit ist finanziell nach wie vor wesentlich besser gestellt.

https://m-online.de/panorama/leute/suedafrika-anti-apartheid-kaempfer-denis-goldberg-ist-tot_aid-50325227

Sohn einer jüdischen Familie : Prominenter Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg gestorben

30. April 2020

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Der prominente Anti-Apartheid-Aktivist Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Südafrikaner sei nach einem zweieinhalbjährigen Kampf gegen Lungenkrebs am späten Mittwochabend gestorben, sagte Debbie Budlender, die Managerin des Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trusts, am Donnerstag der Deutschen Presse-Agentur. Er wurde 87 Jahre alt. Dass er noch so lange gelebt habe, sei ein „Zeichen seiner

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Der Sohn einer liberalen jüdischen Familie war einer der prominentesten weißen Gegner des rassistischen Apartheidsregimes. Als überzeugter Kommunist kämpfte er für die Gleichberechtigung aller Südafrikaner und unterstützte den bewaffneten Kampf der verbotenen Befreiungsbewegung Afrikanischer Nationalkongress (ANC). Der Bauingenieur wurde zusammen mit dem späteren Friedensnobelpreisträger Nelson Mandela vor Gericht gestellt und 1964 als einziger Weißer verurteilt. Er verbrachte 22 Jahre in Haft, nach seiner Freilassung ging er ins Exil in London.

Erst 2002 kehrte Goldberg nach Südafrika zurück. Zwar war er stolz auf den demokratischen Wandel, den Südafrika mit der ersten freien Wahl 1994 vollbrachte. Er übte aber vor allem während der von Korruptionsskandalen überschatteten Präsidentschaft von Jacob Zuma (2009-2018) immer wieder Kritik am ANC.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/30/south-african-anti-apartheid-activist-denis-goldberg-dies-aged-87-nelson-mandela>

[South Africa](#)

'A giant has fallen': anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg dies aged 87

Close associate of Nelson Mandela spent 22 years in whites-only prison in South Africa



Denis Goldberg at his home in Hout Bay, Cape Town, in 2017. Photograph: James Oatway/The Guardian

[Jason Burke](#) in Johannesburg

Denis Goldberg, the veteran South African anti-apartheid activist who was a close associate of Nelson Mandela and who spent 22 years in prison after being jailed on treason charges in 1964, has died aged 87.

A [statement](#) from Goldberg's family and the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust said: "Denis Goldberg passed away just before midnight on Wednesday. His was a life well lived in the struggle for freedom in South Africa. We will miss him."



[Denis Goldberg, hero of anti-apartheid struggle, tells of his last battle – for art](#)

[Read more](#)

Born in 1933 in Cape Town into a leftwing Jewish family who had emigrated from the UK, Goldberg faced antisemitic attacks at school, which contributed to a growing political awareness.

“I understood that what was happening in South Africa with its racism was like the racism in Nazi Germany in Europe that we were supposed to be fighting against,” he [later said](#).

Goldberg studied civil engineering and joined the banned Communist party in 1957.

In 1960 he was jailed for four months after his arrest during protests following the shooting dead of 69 demonstrators by police in the [Sharpeville massacre](#). On his release, he argued for the escalation of the fight against apartheid, and he became an official in the newly formed military wing of the African National Congress.

Goldberg was arrested again in 1963 when the police raided a meeting of leading activists at Liliesleaf Farm, in the Rivonia suburb in the north of Johannesburg, and he was charged with organising a campaign of “violent revolution”. The same raid led to Mandela’s conviction and life sentence.

Mandela later recounted Goldberg’s humour during the court proceedings, known as the Rivonia trial. “There was a good deal of gallows humour among us. Denis Goldberg, the youngest of the accused, had an irrepressible sense of humour and often had us laughing when we should not have been,” the Nobel prize laureate wrote.

Having faced a potential death sentence, Goldberg responded to his life sentence by shouting to his wife and mother in the gallery: “Life! To live!”

He was held in virtual isolation in the whites-only Pretoria Central prison for more than two decades, and allowed only very rare and short meetings with his family.

Released in 1985, Goldberg travelled to London where he raised support for the struggle against apartheid. He returned to South Africa in 2002.

In recent years Goldberg worked to raise funds for [the House of Hope](#), a space to support young people in impoverished communities around the suburb of Hout Bay, in Cape Town.

He had lung cancer and diabetes, and died peacefully at his home in Hout Bay.

“A giant has fallen. A truly great South African,” said [Eusebius McKaiser](#), a radio host and journalist.

Ronnie Kasrils, a veteran anti-apartheid activist and politician, said Goldberg was an “outstanding, remarkable South African and human being”.

Sello Hatang, the chief executive of the Nelson Mandela Foundation, said South Africa had lost “another true patriot ... [whose] life was dedicated to the struggle against apartheid and the building of democracy”.

Receiving the Freedom of the City of London in 2016, Goldberg said there was “a long way to go” on race relations in South Africa. “The racial segregation was burnt into the minds of every South African,” he said.

<https://www.dw.com/de/anti-apartheid-k%C3%A4mpfer-denis-goldberg-gestorben/a-53289660>

Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg gestorben

Der Mitstreiter von Nelson Mandela war überzeugter Kommunist und setzte sich zeitlebens für ein demokratisches Südafrika ein. Dafür musste er mit jahrzehntelanger Haft büßen. Nun ist Goldberg 87-jährig gestorben.

Video ansehen 02:55

[Ein Weggefährte Nelson Mandelas erinnert sich](#)

Der südafrikanische Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Bürgerrechtler starb in der Nacht im Alter von 87 Jahren an den Folgen einer langjährigen Lungenkrebserkrankung, wie lokale Medien unter Berufung auf Goldbergs Sohn berichten.

Goldberg wurde am 11. April 1933 in Kapstadt geboren. Er entstammte einer liberalen jüdischen Familie, sein Vater musste als Jude aus Litauen vor den Pogromen des russischen Kaiserreiches fliehen. Goldberg - ein studierter Bauingenieur - setzte sich für ein demokratisches Südafrika ein und kämpfte an der Seite des späteren Präsidenten Nelson Mandela gegen das rassistische Apartheid-Regime.

22 Jahre Gefängnis, danach Exil

Der überzeugte Kommunist war einer der letzten überlebenden Angeklagten des sogenannten Rivonia-Prozesses (1963), bei dem er an Mandelas Seite wegen Hochverrats verurteilt wurde. Er verbrachte 22 Jahre in Haft. Anschließend ging er ins Exil nach London und kehrte erst 2002 in sein Heimatland zurück.

Nach dem Ende der Apartheid setzte sich Goldberg weiter gegen Armut ein, zuletzt mit einem Gemeindeprojekt in seinem Heimatort Hout Bay bei Kapstadt. "Er hatte ein erfülltes Leben im Kampf für Südafrikas Freiheit", so ein Sprecher der Familie.

sti/sam (dpa, kna)

Ahmed Kathrada Foundation: Denis Goldberg was an outstanding African revolutionary

2020-04-30 14:35



Denis Goldberg a few years back at his home in Hout Bay. (Lerato Maduna, Netwerk24)

- ['He chose freedom over privilege, humanity over brutality' - old comrades pay tribute to Denis Goldberg](#)
- [OBIT | Denis Goldberg's life was 'the radical contradiction to the system of apartheid'](#)
- [Rivonia Trialist and anti-apartheid veteran Denis Goldberg dies](#)

The Ahmed Kathrada Foundation is deeply saddened by the passing on of ANC veteran, Denis Theodore Goldberg, 87, in Cape Town last night.

Goldberg was the recipient of the Order of Luthuli (Silver) from the Presidency in 2009 for his lifelong contribution to the liberation struggle and service to the people of South Africa. Ten years later he was awarded the highest honour of the African National Congress, Isithwalandwe, at its annual January 9th celebrations in 2019. He also received the 1988 Albert J Luthuli African Peace Award by a group of 12 US organisations.

In his Memoirs, Ahmed Kathrada recalls the fateful day of 11 July 1963. He states: "We have moved from Rivonia. Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba and Wilton Mkwayi are staying at Travallyn, the newly rented MK farm near Krugersdorp. Denis Goldberg is with them, posing as Charles Barnard. "He has taken a lease on the farm and bought a couple of vehicles for MK. Denis has been tasked by the High Command to perform these tasks before going into exile and continuing to work from outside the country."

History has recorded that Denis Goldberg never made it into exile. The leaders of the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, were arrested at the Liliesleaf farmhouse in Rivonia and sentenced to life imprisonment. Denis Goldberg, aged 31 at the time, was among the youngest of them and forced to serve 22 years in the all-white section of Pretoria Central Prison. In 1966, he was joined in prison by Bram Fischer, who had

been given a life sentence for furthering the aims of communism and conspiracy to overthrow the apartheid government.

Goldberg was an outstanding African revolutionary. He started his political activism as a youth in the Modern Youth Society in Cape Town, selling the New Age newspaper and educating workers at night classes in the city. He was active in the South African Congress of Democrats, an ally of the ANC in the Congress Alliance. He joined the underground South African Communist Party in 1957 and was arrested in March 1960 for supporting a workers' strike in the aftermath of the Sharpeville massacre.

Being a civil engineer by profession, he was recruited into Umkhonto we Sizwe for his technical skills. He helped establish MK's first training camp inside the country in Mamre. He was instrumental in assisting Walter Sisulu broadcast on 26 June 1963 a Freedom Day speech over an underground radio station in Johannesburg.

Both his parents, who were active in the Communist Party in London and Cape Town, died while he was in prison. His release from prison on 28 February 1985 was negotiated with the apartheid government with the consent of the ANC-in-exile. In London, he was active in the ANC and the Anti-Apartheid Movement. In June 1985, he had the singular honour of speaking at a rally at Trafalgar Square to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Freedom Charter at the Congress of the People.

Goldberg returned to South Africa in 2002 and was appointed as a special advisor to Ministers Ronnie Kasrils and Buyelwa Sonjica in the Ministry of Water Affairs and Forestry. In 2010, he published his autobiography entitled, *The Mission: A Life for Freedom in South Africa*.

Goldberg had a zest for life. He spoke about the struggle for liberation with gusto and passion. His memory was excellent until the end and he would relive episodes about the freedom struggle and the Rivonia Trial with clarity and as if it was happening now. His primary aim in his later years was to educate young people about liberation history, music and culture. His humble house in Cape Town resembled a living art museum.

To this end he supported the Kronendal Music Academy and established the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust. Denis Goldberg remained an ANC member until the end. His political consciousness was never blunted by the personal accolades offered to him and he never hesitated to criticise his organisation, or its leaders, when things went wrong. He was outspoken and vociferous in his criticism over corruption in government and state capture. This he did on numerous occasions publicly. The Kathrada Foundation is deeply honoured by its historical association with the late Denis Goldberg.

He will be remembered not as a white man living and enjoying enormous socio-economic and political benefits under the system of apartheid, but as a truly African revolutionary who was prepared to make the supreme sacrifice for the liberation of the black majority in South Africa.

