

Marvin J. Silber, 81; wrote on birds

By **ADAM MAHER**
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Bayonne resident Marvin J. Silber, an author of books about birds, died Oct. 30. He was 81.

A lifelong resident of Hudson County, Silber was born and raised in Jersey City and spent the last 41 years of his life living on 34th Street in the Peninsula City.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Rhoda; daughter Sara Thompson, of Scotch Plains; son Bruce Silber, of Arizona; three grandchildren and a host of other family members and friends.

"We married on Feb. 28, 1960, it was a leap year. He pursued me, that was the way it was back then," Rhoda Silber said yesterday.

Silber, who served a four-year tour in the Korean War,

was an avid bird watcher, which led to a long relationship with Friends of Liberty State Park, the volunteer caretakers of the Jersey City park.

He wrote several books on ornithology, including "Wild Birds in the Parks of Hudson County," which was co-written by Patricia Hilliard.

Silber also occasionally led wildlife nature programs in Bayonne. One slide presentation was called "Feathers, Fauna and Things Like That," and was about wildlife in New Jersey, including Liberty State Park.

"Marvin was a very sincere individual who cared about photography, the environment, debris and litter in the park. He did things for pure sincerity, not for the reward or recognition at the end," his wife said yesterday.



JOURNAL FILE PHOTO

MARVIN J. SILBER, a Bayonne resident and author of books about birds, died Oct. 30 at age 81.