<https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/just-in-rivonia-trialist-and-anti-apartheid-veteran-denis-goldberg-dies-20200430>

2020-04-30 09:00

Sesona Ngqakamba



Denis Goldberg. (Gallo Images / Beeld / Theana Breugem)

VIDEO

[WATCH: Rivonia trialist Denis Goldberg awarded honorary doctorate by Scottish university](#)

2018-08-24 10:00



Heriot-Watt University, a Scottish institution, presents struggle activist Denis Goldberg with an honorary doctorate in Cape Town. Watch. [WATCH](#)

Related Links

- [Rivonia Trialist Denis Goldberg to be awarded honorary doctorate by UCT](#)
- [ANC honours Rivonia trialist Denis Goldberg](#)
- [WATCH: Rivonia trialist Denis Goldberg awarded honorary doctorate by Scottish university watch](#)

Rivonia Trialist Denis Goldberg has died, his son David has confirmed to News24.

He was 87.

David, who is based in London, said he received the news of his father's passing around midnight on Thursday.

Goldberg was one of 10 people who faced charges of treason in 1963 after a raid on Liliesleaf Farm. He was found guilty on charges, including conspiracy and sabotage, during the infamous Rivonia Trial held at the Palace of Justice in Pretoria from October 1963 to June 1964.

The only living Rivonia Trialist is Andrew Mlangeni.

The ANC in the Western Cape also mourned with his family. "This morning the Province and the country received the sad news of the passing of Comrade Denis Goldberg, a man we will rightfully remember as one of the first bearers of the heavy yoke of freedom, among the heroes and heroines whose freedom could never be separated from that of the people," a statement said on Thursday.

Goldberg was arrested in 1963 and was sentenced at the Rivonia Trial along with former president Nelson Mandela and other leaders of the anti-apartheid struggle to life imprisonment, the party recounted. He was imprisoned for 22 years in Pretoria Central Prison until he was released in 1985.

"After 22 years in prison, he gave even more of himself, with even greater vigor and determination to the complete liberation of our people. In the latter years of his life he

invested once more his time, energy and money on social projects through the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust.

"Comrade Denis Goldberg was also known by even more important titles: a father, a grandfather, a family man, a mentor, and above all, a friend."

According to the provincial ANC, Goldberg celebrated the simple things in life and always found reasons to be grateful.

He "loathed those who were self serving within our movement, those who left the poor by the way side, and those who had forgotten the struggle."

"We celebrate comrade Denis's resilient spirit and ever present humor, traits that would see him through darker days, leaving a family behind, loss and tragedy that the next generations will never know but remain forever grateful."

<https://mg.co.za/article/2020-04-30-anti-apartheid-veteran-denis-goldberg-dies/>

Anti-apartheid veteran Denis Goldberg dies



Freedom fighter Denis Goldberg talks to the media at Liliesleaf Farm, the apartheid-era hideout for Nelson Mandela and freedom fighters in Johannesburg, on July 11, 2013 in Rivonia, South Africa.

It is 50 years since the hideout was raided by police on July 11, 1963. The farm was the secret nerve centre for the Umkhonto we Sizwe, the military wing of the ANC and the Congress Alliance. Police interrupted a meeting of Operation Mayibuye, a plan to overthrow the Apartheid government. The raid by police led to the arrest of Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Govan Mbeki and Denis Goldberg, who were convicted through the infamous Rivonia Trial and most were sentenced to life imprisonment on Robben Island. (Christopher Furlong/Getty Images)

Rivonia Trialist and anti-apartheid veteran Denis Goldberg passed away late on Wednesday night. The anti-apartheid stalwart was one of 10 people who stood alongside Nelson Mandela in 1963, charged with sabotage and planning to embark on guerilla warfare against the apartheid government.

A trained civil engineer, Goldberg joined the ANC and later its armed-wing uMkhonto we Sizwe. At the age of 31, he was the youngest man in the dock during the Rivonia Trial. Other defendants included [Walter Sisulu](#), [Govan Mbeki](#), [Elias Motsoaledi](#), [Ahmed Kathrada](#), James Kantor, [Lionel \(Rusty\) Bernstein](#), [Raymond Mhlaba](#), Bob Hepple and Andrew Mlangeni.

As the only convicted white man, Goldberg was imprisoned at Pretoria Central Prison, whereas the others were sent to prison on Robben Island in Cape Town.

Goldberg was released in 1985 after serving 22 years.

In a brief tribute, published by the Denis Goldberg House of Hope — an art, culture, and education centre for children in his hometown of Hout Bay — his death was confirmed. “His family and the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust are very sad to announce that Denis Goldberg passed away just before midnight on Wednesday 29 April 2020. His was a life well-lived in the struggle for freedom in South Africa. We will miss him,” the brief [social media](#) post announced.

Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu lauded Goldberg for a lifetime of service to the South African people. “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 conducted with customary courage and grace feels as if the nation has lost part of its soul.”

ANC Western Cape provincial caucus leader and a longstanding fellow ANC branch member of Goldberg, Cameron Dugmore, said he was devoted to the party, despite its faults, till the end: “Denis was an exceptional person. The first thing that comes to mind is absolute humanity, compassion, and integrity. He was a critical voice, but always loyal to the organisation. He had the belief that warts and all, the ANC remains the best hope for the people,” Dugmore said.

In 2019, Goldberg was awarded the Isitwalandwe Medal — the ANC’s highest recognition for party members. Only 21 people have been awarded the honour in the party’s 108-year history.

With Goldberg’s passing, Mlangeni becomes the sole surviving Rivonia Trialist, exemplifying a class of South Africans whose stories are deeply etched into the broader fight against apartheid. “I hope comrade Mlangeni continues to play golf and enjoys his life for many more years. But it’s very sad when one begins to see the passing of these icons of our struggle. But they’re also humble and compassionate people. Our movement and our country just owes people like that a huge debt and I just hope that all of us that face the current challenges always bear in mind those that have gone before us, and emulate their conduct,” Dugmore said.

Goldberg spent the last years of his life still contributing to his local ANC branch in Hout Bay. In an interview with the University of Cape Town, the life-long engineer said his legacy would also be felt in the physical world through creativity, design and performance. “My role now is a foundation to bring young people in Hout Bay and the peninsula together. Through art classes, and arts and culture programmes. But also through computer literacy, and dance, and drama, and singing, and being together,” he said.

These are unprecedented times, and the role of media to tell and record the story of South Africa as it develops is more important than ever. But it comes at a cost. Advertisers are cancelling campaigns, and our live events have come to an abrupt halt. Our income has been slashed.

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<https://www.capetalk.co.za/articles/382252/struggle-stalwart-denis-goldberg-passes-away>

30 April 2020 9:03 AM

by [Barbara Friedman](#)

Goldberg was one of the last two Rivonia trialists still alive.

Struggle stalwart and anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg has died at the age of 87.

He passed away in his Hout Bay home where he has spent his last years battling with stage 4 lung cancer and a heart condition. [Nelson Mandela Foundation CEO Sello Hatang](#) remembers the struggle icon. I saw him twice in February and spent a couple of hours with him. He was reflecting on where South Africa is and what we need to be doing differently. And he was at pains to talk about how inequality is one of the things we have to deal with.

Sello Hatang, CEO - Nelson Mandela Foundation

Listen below:

He was one of the last two Rivonia trialists still alive. Andrew Mlangeni now remains the only trialist alive aged 94. In late 1961 he was recruited into uMkhonto we Sizwe, the armed wing of the African National Congress. Goldberg was arrested along with a group of activists in 1963 at Liliesleaf Farm in Rivonia, Johannesburg.



Denis Goldberg and President Ramaphosa. Image: Courtesy: Nelson Mandela Foundation

After the Treason Trial Goldberg was sent to the whites section of Pretoria Central Prison while his comrades were sent to Robben Island. He was released from prison in 1985 after 22 years. In 2015, Goldberg and four others established the non-profit Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust focusing on the arts.

Images courtesy of [the Nelson Mandela Foundation](#).

<https://ewn.co.za/2020/04/30/a-sad-moment-for-our-nation-ramaphosa-pays-tribute-to-denis-goldberg>

‘A sad moment for our nation’: Ramaphosa pays tribute to Denis Goldberg

‘His revolutionary contribution reinforced the non-racial character of our struggle and of our democratic dispensation.’



FILE: Denis Goldberg and President Ramaphosa. Image: Nelson Mandela Foundation

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[Thapelo Lekabe](#) & [Lauren Isaacs](#) | about 8 hours ago

JOHANNESBURG - [President Cyril Ramaphosa](#) on Thursday expressed his deep condolences at the passing of anti-apartheid veteran and Rivonia Trialist [Denis Goldberg](#). “My thoughts are with Denis Goldberg’s family and his comrades around the country and around the world,” Ramaphosa said in a statement. “This is a sad moment for our nation and a moment for all of us to appreciate Denis Goldberg’s brave dedication to our struggle and his lifelong activism in the interest of – and in the

physical presence of - poor and vulnerable communities around our country,” he added.

Goldberg, who lived in Hout Bay in Cape Town, [passed away just before midnight on Wednesday](#) at the age of 87. He received a National Order of Luthuli for his commitment to the struggle against apartheid and service to the people of South Africa. According to the Presidency, upon receiving news of Goldberg’s passing, the National [Coronavirus](#) Command Council observed a moment’s silence in honour of him.

LISTEN: Tributes for anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg

Ramaphosa saluted Goldberg for his unwavering commitment to the struggle against apartheid and ethical leadership. “His first experience of prison was alongside his mother who had been detained for four months but such experiences failed to intimidate him; instead, it fuelled his determination that the liberation movement should use all strategies at its disposal, including armed resistance, to end apartheid.

“His commitment to ethical leadership was unflinching and even during his advanced age, he formed part of the movement of veterans of the struggle calling for the reassertion of the moral centre of society. He dedicated his life to achieving the better life we enjoy today, and his revolutionary contribution reinforced the non-racial character of our struggle and of our democratic dispensation,” he said.

The president added: “We will hold him in our thoughts and prayers as we say farewell at a time when we are not allowed to gather in numbers to say our goodbyes. May his soul rest in peace.”

‘A GREAT THINKER, REFINED THINKER’

Meanwhile, tributes continued on Thursday morning following news of Goldberg’s passing. Anti-apartheid activist [Ronnie Kasrils](#) said despite being sick, Goldberg continued with his political activism. “He was a great thinker, a refined thinker, and a man of the highest moral integrity. He is going to be so deeply missed. He knew everything about our struggle and what it was meant to be, which was to serve our people,” Kasrils said.

[The Nelson Mandela Foundation](#) also sent its condolences to the Goldberg family.

The foundation’s CEO Sello Hatang reflected on the last time he saw Goldberg. “When we saw him in February, we hosted President Cyril Ramaphosa and Goldberg deeply respects Ramaphosa, but he told him the one thing he needs to watch out for is corruption in the country,” Hatang said. “If there is one thing we need to take out of the life of Goldberg and Mandela is that the core of their lives was solidarity,” he added.

LISTEN: Remembering Mandela with Denis Goldberg

Timeline



[Social campaigner, activist Denis Goldberg dies at 87](#)

Timeline: History of South Africa and significant dates in Denis Goldberg's life

1912: Foundation of the African National Congress (ANC). 1913: Lands Act bans the acquisition of land for Africans outside the reserves; eventually 13 per cent of the land area of South Africa. 1914 – 1918 First World War: black South Africans serve on European battlefields. 1921: Foundation of the South African Communist Party (SACP). 1923 – 1927: Apartheid laws: separation of residential areas according to race; restriction of the right to strike for Africans; ban on sexual relations between blacks and whites. 1933: 11 April: Denis Goldberg (DG) is born in Cape Town. Father and uncles work as small businessmen with trucks converted into buses. 1937: Ban on Jewish immigration through the Aliens Act against 'non-integratable races'. 1939: September: declaration of war by South Africa on Nazi Germany, despite the great sympathy of many whites for the German fascists. DG starts school in Cape Town on his 6th birthday. 1944: Foundation of the ANC Youth League by Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Oliver Tambo, Lembede, Mda and others. 1948: The Afrikaner National Party comes to power in the 'whites only' election. Apartheid becomes the official doctrine of the state. 1949: DG last year at school; afterwards works on a fruit farm before university. 1950: 'Racial classification' of all South Africans after birth according to the 'race' of the father; final separation of settlements and residential areas according to 'races,' mass forced resettlements; ban of the Communist Party. DG begins studies in civil engineering at the University of Cape Town. 1952: Introduction of the pass book for all black males over 16. Between 1948 and 1974 ten million trials as a result of infringements of the pass laws. The Defiance Campaign was to protest against this by civil disobedience. 1953: Introduction of 'petty Apartheid': racial separation in public facilities. 1954: April: DG marries the physiotherapist Esme Bodenstein. 1955: 24 January: birth of daughter Hilary Goldberg, known as Hilly. Formation of the Congress Alliance out of the ANC, Congress of Democrats (COD), Indian Congress (SAIC) and Coloured Peoples Congress (CPC), the so-called Charterists. 25/26 June, at Kliptown, Soweto, Congress of the People. 2884 delegates adopt the Freedom Charter; reception of the Charter into the statutes of the ANC. December: arrest of 156 activists, almost all leaders of the Alliance. Charge: high treason. 1956: Start of the Treason Trial. 1957: DG joins the Communist Party, which is working underground. 24 November: birth of son David Goldberg. 1958: Hendrik Verwoerd becomes Prime Minister. Introduction of the 'homelands,' as "independent states" and the inhabitants automatically lose their South African citizenship. 1960: Nobel Peace Prize for ANC President General Albert John Luthuli the first African to receive this award. 21 March: Sharpeville: at a non-violent demonstration against the Pass Laws; the police kill 69 people. March: Declaration of State of Emergency, arrest of 18,000 activists. DG and his mother also spend several months in prison. 1961: Exit of the Union of South Africa from the Commonwealth. The Treason Trial ends with acquittals due to lack of evidence of intention to overthrow the state. 16 December: launch of Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), MK for short, the armed wing of the ANC. 1962: January: Nelson Mandela goes underground after the end of the Treason Trial; arrest in August and sentenced to five years in prison for going abroad without a passport and for calling for a national strike against Apartheid. June: the state reacts with new laws: arbitrary arrest is permitted. Turn of the year: DG is commander at the first MK training camp at Mamre near Cape Town. 1963: Law on 90-day imprisonment: suspected persons can be imprisoned for three months without the decision of a court and without access to lawyers. DG goes underground to Johannesburg. 11 July: police raid on Liliesleaf Farm in Rivonia: 18 men are arrested, among them DG. Charge: sabotage, communist activities and attempted coup. November: Esme Goldberg goes with the children into exile in London. 1964: 12 June: announcement of the verdict in the Rivonia Trial. Eight of the accused are sentenced to multiple life sentences. DG begins his

imprisonment in the high security wing of 'Pretoria Local' prison. 1966: assassination of Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd, successor to B.J. Vorster who was a supporter of Hitler. Start of the armed struggle in Namibia against the South African occupation regime by the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) which took political guidance from SWAPO. DG meets Bram Fischer in prison. December: UN General Assembly declares Apartheid a crime against humanity. 1970: Hillary Kuny begins her visits to DG in prison. 1975: Carnation revolution in Portugal, independence of Mozambique and Angola. 8 May; death of Bram Fischer. Death of DG's mother Annie Goldberg. 1976: 16 June: school pupils' uprising in Soweto. Jeremy Cronin comes into DG's section of the 'Pretoria Local' prison (until 1983). 1977: MK infiltrates hundreds of fighters into South Africa. Steve Biko dies in police custody of injuries to the brain as a result of ill-treatment. 1977/78: DG and others take legal action against the denial of access to news media and censorship in the prison. 2031978: Pieter Willem Botha, up to now Defence Minister, becomes President. 1979: successful escape of Tim Jenkin, Stephen Lee and Alex Moumbaris from 'Pretoria Local'. Death of DG's father, Sam Goldberg. 1980: MK alters its strategy: attacks on an oil refinery, a power station and military facilities. For the first time there are civilian casualties. Independence of Zimbabwe. 1981: Guy Berger meets DG in prison (Berger remains imprisoned until 1983). 1982: Assassination of Ruth First, wife of Joe Slovo, in Maputo (Mozambique) via a letter bomb. Hillary Kuny sends a memorandum on the case of DG to Minister of Justice 'Kobie' Kotze. 1983: foundation of the United Democratic Front (UDF), it grows to two million people from nearly 700 organisations. 1984: Militant protests by young people make the land 'ungovernable.' The secret State Security Council reacts with declaration of a "state of emergency." December: Archbishop Desmond Tutu receives the Nobel Peace Prize. 1985: 28 February: DG is released. 26 June: DG gives his first big speech in London in Trafalgar Square as spokesperson for the ANC. 15 August: 'Rubicon Speech' by State President Pieter Willem Botha about supposed reforms; economic sanctions begin to bite; beginning of the secret negotiations between Mandela and the regime; foundation of the joint trade union organisation Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). August: lifting of the Pass Laws. December: DG begins a six week speaking tour in Scandinavia. Madi Gray gets to know him in Sweden. 1986: May/June: giant demonstrations with up to 1.5 million workers. UDF supports the 'mass actions' all over the country. Brian Filling from the British Anti-Apartheid Movement invites DG to Scotland. 1987: January to March: heavy defeat for the South African armed forces at Cuito Canavale (Angola), the biggest battle in Africa since 1943. 204 June: Mandela Concert at Wembley Stadium in London. 1989: Education Minister Frederik Willem de Klerk ousts Pieter W. Botha; intensification of the secret discussions with Nelson Mandela, and separately with the exiled leadership of the ANC. July: Mandela meets President Botha in his residence 'for tea'. October: release of Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Andrew Mlangeni, Elias Motsolaedi, Wilton Mkwayi and others. 1990: 11 February: release of Mandela. March: first round of discussions between the government and the ANC. Start of violent clashes between Inkatha and ANC in KwaZulu-Natal. Civil war like battles cost 10,000 people their lives. May: COSATU, ANC and SACP establish the Tripartite Alliance, still in existence today, under the leadership of the ANC. May: DG meets Nelson Mandela in Stockholm. 1993: September: the negotiation partners sign a provisional constitution. Nobel Peace Prize for Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk. 1994: 27 April: first free and universal parliamentary elections. Nelson Mandela becomes the first President of free South Africa. Adoption after broad discussions throughout the country of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) for the Satisfaction of Basic Needs. July: Ruth Weiss and DG meet in person at her birthday party in Ventnor on the Isle of Wight. 1995: Beginning of the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. 26 April: Freedom Day: DG founds the organisation Community Health Education and Reconstruction Training (Community H.E.A.R.T.) in London. Isobel McVicar is on board from the beginning. DG gets to know Edelgard Nkobi. 1996: Change in strategy on economic policy, also under the influence of the World Bank: adoption of the neo-liberal Growth, Employment and Redistribution Programme (GEAR). After meeting Tina Jerman and Dodo Schulz DG's first reading tour through Germany, organized by EXILE Culture Coordination Essen. Foundation of Community H.E.A.R.T., Germany with headquarters in Essen. Reinhard Stolle invites DG to Osnabruck for the first time. 205 Brigitte Haage-Husseini, close friend of Edelgard Nkobi, meets DG in Cologne. 1997: DG's first visit to Siegen. Awarded Honorary Doctorate of Laws by Glasgow Caledonian University. 1999: June: in the parliamentary elections the ANC is able to increase its majority. New State President is Thabo Mbeki. The number of HIV infected persons is estimated at ten per cent of the population. Elisabeth Quart meets DG via Edelgard Nkobi. 2000: Death of DG's wife Esme. Honorary Doctorate (PhD) from the Medical University of South Africa. 2001: Eberhard Neugebohrn meets DG at an event in Hamburg on the anniversary of the Soweto uprising. 2002: Death of DG's daughter Hilly. April: Wedding of DG and Edelgard Nkobi, move to South Africa: work as a Special Adviser to the Minister for Water Affairs and Forestry, Ronnie Kasrils. Wolfgang Ebert invites DG to Wuppertal. Maria Rosery meets DG

for the first time at the Secondary School at Schloss Borbeck in Essen.2003: the South African parliament accepts the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.2004: In the elections in April the ANC gains a two-thirds majority in Parliament. Thabo Mbeki is confirmed in office.2006: DG finishes his work at the Ministry.June: DG gives a lecture at Essen University and meets Geoffrey Davis.Peter Senft meets DG in Cape Town.December: death of Denis Goldberg's second wife Edelgard Nkobi-Goldberg.2007: December: 52nd Congress of the ANC in Polokwane: in a crucial vote Jacob Zuma is elected as the new chairman of the ANC.Dwyn Griesel founds the Kronendal Music Academy (KMA) in Hout Bay. A little later DG becomes patron of the KMA.2008: violent attacks on immigrants.September: Thabo Mbeki resigns as State President as a result of the accusation that he has influenced the legal proceedings against the chair of the ANC, Jacob Zuma, on charges of corruption.

2006 December: Congress of the People (COPE) splits from the ANC.2009: March: DG and others, among them Andimba Toivo ya Toivo, awarded National Orders.DG receives Order of Luthuli for his contribution to the liberation struggle and his service to the South African people.Andimba ja Toivu made a Companion of the Order of O R Tambo.April: in the elections the ANC, with 65.9 per cent of the vote, barely misses the two-thirds majority: the Democratic Alliance receives 16.7 per cent, the COPE 7.4 per cent.May: Jacob Zuma becomes the new President of South Africa.DG awarded the Ph.D. degree(hc) Sby Medunsa 2010: DG's autobiography The Mission –a life for freedom in South Africa is published.Peter Heller's documentary film Comrade Goldberg premiered in Munich 2011: DG awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany for fostering good relations between the peoples of South Africa and German and his lifelong struggle to uphold human dignity. June: World Football Championship in South Africa.2012: August: miners' strikes in a platinum mine at Marikana. The police kill 34 people.October: Brian Filling inducted into the Order of Companions of O R Tambo for his mobilisation of international support against apartheid December: the ANC party congress elects Jacob Zuma again as the head of the ANC.2013: 11 April 2013 Comrade Denis Goldberg is 80 years old.2014: Fifth free elections: ANC gets 62 per cent and the DA gets 22 per cent of the vote.

<https://www.sabcnews.com/sabcnews/ramaphosa-saddened-by-goldbergs-passing/>

President Ramaphosa saddened by the passing of Denis Goldberg

30 April 2020



Image: SABC News

Denis Goldberg was one of the eight Rivonia Trialists who were convicted.

President Cyril Ramaphosa has expressed his deep condolences at the passing of Rivonia Trialist Denis Goldberg.

Goldberg passed away on Wednesday.

Goldberg received a National Order for his commitment to the struggle against apartheid and service to the people of South Africa. "My thoughts are with Denis Goldberg's family and his comrades around the country and around the world," says a statement from the Presidency. "This is a sad moment for our nation and a moment for all of us to appreciate Denis Goldberg's brave dedication to our Struggle and his lifelong activism in the interest of – and in the physical presence of – poor and vulnerable communities around our country," adds the President.

Social users have also expressed their heartfelt condolences to the Goldberg family, with some sharing their fondest memories with the struggle stalwart.

[Minister Jackson Mthembu](#) This morning at it's virtual meeting , the [#Coronavirus](#) National Command Council , led by President [@CyrilRamaphosa](#) , observed a moment of silence in respect of our departed leader , stalwart and Isithwalandwe [#DenisGoldberg](#) . Sincere condolences to the family , [#RIP](#) leader .

The African National Congress (ANC) says it's deeply saddened by the passing of one of the party' stalwarts of the struggle for liberation, Denis Goldberg. In a

statement, the party said Goldberg belonged to that illustrious generation of freedom fighters, who were prepared to sacrifice all and lay down their lives in the struggle for liberation. It sent its condolences to Goldberg family, his friends and comrades.

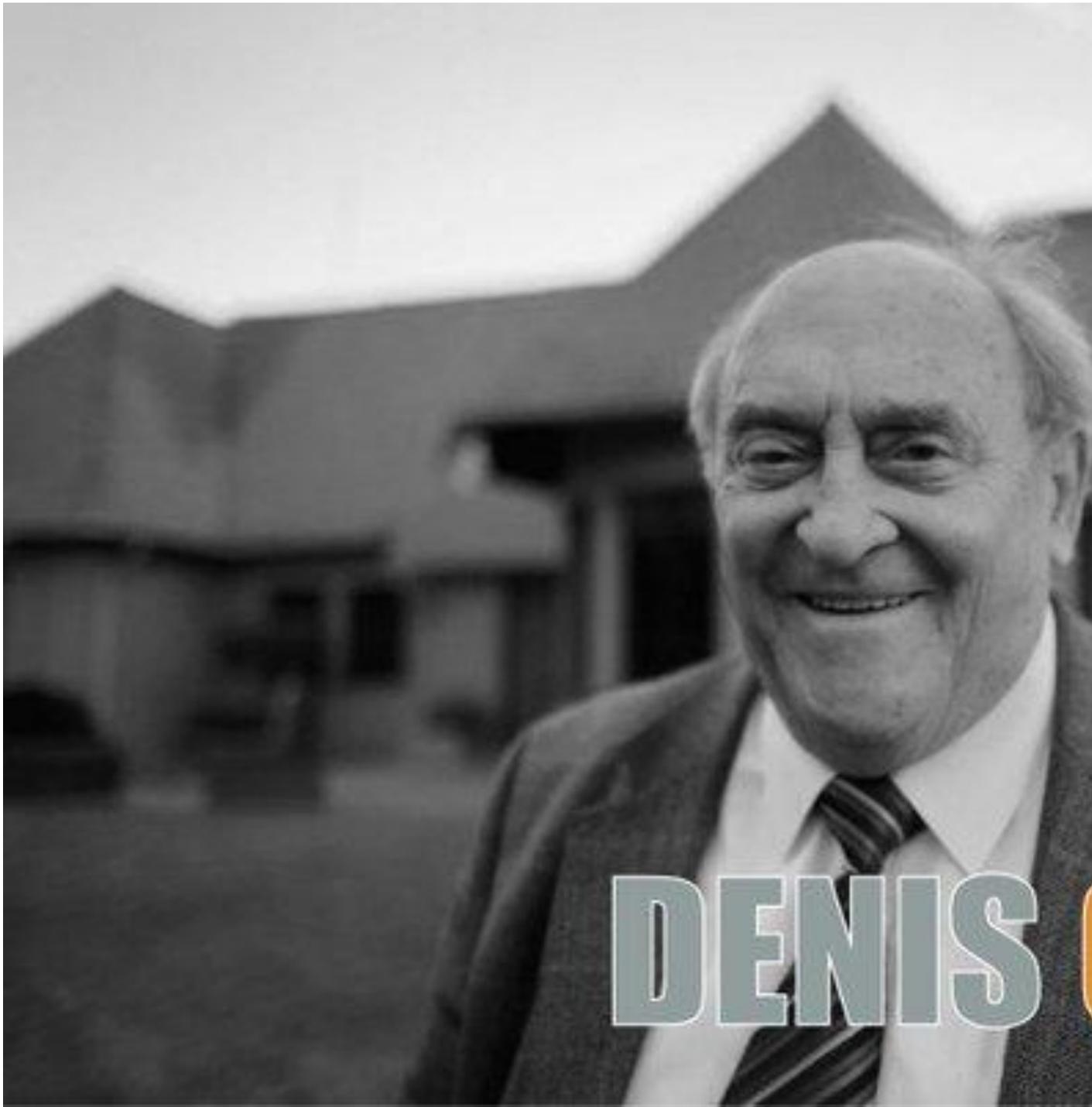
ANC says it is saddened by the passing of the Rivonia trialist:

[#DenisGoldberg](#) A great, great tree has fallen. A truly amazing human being, an activist who spoke truth to power right until the end. One of the most selfless people I have ever known. Hamba kahle Mkhonto. Qhawe lamaqhawe.

[https://twitter.com/TamboFoundation/status/1255758427319685120 ...](https://twitter.com/TamboFoundation/status/1255758427319685120)

[Tambo Foundation @TamboFoundation](#)

[The Oliver & Adelaide Tambo Foundation sends our condolences to the family, friends & colleagues of Rivonia trialist & ardent freedom fighter, Denis Goldberg. His contribution to the struggle for freedom & justice in our country will forever be remembered. May His Soul RIP.](#)



Human being of highest integrity'

Meanwhile, the Desmond & Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation has described Goldberg as a human being of the highest integrity and honour who eschewed personal aggrandisement and consumptiveness.

The Foundation says Goldberg's lifetime contribution to South Africa and its people was second to none.

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

The Foundation says it remains committed to continuing to honour Goldberg through strengthening its relationship to the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation.

“He was our friend”

The Nelson Mandela Foundation says South Africa has lost another true patriot, someone who was a friend of Nelson Mandela and a stalwart of struggle.

“Most of Ntate Goldberg’s life was dedicated to the struggle against apartheid and the building of democracy. He was a member of a generation of leadership which shaped the country’s history in profound ways. In later years he challenged the direction our democracy was taking, initially critiquing the country’s macroeconomic policies and then challenging state capture during the years of cronyism and looting.

“We at the Foundation got to know him through his close contact with Madiba and through his participation in our projects.” “He was our friend,” Chief Executive Sello Hatang reflects.

[Denis Goldberg | Reaction from Nelson Mandela Foundation on passing of Denis Goldberg](#)

<https://mandelascottishmemorial.org/professor-denis-goldberg>

Professor Denis Goldberg – fellow Rivonia trialist of Nelson Mandela

n memory of Denis Goldberg 1933 – 2020.

Professor Denis Goldberg is a fellow Rivonia trialist of Nelson Mandela.

In Nelson Mandela’s book, *A Long Walk to Freedom*, he quotes Denis Goldberg in the Rivonia Courtroom shouting, “Life, Life to live!” when Justice de Wet sentenced him and his comrades to life imprisonment for treason.

Denis was convicted in 1964 at the same trial as Nelson Mandela and spent 22 years in a South African prison for fighting apartheid.

He has been a very regular visitor to Scotland over the years and at the launch of his book ‘*The Mission – A life for freedom in South Africa*’ in Glasgow, he said: “When I came here after being released from prison, my goodness, it was like being at home, of being enfolded by people wanting to help.”

After his release from prison and exile in London, he was a spokesperson for the ANC and also represented it at the Anti-Apartheid Committee of the United Nations. He returned to South Africa in 2002 as a government adviser in and is still involved in ongoing work for freedom causes and is patron of the Community HEART charity he set up in the 1990s. He also has a project in the [Denis Goldberg Foundation](#) denisgoldberg.org/about-the-foundation/

He exudes a quiet dignified certainty in his cause which led to a memorable quote at the book launch in 2010 about his treatment at the hands of the Warders in Pretoria jail. He said, "It took them years and years and years and years to learn to respect us". But he clearly never doubted that, eventually, they would respect these heroes of the struggle.

Denis has often said he is not yet free: "I'm free to be free. I'm not free. To be free you have to advance the freedom of others and respect it. We're not there yet."

Denis knows that in South Africa there is still a long way to go and he continues to work within his community, "to try and realise in practice the vision we had that our children shall not be hungry, shall be well-cared for, go to school, have jobs to go to and to be able to laugh a little."

While remaining a passionate political campaigner, Denis now concentrates on using his skills "to bring together – make people's lives better – to bring dignity" in local projects.

At an STUC event in 2012, he spoke of initiatives like music project that brings races together to feel joy and achievement they would never otherwise have experienced. A ground breaking psychotherapy project for those, especially children, disastrously affected by the trauma of events.

"After all", said Denis, "it is all about trying to make life better for people. Is that not what the revolution was about?"

<https://www.iol.co.za/news/politics/the-life-of-denis-goldberg-a-disciplined-freedom-fighter-and-extraordinary-patriot-47386611>

The life of Denis Goldberg - a disciplined freedom fighter and extraordinary patriot

By Zintle Mahlali 6h ago

Denis Goldberg will be remembered for his disciplined and selfless character, says ANC treasurer Paul Mashatile.

Goldberg died at his Hout Bay home on Wednesday at the age of 87. Mashatile said he should be remembered for his legacy in fighting apartheid and his qualities of selflessness and discipline which should be inherited by the younger generation.

"A family friend, freedom fighter and an extraordinary patriot has passed on, leaving the country and the ANC so much poorer, so much more a shell of what it once was - when it shook heaven and earth to ensure our basic right of freedom," Housing, Water and Sanitation Minister Lindiwe Sisulu said.

A brief history of Goldberg's life in the Struggle

Goldberg was born in Cape Town in 1933 to two British activists who became active in the SACP soon after settling in the city. His mother was once arrested along with him during a state of emergency.

At the age of 16, he went on to study engineering at the University of Cape Town. He was an active member of the Congress of Democrats, an organisation that had links to the ANC. He was also an active member of Umkhonto we Sizwe – the ANC's military arm.

Goldberg was tried on treason charges in the Pretoria Supreme Court along with Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Walter Sisulu and others in the Rivonia Trial. The marathon trial ran from June 1963 to October 1964. Goldberg was accused of "campaigning to overthrow the government by violent revolution and for assisting an armed invasion of the country by foreign troops" under the Sabotage and Suppression of Communism Acts.

The charge sheet listed 193 acts of sabotage allegedly carried out by persons recruited by the accused in their capacity as members of the High Command of uMkhonto we Sizwe.

Goldberg was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in Pretoria Local Prison. From the time of his arrest, Goldberg spent 22 years in prison before being released in 1985, according to the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust's website.

After he was released in 1985 he moved to London and continued his work as an anti-apartheid activist. He returned to South Africa in 2002 and was appointed special adviser to Ronnie Kasrils, then minister of water affairs and forestry, until 2004.

"After the first non-racial elections in South Africa Goldberg founded the development organisation Community H.E.A.R.T. in London in 1995 to help to improve the living standards of black South Africans. With the support of German friends, he established Community H.E.A.R.T. e.V. in Essen in Germany in 1996. He was involved in the early days of Computer Aid International in London, and is now CAI's Patron and Ambassador," the foundation wrote.

The primary objective of the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust, which was established in 2015, is to contribute to a better life for the children and youth of Hout Bay, where Goldberg has lived for the last 15 years.

Goldberg was passionate about uplifting the community and despite his battle with cancer, he was able to witness the realisation of his vision for a facility where youth could "sing together, dance together, make poetry together", as he told the UCT Alumni Magazine in 2018.

The Denis Goldberg House of Hope, an arts and culture education centre for Imizamo Yethu and Hangberg youth, finally received the necessary permission from the City of Cape Town late in 2019.

Rivonia trialist Denis Goldberg has died

By Zintle Mahlati



Denis Goldberg. File photo: Tracey Adams/African News Agency (ANA)

Johannesburg - Former Rivonia trialist and anti-apartheid campaigner Denis Goldberg is being remembered for his contribution to the struggle for freedom, after his death was confirmed on Thursday.

Goldberg was one of the younger Rivonia trialists to be sentenced to life in prison for treason in 1964. He was sentenced along with other activists including Nelson Mandela. He spent 22 years in prison.

The Denis Goldberg Foundation confirmed his death on Thursday. The 87-year-old died just before midnight on Wednesday.

"His family and the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust are very sad to announce that Denis Goldberg passed away just before midnight on Wednesday, April 29, 2020. His was a life well lived in the struggle for freedom in South Africa. We will miss him," the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust said.

The Steve Biko Foundation said Goldberg's contribution would not be forgotten.

"The Steve Biko Foundation sends our condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Rivonia trialist and anti-apartheid freedom fighter, Denis Goldberg. His contribution to the struggle for freedom for the oppressed will forever be remembered. May His Soul RIP," the foundation said.

Goldberg was born in Cape Town in 1933 and graduated from the University of Cape Town with an engineering degree. He was an active member of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the military arm of the ANC.

He served 22 years in prison, and after he was released in 1985 he moved to London and continued his work as an anti-apartheid activist. He returned to South Africa in 2002.

<https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/national/2020-04-30-struggle-veteran-denis-goldberg-has-died/>

Struggle veteran Denis Goldberg has died

The Rivonia trialist's family says 'his was a life well-lived in the struggle for freedom in SA'

30 April 2020 - 09:33 Staff Writer



Rivonia triallist Denis Goldberg at his home in Hout Bay on January 23 2019 with Deputy President David Mabuza. Goldberg passed away on Wednesday night. Picture: ANC

Denis Goldberg, an anti-apartheid veteran who spent 22 years in prison, has died.

His family and the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust said on Thursday that he had died just before midnight on Wednesday.

“His was a life well-lived in the struggle for freedom in SA. We will miss him,” the [statement](#) read.

Goldberg, a widower twice over, has a son and a daughter. He was born in Cape Town in 1933.

He was awarded the Order of Luthuli in Silver by the [presidency](#), which commended him for his dedication to working for the betterment of the people of SA throughout his life.

A year ago, he was also honoured with the ANC's highest award, Isitwalandwe. On acceptance, Goldberg said: "I think it's a recognition of the role of a whole generation of people who brought us out of the darkness of apartheid."

In the early 1950s, Goldberg joined the Congress of Democrats and the Communist Party underground.

In 1953, while a student at the University of Cape Town (UCT) studying civil engineering, Goldberg joined the Modern Youth Society. He continued to be an activist and joined Umkhonto we Sizwe's (MK) technical office in the early 1960s. He became the weapon maker for Operation Mayibuye.

In 1963, Goldberg was arrested at the Rivonia headquarters of MK. He was sentenced in 1964 at the end of the Rivonia Trial to four terms of life imprisonment. He was the only white member of MK to be arrested and sentenced in the Rivonia Trial.

In 1985, after 22 years of imprisonment, he was set free and reunited with his family in London, where he continued to work for the ANC, said the presidency.

Goldberg was a spokesperson for the ANC and also represented it in the Anti-Apartheid Committee of the UN.

In 1995, after the first democratic election in SA, Goldberg founded the development organisation Community Heart (health education and reconstruction training) to help improve the living standards of black South Africans.

TimesLIVE

<https://www.dw.com/de/anti-apartheid-k%C3%A4mpfer-denis-goldberg-gestorben/a-53289660>

Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg gestorben

Der Mitstreiter von Nelson Mandela war überzeugter Kommunist und setzte sich zeitlebens für ein demokratisches Südafrika ein. Dafür musste er mit jahrzehntelanger Haft büßen. Nun ist Goldberg 87-jährig gestorben.

Video ansehen 02:55

[Ein Weggefährte Nelson Mandelas erinnert sich](#)

Der südafrikanische Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Bürgerrechtler starb in der Nacht im Alter von 87 Jahren an den Folgen einer langjährigen Lungenkrebserkrankung, wie lokale Medien unter Berufung auf Goldbergs Sohn berichten.

Goldberg wurde am 11. April 1933 in Kapstadt geboren. Er entstammte einer liberalen jüdischen Familie, sein Vater musste als Jude aus Litauen vor den Pogromen des russischen Kaiserreiches fliehen. Goldberg - ein studierter Bauingenieur - setzte sich für ein demokratisches Südafrika ein und kämpfte an der Seite des späteren Präsidenten Nelson Mandela gegen das rassistische Apartheid-Regime.

22 Jahre Gefängnis, danach Exil

Der überzeugte Kommunist war einer der letzten überlebenden Angeklagten des sogenannten Rivonia-Prozesses (1963), bei dem er an Mandelas Seite wegen Hochverrats verurteilt wurde. Er verbrachte 22 Jahre in Haft. Anschließend ging er ins Exil nach London und kehrte erst 2002 in sein Heimatland zurück.

Nach dem Ende der Apartheid setzte sich Goldberg weiter gegen Armut ein, zuletzt mit einem Gemeindeprojekt in seinem Heimatort Hout Bay bei Kapstadt. "Er hatte ein erfülltes Leben im Kampf für Südafrikas Freiheit", so ein Sprecher der Familie.

sti/sam (dpa, kna)

<https://www.nzz.ch/international/denis-goldberg-anti-apartheid-kaempfer-87-jaehrig-gestorben-ld.1554373>

Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg 87-jährig gestorben

Denis Goldberg war einer der prominentesten weissen Gegner des rassistischen Apartheidregimes in Südafrika. Als einziger Weisser im Rivonia-Prozess gegen Apartheid-Gegner war er 1964 verurteilt worden.

30.04.2020

Schönes Foto!
Text: dpa

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/apr/30/south-african-anti-apartheid-activist-denis-goldbe/>

South African anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg dies



JOHANNESBURG (AP) - South African anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg has died at his home near Cape Town, aged 87.

Goldberg was a prominent member of the now-ruling African National Congress and stood trial alongside Nelson Mandela. He spent 22 years in prison for his involvement with the ANC's fight against apartheid, the racist system of oppression imposed by the white minority government.

When his fellow accused were sent to Robben Island, as a white prisoner Goldberg was separated from them and imprisoned in the capital, Pretoria.

Goldberg's niece, Joy Noero, said the liberation stalwart died peacefully Wednesday after having lung cancer and diabetes.

Goldberg had continued his activism in post-apartheid South Africa and was a critic of former president Jacob Zuma, who stepped down in 2018 and faces multiple allegations of corruption.

Goldberg was a critic of the ANC's performance in government and the socio-economic conditions of the largely black poor majority in South Africa, one of the world's most unequal countries.

Tributes poured in Thursday for Goldberg, with many acknowledging the role he played in the fight against apartheid.

“His commitment to ethical leadership was unflinching and even during his advanced age he formed part of the movement of veterans of the struggle calling for reassertion of moral center of society,” President Cyril Ramaphosa said. “We will hold him in our thoughts and prayers as we say farewell at a time when we are not allowed to gather in numbers to say our goodbyes.”

“He was a member of a generation of leadership which shaped the country’s history in profound ways,” said Nelson Mandela Foundation chief executive Sello Hatang.

The ANC also paid tribute to Goldberg, saying “his was a life well-lived in the struggle for freedom in SA. We will miss him.”

After his release from prison in 1985, Goldberg and his family moved to London,. Among other work, they became involved with the Woodcraft Folk, an organization for children and young people that Goldberg felt shared his radical values. He served as the group’s honorary president, noting in his autobiography that its members took his family “under their wing.”

[An der Seite von Nelson Mandela wurde Denis Goldberg einst vor Gericht gestellt. Nun ist er im Alter von 87 Jahren gestorben.](#)

Nic Bothma / EPA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhbA-Vn4QkY>

RIP Denis Goldberg | ANC saddened by the passing of the Rivonia trialist: Mashatile

•30.04.2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-wm44g2XAs>

Denis Goldberg | Reaction from Nelson Mandela Foundation on passing of Denis Goldberg

•30.04.2020

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/denis-goldberg-obituary-gxcjfpvds>

OBITUARY

Denis Goldberg obituary

Anti-apartheid activist convicted alongside Nelson Mandela at the Rivonia trial as 'the hated white man, betraying white society'

Thursday April 30 2020, 5.00pm BST, The Times



Goldberg in Nelson Mandela's office in Houghton, South Africa, in 2010
DEBBIE YAZBEK/NELSON MANDELA FOUNDATION

On June 12, 1964, the infamous Rivonia trial ended. Nelson Mandela and seven other members of the African National Congress were convicted of armed insurrection against the South African state. They expected the death penalty. Indeed Mandela, in a celebrated speech from the dock, had expressed his willingness to die for the fight against apartheid, but the judge imposed life sentences instead. Unable to hear the verdict amid the commotion, the mother of Denis Goldberg, the only white defendant, shouted: “Denis, what is it?” Goldberg yelled back: “It’s life — and life is wonderful!”

Goldberg always had an irrepressible zest for life. A funny, gregarious character, he would spend 22 years in prison, scarcely seeing his wife and two children. Yet his spirit never broke

[Continue reading](#)

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<https://www.reuters.com/news/world/2020/0430/1135778-denis-goldberg-south-africa/>

Anti-apartheid veteran Denis Goldberg dies aged 87

Updated / Thursday, 30 Apr 2020 09:41



Denis Goldberg poses for portraits in his home at Hout Bay, South Africa, in 2018

South African anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg has died at 87, his family and foundation have announced.

Mr Goldberg was one of Nelson Mandela's closest colleagues in the struggle against white rule -- arrested and jailed for sabotage alongside the future leader in 1964.

He died just before midnight yesterday, his family and foundation said in a statement cited by local media.

"His was a life well-lived in the struggle for freedom in South Africa," the statement said.

Mr Goldberg spent 22 years in a whites-only jail after his arrest with Mr Mandela and other activists including Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki and Andrew Mlangeni.

He was the only white man of those arrested.

Receiving a high-profile honour in London in 2016, Mr Goldberg said there was "a long way to go" on race relations in South Africa.

"The racial segregation was burnt into the minds of every South African," he said.

Mr Goldberg made the comments when he and fellow activist Ahmed Kathrada received the freedom of the City of London.



Ahmed Kathrada (L) and Denis Goldberg with their City of London certificates

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-04-30-the-boy-who-would-build-a-nation/>

Denis Goldberg 11 April 1933-29 April 2020

The boy who would build a nation

By Carla Bernardo for UCT• 30 April 2020



Rivonia trialist Denis Goldberg at the Cape Town City Hall on Tuesday 11 February 2020. (Photo: Leila Dougan) Less

When liberation struggle icon Denis Goldberg was a little boy, he dreamt of becoming an engineer. He wanted to build one of the “great engineering works”: South Africa’s own Suez Canal, with interstate water pipelines and a Brooklyn Bridge. He wanted to build it for his country and its people. And while it wasn’t quite the building Goldberg had imagined, a builder he would indeed become. Goldberg passed away last night. We republish a tribute by the University of Cape Town last year which was published when the institution conferred an honorary degree on the struggle stalwart.

At home in Hout Bay, surrounded by his impressive collection of local art, the 86-year-old recounted the incredible details of his life journey ahead of receiving his honorary doctorate from the University of Cape Town (UCT) tomorrow, 12 July.

“I was a clever little boy, I have to tell you,” he said.

Born in 1933, six years before the start of World War II, Goldberg began learning about that war through newspaper headlines he read while seated on his father

Sam's lap. While he couldn't explain what was going on "up north", the young boy knew terrible things were happening. It was one of the earliest lessons in his lifelong political education.

In 1939, just months before Germany invaded Poland and sparked the global conflict, Goldberg began his primary education at the all-white Observatory Boys' School. It was a lonely place for him: He had a Jewish surname and encountered anti-Semitism from both peers and teachers. His parents Sam and Annie were immigrants and communists, and, already, Goldberg was aware of the many injustices that surrounded him.

But school was also where he encountered one of his inspirations, his first teacher, Miss Cook.

He recalls an incident when Miss Cook's watch disappeared from her desk drawer. When probed, the class – including Goldberg – blamed a boy named Nolan who had a harelip and cleft palate. Miss Cook called on Goldberg, asking him why he thought it was Nolan. With no evidence of Nolan's alleged crime, Miss Cook took time to teach the class about prejudice: They were blaming him because he looked and sounded different.

"Miss Cook [was] somebody who understood how easy it is to blame the outsider, the different person. And in a way, I suppose, she is part of the influences that took me to prison," he said proudly.

Goldberg's solid political foundation strengthened when, after matriculating, he spent time on a family friend's fruit farm in Ceres. There, he saw the reality of the hardships the farmworkers experienced.

One of his memories was seeing the farmworkers' children walking barefoot on the hot tar roads. The skin on their feet had become so thick that they slept unaware that rats and mice were gnawing at them. They'd just awaken to see the evidence.

"Work on the farm really was an eye-opener because it's not just a book; you actually see it happen," he said.

A lonely place

Still yearning to build for his country, Goldberg enrolled to study civil engineering at UCT. At just 16 years old, he started his BSc as possibly the youngest in the class and the first in his family to attend university.

But much like school, university was a lonely place for him. Filled with hopes of a vibrant space featuring rigorous debate, he was disappointed to find that right-wing ideology was alive on campus. In his engineering classes, despite his efforts to persuade them otherwise, his classmates made it clear they supported the apartheid regime.

And because of his age, Goldberg couldn't join in the social life of the university and a busy class schedule prevented him from "hanging out" on campus.

“Engineering students don’t hang out on campus ... [We were] terribly jealous of the arts students who could go and drink coffee and chatter away.”

Fortunately, he could “kick the hell out of a ball” and joined UCT’s under-19 rugby team. With rugby’s status on campus, being part of the team afforded Goldberg some social capital in and outside of the classroom.

But the budding political activist had also joined the Modern Youth Society (MYS), an off-campus outgrowth of the UCT student body, Modern World Society. MYS was open to youth across colour and class lines. Pressed for time, Goldberg had to choose between politics and rugby – and the former won.

MYS provided him with a space to share and hone his political values and goals. It also introduced him to one of the most important people on his life journey: Esme Bodenstein . They fell in love, married in 1954 and had two children, Hilary and David. Bodenstein was a political activist in her own right, and Goldberg describes the attraction as more than just physical; it was, it seems, a meeting of political minds.

And so, the loneliness Goldberg had faced throughout school and university began to dissipate.

Building bonds

As he became more active, he began to form bonds that would last a lifetime.

In 1957, he joined the banned Communist Party and by 1961, he was a member of Umkhonto weSizwe (MK), the armed wing of the African National Congress (ANC). These organisations, among numerous others, provided fertile ground for comradeship: Goldberg would go on to meet fellow struggle icons like Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo, Walter Sisulu, Bram Fischer, Ahmed Kathrada, Albie Sachs and Chris Hani.

Of each, he has many fond memories.

The Rivonia trialists, all of whom were sentenced to life imprisonment for sabotage. Photo Courtesy Denis Goldberg.

One was how Mandela, who attended a private missionary school, called Goldberg “Boy” because he was 15 years younger than the MK founder. It was a major inversion in South Africa, the memory of which still makes Goldberg laugh. He, in turn, referred to Mandela as “Nel”, his term of endearment for the first democratic president.

He also remembers fondly the conversations and lessons he’d receive from Sisulu during their time underground. Most importantly, Goldberg learnt from the “arch-exponent” himself, ways in which to draw people into your movement and towards your ideas.

“I’ve had tremendous comradeship, I must say,” the liberation icon said.

Throughout his recollections, he refers to comrades and comradeship. But, he explained, the word now lacks meaning.

“The word ... is used very lightly. Anybody who is in the movement is a comrade,” he said.

“So friend becomes much more powerful.”

For Goldberg, “comrade” has lost its “specificity of people who are prepared to risk their lives together as we were”.

In 1963, an unbreakable bond was formed between the comrades known as the Rivonia trialists. At the end of the trial, Mandela, Sisulu, Kathrada, Govan Mbeki, Elias Motsoaledi, Andrew Mlangeni, Raymond Mahlaba and Goldberg were found guilty of sabotage, and sentenced to life imprisonment.

“In the Rivonia Trial ... you faced the gallows together. It is a bond you can’t break,” Goldberg said.

And while only two of the trialists are still alive – Goldberg and Mlangeni – that special bond remains intact.

Release, tragedy and joy

In 1964, Goldberg was sent to serve his sentence at the whites-only Pretoria Central Prison. The rest of the trialists were sent to Robben Island. Goldberg was isolated from his comrades and alone in a prison where anti-apartheid activists were pariahs.

But he kept busy, furthering his studies so that he would be ready when the time came to help better the country. During his 22-year imprisonment, Goldberg managed to obtain a degree in public administration, a BA and a degree in library science. A few years into his sentence, he was no longer alone as comrades including Fischer and Jeremy Cronin were also detained at the prison.

In 1985, Goldberg became the first trialist to leave prison. He immediately went into exile, joining Bodenstein and their children in London. He continued the work of the ANC there, leading public campaigns calling for the release of his fellow trialists. By 1990, all had been released.

Between 1994 and 2002, he served as founding director of the development organisation Community HEART (Health, Education and Reconstruction Training) in London, and is now its honorary president.

The early 2000s represented both tragedy and joy for Goldberg. In 2000, Bodenstein died from cancer and two years later, their daughter Hilary died suddenly from a blood clot.

Denis Goldberg’s cancelled South African passport. Photo Courtesy Denis Goldberg.

In 2002, Goldberg married his second wife, Edelgard Nkobi, returned to South Africa and accepted a position as special advisor to the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry.

Renewed optimism

Fast forward a few years after his return to South Africa, Goldberg continued his political activism, using his platform to call to order those he deemed had transgressed the core values of his beloved ANC. During the Zuma years, Goldberg was a staunch critic of state capture and of the degrading of the ruling party.

Fortunately, the election and appointment of President Cyril Ramaphosa have renewed Goldberg's optimism.

"I trust him implicitly," he said.

Goldberg has spent time talking to Ramaphosa, and explains that the task the president has been given is an almost impossible one.

"We want him to restore democracy in the ANC and in the country, to lead the way, and at the same time, we want him to deal in an authoritarian way with those who are opposed to democracy."

But Ramaphosa has assured him that he need not worry, and that it's all about timing in politics. Goldberg said this shows in how the president deals with problematic figures in the movement: He waits for the transgression, giving him grounds on which to discipline the member.

The struggle veteran is hopeful the country's courts will catch up with those who have committed crimes within government and the ANC, but calls for the public's patience.

"You can corrupt a government in a few years but to overcome it... it's going to take a very, very long time. Maybe generations."

House of Hope

While Ramaphosa's election has renewed Goldberg's hope, South Africa's young people have kept the seasoned activist's dreams of nation-building alive.

Despite the Zuma years, ongoing poverty and inequality, young people continue to put up their hands and offer their help in rebuilding the country.

"I am optimistic because young people want to get on with the job," said Goldberg.

In 2016, he founded the Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trust. A major part of their work has been the creation of the House of Hope (HOH), a space in Hout Bay where young people from across the peninsula can bridge the many divides, engage in cultural activities and skills building, and learn about one another.

"We don't talk social cohesion, we do social cohesion," he said proudly.

While the HOH's work has already started, they have yet to build the actual house. So far, the land has been secured through a 99-year lease, plans have been drawn up and they are now awaiting approval from the City of Cape Town. The HOH has raised R3 million already, with a promise of another R3 million to come.

UCT's Chair of Council Siphon Pityana, who is also independent non-executive chairman of AngloGold Ashanti, has promised HOH a donation from the mining company of R1.5 million over a few years. Major donations have also come from the Mauerberger Foundation Fund. Much of the work on the building plans was given as a gift to the HOH and Hout Bay, particularly to Imizamo Yethu and Hangberg.

"My project, I hope, will encourage people to say there's hope, the House of Hope," said Goldberg.

The foundation is also trying to crowdfund and is hosting screenings of Goldberg's film, *Life is Wonderful: Mandela's Unsung Heroes*.

The nation builder

Goldberg's life has come full circle. As a young boy, filled with the hope of one day helping to build for his country, the liberation hero is giving young people hope and opportunities to construct the country they deserve.

Denis Goldberg being interviewed for UCT News at his Hout Bay home. Photo Brenton Geach/University of Cape Town.

In recognition of his courage and enormous contribution to the liberation struggle, UCT will confer an honorary doctorate on the alumnus.

Tomorrow (12 July 2019) he will be honoured in front of PhD and Graduate School of Business graduands as well as close friends, including Pallo Jordan, Blanche La Guma and Andre Odendaal. And he couldn't be prouder.

"I am very proud ... that my university, my alma mater, my sweet mother ... is, at last, recognising the fact that a guy who made weapons to put an end to the state violence, needs recognition."

This recognition, he said, shows that engineers, despite the department's and field's conservative history, can be progressive.

And while that young Goldberg had once dreamt of creating great engineering works and sitting atop one of "those great big yellow machines", he is satisfied that through the liberation struggle, he has helped build the road on which others can do so.

"We've done it so somebody else is riding those machines. Big Bill the construction boss, that's what I wanted to be. And here, we're doing it." **DM/MC**

Carla Bernardo is a journalist at the University of Cape Town's Communication and Marketing Department Newsroom. [This article was first published by UCT.](#)

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/south-africa-nelson-mandela-ally-denis-goldberg-dies-200430074624639.html>

South Africa: Nelson Mandela ally Denis Goldberg dies

A member of the ANC's military wing, Goldberg was sentenced with Mandela and spent 22 years in a whites-only prison.

20 hours ago



Goldberg at the Liliesleaf Farm, an apartheid-era hideout for Nelson Mandela and freedom fighters, in Rivonia in 2013 [Christopher Furlong/Getty Images]

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- ['Apartheid was never prosecuted': S Africa's unfinished business](#)4 days ago

Veteran South African anti-apartheid activist Denis Goldberg, who stood trial alongside late President Nelson Mandela, has died. He was 87 years old.

Goldberg, who had lung cancer, died just before midnight on Wednesday at his home in Cape Town.

He was considered a stalwart of the South African liberation struggle and was the only white member of the African National Congress's (ANC's) military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), to be arrested and sentenced for armed resistance to white-minority rule.

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Goldberg spent 22 years in prison for his involvement with the ANC's fight against apartheid, the racist system of oppression imposed by the white minority government.

The [Rivonia court proceeding](#) was the trial in which Mandela and other anti-apartheid activists were convicted of sabotage in 1964 and sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

Tributes poured in on Thursday for Goldberg, with many acknowledging the role he played in the fight against apartheid.

"His commitment to ethical leadership was unflinching and even during his advanced age he formed part of the movement of veterans of the struggle calling for reassertion of moral center of society," President Cyril Ramaphosa said.

"We will hold him in our thoughts and prayers as we say farewell at a time when we are not allowed to gather in numbers to say our goodbyes."

[Mandela letters: New collection shows prison writing \(2:28\)](#)

Nelson Mandela Foundation Chief Executive Sello Hatang said: "He was a member of a generation of leadership which shaped the country's history in profound ways."

Goldberg was a critic of the ANC's performance in government and the socioeconomic conditions of the largely black poor majority in South Africa, one of the world's most unequal countries.

The ANC also paid tribute to Goldberg, saying: "His was a life well-lived in the struggle for freedom in SA. We will miss him."

[Rivonia trial](#)

Goldberg was born in Cape Town in 1933. In 1950, he joined the Communist Party and the Congress of Democrats underground. And, in 1961, he joined the Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), or Spear of the Nation, the military wing of the ANC.

Goldberg was arrested in 1963 at Lilliesleaf Farm, a secret headquarters outside Johannesburg. He was put in solitary confinement for 90 days.

At the Rivonia trial, he was tried for sabotage alongside nine other anti-apartheid activists, including Mandela and Walter Sisulu.

The accused were sentenced to life in prison for violating the 1950 Suppression of Communism Act, accused of "campaigning to overthrow the government by means of violent revolution". At the end of the trial in 1964, he was sentenced to four life terms.

After 22 years in a whites-only prison in the capital Pretoria, Goldberg was released in 1985. He joined his family in exile in London where he continued to work for the ANC from 1985-1994.

Goldberg's niece, Joy Noero, said the liberation stalwart died peacefully on Wednesday after having battled lung cancer and diabetes.

Tribute

Albie Sachs, fellow activist and former Constitutional Court judge, told Al Jazeera: "Denis was a citizen of the word. He was the bravest of us all, went deep into the underground, escaped from prison but was recaptured, and in a way had the hardest of all the imprisonments, often on his own in a white jail."

"He was also buoyant and funny, and stole back extra years of life from heavy illness. I remember his brightness and courage and humanity with deep love, affection and pride," said Sachs.

In later life, Goldberg was a spokesman for the ANC and also represented it in the United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid.

Goldberg was awarded the Order of Luthuli by the South African presidency for his dedication to working for the betterment of the people of South Africa throughout his life.



[The Listening Post](#)

The propaganda films of apartheid-era South Africa

SOURCE: Al Jazeera and news agencies

<https://www.cnbc.com/africa/videos/2020/04/30/liliesleaf-trust-ceo-on-the-life-of-anc-struggle-stalwart-denis-goldberg/>

Liliesleaf Trust CEO on the life of ANC struggle stalwart Denis Goldberg

By [CNBC Africa](#)
April 30, 2020

VIDEO Nic Wolpe, CEO of the Liliesleaf Trust joins CNBC Africa for more on the life of ANC struggle stalwart Denis Goldberg who died just before midnight aged 87.

<https://www.nau.ch/news/ausland/apartheid-widersacher-denis-goldberg-ist-gestorben-65700837>

Apartheid Widersacher Denis Goldberg ist gestorben

Dennis Goldberg ist mit 87 Jahren an Lungenkrebs gestorben. Der Aktivist war zusammen mit Nelson Mandela ein Widersacher der Apartheid.

Der Apartheid-Gegner Denis Goldberg ist gestorben. - keystone

Das Wichtigste in Kürze

- Der Apartheid-Gegner Denis Goldberg ist mit 87 Jahren gestorben.
- Der Südafrikaner und Kommunist wurde zusammen mit Nelson Mandela vor Gericht gestellt.

Der prominente Anti-Apartheid-Aktivist Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Südafrikaner sei nach einem [zweieinhalbjährigen Kampf](#) gegen [Lungenkrebs](#) am späten Mittwochabend gestorben. Das sagte Debbie Budlender, die Managerin des Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trusts, am Donnerstag der Deutschen Presse-Agentur.

Dass er so lange [noch gelebt habe](#), sei ein «Zeichen seiner Entschlossenheit und seines Mutes» gewesen. Er war 87 Jahre alt.

Nelson Mandela war Südafrikas erster frei demokratisch gewählter Präsident und kämpfte gegen die Apartheid in Südafrika. - Keystone

Der Sohn einer liberalen jüdischen Familie war einer der prominentesten weissen Gegner der rassistischen Apartheid in Südafrika. Der Bauingenieur und überzeugte Kommunist wurde zusammen [mit dem späteren](#) Friedensnobelpreisträger [Nelson Mandela](#) vor [Gericht](#) gestellt. Er verbrachte insgesamt 22 Jahre in [Haft](#). Daraufhin ging er ins Exil nach London und kehrte erst 2002 nach Südafrika zurück.

<https://www.juedische-allgemeine.de/juedische-welt/juedischer-mandela-mitstreiter-gestorben/>

Südafrika

Jüdischer Mandela-Mitstreiter gestorben Denis Goldberg, der mit Nelson Mandela zu lebenslanger Haft verurteilt worden war, starb mit 87 Jahren

30.04.2020 17:39 Uhr

Der jüdische Anti-Apartheids-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg ist tot. Er erlag im Alter von 87 Jahren am Mittwochabend in Kapstadt einem Krebsleiden.

Goldberg, dessen Großeltern sowohl mütterlicher- als auch väterlicherseits nach Großbritannien ausgewanderte litauische Juden waren, sah sich schon während seiner Kindheit in Kapstadt antisemitischen Angriffen ausgesetzt. 1957 schloss er sich der verbotenen Kommunistischen Partei Südafrikas an, 1962 trat er dem bewaffneten Flügel des Afrikanischen Nationalkongresses (ANC) bei und ging im Jahr später in den Untergrund. Seine Frau und die gemeinsamen Kinder wanderten nach England aus.

RIVONIA-PROZESS 1963 wurde Goldberg bei einer Razzia verhaftet und im darauffolgenden Jahr im sogenannten Rivonia-Prozess gemeinsam mit Nelson Mandela und anderen prominenten ANC-Kämpfern vor Gericht gestellt. Zu einer mehrfach lebenslangen Haft verurteilt, kam er in einen Hochsicherheitstrakt des Gefängnisses von Pretoria, wo er 21 Jahre einsaß.

1985 wurde Goldberg nach einer Kampagne, an der auch die israelische Regierung mitwirkte, aus der Haft entlassen und reiste nach Israel aus, wo seine Tochter lebte. Nach einigen Monaten in einem Kibbutz ging Goldberg nach London. Von dort aus setzte er sich lautstark gegen die Apartheid-Politik des Botha-Regimes ein.

KOMMUNIST Erst 2002 kehrte der überzeugte Kommunist wieder nach Südafrika zurück. Mit einer Stiftung setzte er sich zuletzt für Toleranz, Gerechtigkeit, Streitkultur und Multikulturalismus vor allem in seiner Heimatgemeinde Hout Bay im Norden von Kapstadt ein.

Israel stand er äußerst kritisch bis feindlich gegenüber. Er unterstützte die in ihren Handlungen und Zielen antisemitische BDS-Bewegung. Mehrfach warf Goldberg dem jüdischen Staat vor, er diskriminiere seine arabische Minderheit. Er benutzte in diesem Zusammenhang sogar den Begriff Apartheid, fügte aber hinzu, die Lage in Israel könne nicht mit der in Südafrika zu Zeiten der Rassentrennung gleichgesetzt werden.

»Ich muss ja ein Gegner der ausschließenden Politik des Zionismus sein. Lassen Sie mich aber hinzufügen, dass ich genauso gegen die ausschließende Politik der feudalen arabischen Staaten im Nahen Osten eintrete«, sagte er 2015 bei einer Veranstaltung in Johannesburg. *epd/mth*

<https://www.welt-sichten.org/artikel/37671/anti-apartheid-kaempfer-denis-goldberg-mit-87-jahren-gestorben>

Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg mit 87 Jahren gestorben

Er war der einzige Weiße, der zusammen mit Nelson Mandela vor Gericht stand. Am Mittwoch ist der Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg gestorben.

30. April 2020

epd

[Kommentare \(0\)](#)

Genf, Pretoria (epd). Goldberg erlag mit 87 Jahren einem Krebsleiden, wie der südafrikanische Rundfunk SABC am Donnerstag berichtete. Er stand wegen seiner Beteiligung am Freiheitskampf in Südafrika als einziger Weißer zusammen mit Nelson Mandela vor Gericht. Wegen Hochverrats verbrachte er 22 Jahre im Gefängnis, bevor er 1985 entlassen wurde und sich aus dem Exil weiter gegen die Apartheidpolitik der südafrikanischen Regierung einsetzte.

Erst 2002 kehrte der überzeugte Kommunist und Kunstliebhaber nach Südafrika zurück. Mit einer Stiftung setzte er sich zuletzt für Toleranz, Gerechtigkeit, Streitkultur und Multikulturalismus vor allem in seiner Heimatgemeinde Hout Bay im Norden von Kapstadt ein.

Der Kommunist war bis 1985 in Haft

Goldberg hatte sich 1957 der Kommunistischen Partei Südafrikas angeschlossen, die nur im Untergrund operieren durfte. 1962 trat er dem bewaffneten Flügel des Afrikanischen Nationalkongresses (ANC) bei und ging im Jahr darauf in den Untergrund, während seine Frau und die gemeinsamen Kinder nach London ins Exil zogen. 1963 wurde Goldberg bei einer Razzia verhaftet und am 12. Juni 1964 zu mehrfach lebenslanger Haft verurteilt, die er im Hochsicherheitstrakt des Gefängnisses von Pretoria absaß. Am 28. Februar 1985 wurde er aus der Haft entlassen und reiste über Israel nach London aus.

<https://www.jungewelt.de/artikel/377677.kommunist-und-k%C3%A4mpfer-gegen-apartheid-denis-goldberg-ist-gestorben.html>

30.04.2020, 12:06:11 / Ausland

Kommunist und Kämpfer gegen Apartheid: Denis Goldberg ist gestorben

Kapstadt. Der Kommunist und Kämpfer gegen das Apartheidregime Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Südafrikaner sei nach einem zweieinhalbjährigen Kampf gegen

Lungenkrebs am späten Mittwoch abend gestorben, sagte Debbie Budlender, die Managerin des Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trusts, am Donnerstag gegenüber *dpa*. Dass er so lange noch gelebt habe, sei ein »Zeichen seiner Entschlossenheit und seines Mutes« gewesen. Er war 87 Jahre alt.

Der Sohn einer liberalen jüdischen Familie war einer der bekanntesten weißen Kämpfer gegen das rassistische Apartheidregime in Südafrika. Er war Mitglied des von Nelson Mandela geleiteten bewaffneten ANC-Arms »Umkhonto we Sizwe« (Speer der Nation). Im Rivonia-Prozess wurde er 1963/64 mit Mandela und sechs weiteren Gefährten zu »viermal lebenslänglich« verurteilt.

Den Besuchern der von der *jungen Welt* ausgerichteten Rosa-Luxemburg-Konferenz ist er gut bekannt. 2014 hatte er zuletzt an der Konferenz teilgenommen. Damals sprach er über die Aufteilung Afrikas durch die europäischen Mächte, ihre Kriege und Verbrechen in den Kolonien und den Befreiungskampf Südafrikas. (dpa/jW)

Ein Nachruf auf Denis Goldberg in der *jungen Welt* folgt.

<https://www.watson.ch/international/s%C3%BCdafrika/898979679-anti-apartheid-kaempfer-denis-goldberg-ist-gestorben>

Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg ist gestorben

Er kämpfte gegen das rassistische Apartheidregime Südafrikas an der Seiten von Nelson Mandela und ging 22 Jahre dafür in Haft. Nun ist Denis Goldberg gestorben.



Wurde zusammen mit Nelson Mandela verurteilt: Denis Goldberg ist im Alter von 87 Jahren verstorben. Bild: EPA

Der prominente Anti-Apartheid-Aktivist Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Südafrikaner sei nach einem zweieinhalbjährigen Kampf gegen Lungenkrebs am späten Mittwochabend gestorben, sagte Debbie Budlender, die Managerin des Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trusts, am Donnerstag der Deutschen Presse-Agentur.

Dass er so lange noch gelebt habe, sei ein «Zeichen seiner Entschlossenheit und seines Mutes» gewesen. Er war 87 Jahre alt.

Der Sohn einer liberalen jüdischen [Familie](#) war einer der prominentesten weissen Gegner des rassistischen Apartheidregimes in [Südafrika](#). Der Bauingenieur und überzeugte Kommunist wurde zusammen mit dem späteren Friedensnobelpreisträger Nelson Mandela vor Gericht gestellt und verbrachte 22 Jahre in Haft – als einziger weisser Angeklagte in einem anderen Gefängnis als Mandela.

Danach ging er ins Exil nach London und kehrte erst 2002 nach Südafrika zurück. (adi/sda/dpa)

<https://www.n-tv.de/der-tag/Mandela-Weggefaehrte-Denis-Goldberg-ist-tot-article21750725.html>

Donnerstag, 30. April 2020

Der Tag Mandela-Weggefährte Denis Goldberg ist tot



Goldberg litt seit mehr als zwei Jahren an Lungenkrebs.

(Foto: picture alliance/dpa)

Denis Goldberg widmete sein Leben dem Kampf gegen Rassismus. In Zeiten der Apartheid war er einer der prominentesten weißen Widerstandskämpfer in Südafrika. Nun ist der Bauingenieur und überzeugte Kommunist im Alter von 87 Jahren gestorben.

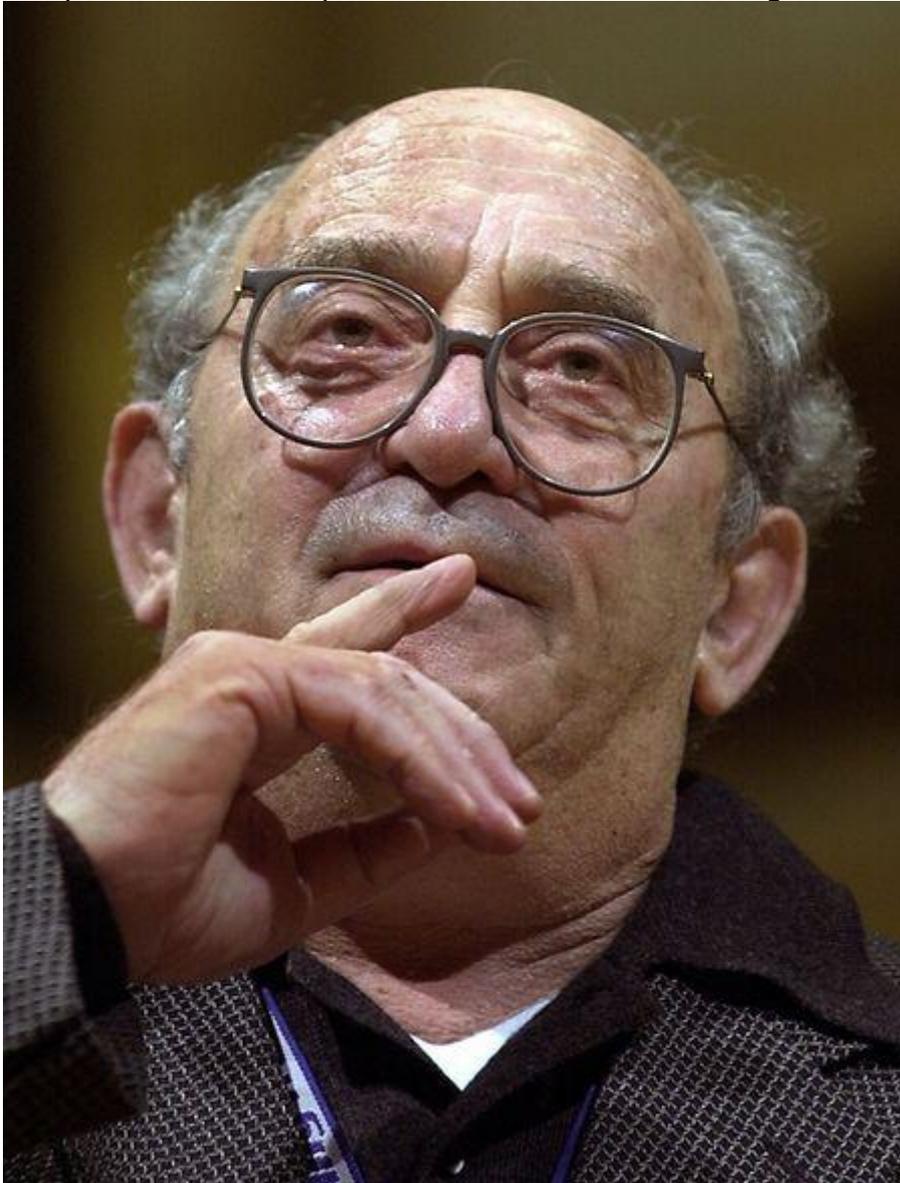
- Goldberg war einer der engsten Mitstreiter von Nelson Mandela im Kampf gegen die Herrschaft der Weißen.
- 1964 wurde er wegen Sabotage zu einer Gefängnisstrafe verurteilt. 22 Jahre verbrachte er im Gefängnis.
- Nach der Haft ging er ins Exil nach London und kehrte erst 2002 nach Südafrika zurück.

"Die Rassentrennung hat sich in den Köpfen aller Südafrikaner eingebrannt", sagte Goldberg 2016. Auch mehr als zwei Jahrzehnte nach dem Ende der Apartheid in Südafrika sei "noch ein langer Weg zu gehen", um den Rassismus in Südafrika zu besiegen.

<https://www.wort.lu/de/international/denis-goldberg-gestorben-5eaa9031da2cc1784e35cc1b>

Denis Goldberg gestorben

Der prominente Anti-Apartheid-Aktivist Denis Goldberg starb im Alter von 87 Jahren.



Denis Goldberg verbrachte 22 Jahre in Haft.
picture alliance / dpa

(dpa) - Der Südafrikaner sei nach einem zweieinhalbjährigen Kampf gegen Lungenkrebs am späten Mittwochabend gestorben, sagte Debbie Budlender, die Managerin des Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trusts, am Donnerstag der Deutschen Presse-Agentur. Dass er so lange noch gelebt habe, sei ein „Zeichen seiner Entschlossenheit und seines Mutes“ gewesen. Er war 87 Jahre alt.

Der Sohn einer liberalen jüdischen Familie war einer der prominentesten weißen Gegner des rassistischen Apartheidregimes in Südafrika. Der Bauingenieur und überzeugte Kommunist wurde zusammen mit dem späteren Friedensnobelpreisträger Nelson Mandela vor Gericht gestellt und verbrachte 22 Jahre in Haft. Daraufhin ging er ins Exil nach London und kehrte erst 2002 nach Südafrika zurück.

https://www.mt.de/weltnews/nachrichten/nachrichten_aktuell/22766645_Prominenter-Anti-Apartheid-Kaempfer-Denis-Goldberg-gestorben.html

Prominenter Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfer Denis Goldberg gestorben

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Kapstadt - Der prominente Anti-Apartheid-Aktivist Denis Goldberg ist tot. Der Südafrikaner sei nach einem zweieinhalbjährigen Kampf gegen Lungenkrebs gestorben, sagte Debbie Budlender, die Managerin des Denis Goldberg Legacy Foundation Trusts.

Er wurde 87 Jahre alt. Dass er noch so lange gelebt habe, sei ein «Zeichen seiner Entschlossenheit und seines Mutes» gewesen. Etliche prominente Südafrikaner zollten Goldberg und seinem Vermächtnis Anerkennung.

Goldberg habe sich dafür eingesetzt, «dass wir heute ein besseres Leben leben können», teilte Südafrikas Staatschef Cyril Ramaphosa mit. Er würdigte den «mutigen Einsatz» und «lebenslangen Aktivismus» von Goldberg. Die Stiftung des Anti-Apartheid-Kämpfers und früheren Erzbischofs Desmond Tutu teilte mit, Goldberg sei ein «Mensch mit höchster Integrität und Ehre» gewesen. Es fühle sich an, «als habe die Nation einen Teil ihrer Seele verloren».

ch Südafrika zurück. Zwar war er stolz auf den demokratischen Wandel, den Südafrika mit der ersten freien Wahl 1994 vollbrachte. Er übte aber vor allem während der von Korruptionsskandalen überschatteten Präsidentschaft von Jacob Zuma (2009-2018) immer wieder Kritik am ANC.

Auch diese offene Kritik nach dem Ende der Apartheid sowie Goldbergs Arbeit mit seiner Stiftung wurden gewürdigt. «In späteren Jahren hat er die Richtung, die unsere Demokratie eingeschlagen hat, herausgefordert», lobte die Nelson Mandela Foundation. Ramaphosa sagte: «Sein Einsatz für eine ethische Führung war unerschütterlich.»

Mehr als ein Vierteljahrhundert nach dem Ende der Apartheid ist Südafrika nach Angaben der Weltbank immer noch eins der ungleichsten Länder der Welt. Südafrika hat zwar die am meisten entwickelte Wirtschaft Afrikas. Doch rund 30 Millionen Menschen - zumeist schwarze Südafrikaner - leben der Regierung zufolge immer noch in Armut. Die weiße Minderheit ist finanziell nach wie vor wesentlich besser gestellt.

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