

2020 - 2021

# BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of  
**JOAN E. & RONALD G. LEVY**  
dedicated by  
Ilene & Richard Levy  
Lori & Michael Levy  
Debra & Andrew Dubin  
and their many  
loving grandchildren

5781



A TIME  
LIKE  
*this*

MEMORIAL SERVICE

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*The Officers, Board of Directors, Members past and present  
of Beth Torah mourn the passing of*



## **Rabbi Max A. Lipschitz<sup>z"l</sup>**

January 18, 1924 – March 20, 2011

Beloved Leader, Teacher and Friend

North Miami Beach and Aventura are here today

because of Rabbi Max

who brought thousands of families

to North Dade since 1959.

*MAY HIS MEMORY BE FOR A BLESSING*

# Yizkor



Yom Kippur .....September 28, 2020

Shemini Atzeret ..... October 10, 2020

Passover..... April 4, 2021

Shavuot .....May 18, 2021

**Beth Torah**  
**Benny Rok Campus**  
**20350 N.E. 26 Avenue**  
**North Miami Beach, Florida 33180**

## A Yizkor Message

Yizkor has grown into one of the most powerful moments in Jewish ritual/prayer life. It isn't surprising. When we gather for holidays or joyous occasions, we are especially aware of the empty seats at our holiday tables and the empty chairs at our Simchas. The Rabbis were aware of this so they gave us a moment together to acknowledge our loss and shed that tear and treasure that memory. We do it together and that also comforts us and encourages us. It's easier to cry together than to be the only one crying. When we are the only ones crying, we feel that we are burdening others but when we cry together, we feel we are strengthening each other. Not being physically together this year will take away from Yizkor – we know and understand that. But knowing that we are all – so to speak – on the same page at the same moment in that cloud is comforting. Truth to be told we don't really understand what that cloud is or where it is but here is what we know. This year that cloud will be so full of tears that it will surely break out in rain. What does rain do – it gives life – it causes everything to grow. Our tears do help us grow and give us direction and purpose in our lives. I think when people leave the Yizkor service they in fact 'feel better'. Memory has bitter and sweet in it and acknowledging that is life enhancing. There is something else about Yizkor in a year of Covid – a year of isolation – a year of fear and real losses of friends and relatives. More than almost any other year any of us have ever experienced do we realize how vulnerable we are. More than any other year we can remember we have that thought in our mind – what if this is my last Yom Kippur. More than any other year we feel vulnerable. Isn't that the message of Yom Kippur? We wear white because that is how we are dressed when laid to our final rest. We fast because it is imitating dying and reminds us that days for all are numbered. We say Yizkor because we know that one day our own chair will be empty and we wonder who will say Yizkor for us. Yom Kippur has always been a message about making every year, month week and day count. Covid has only brought that message to the forefront. Let us resolve then on this Yizkor to remember how vital our community is to us and make sure it comes out the other end of this trying period strong and intact. Let us remember that we must be careful and vigilant so that our chair is not the empty one next year. We owe that to ourselves and to our families. Let us remember that we want to lead our lives in such a way that when it comes time for our loved ones to say Yizkor for us that they will have tears that enhance their lives and move them forward knowing they were loved and that our lives were models for them to emulate and learn from. Eventually we will meet in real space and not in the cloud – eventually we will see each other's tears at Yizkor rather than imagine them. Until then we will be strong – the loved ones we remember today will give us strength and most of all we will do them proud by being hopeful, careful and determined in the months to come. In this way we will truly turn their memories into a blessing.

Rabbi Mario Rojzman

Rabbi Ed Farber

## Prelude to Yizkor

Let us praise the Lord in this time of remembrance,  
For the lives we have shared, for the memories we cherish.

*Let us praise God even in times of sorrow,  
As we remember God's many kindnesses to us.*

God's love accompanies us throughout life's journey,  
So that even in death we are not forsaken.

*Mercifully God redeems us from the grave;  
Calling our souls to life everlasting.*

As parents have compassion upon their children,  
So the Lord has compassion upon those who revere God.

*For God knows how frail and fragile we are,  
How vulnerable we are to disease and death.*

As blades of grass and flowers in the field  
Tarry only briefly before they wither away,

*So do the days of our lives pass swiftly by;  
They are too quickly gone, never to return.*

But the Lord's steadfast love endures forever;  
Those who trust in the Lord need not feel forsaken.

*They know their Healer will bind up their wounds,  
And will wipe away the tears from their faces.*

This faith they bequeath to their children's children,  
A precious legacy for all generations.

Suggested by Psalm 103 and Isaiah 25

### MEMORIES WHICH ILLUMINE OUR LIVES

There are stars whose light reaches the earth only after they themselves have disintegrated. And there are individuals whose memory lights the world after they have passed from it. These lights shine even in the darkest night and illumine our path. . . .

(Hannah Senesh)

# YIZKOR

# יזכור

ADONAI, what are human beings  
that You take account of them,  
mortals that You care for them?  
Humans are as a breath, their  
days like a passing shadow.  
In the morning they flourish  
anew, in the evening they  
shriveled and die.  
Teach us to count each day,  
that we may acquire a heart of  
wisdom.

ה', מַה־אָדָם וְהַתְדַעְהוּ,  
בְּן־אָנוּשׁ וְהַתְחַשְׁבֶּהוּ.  
אָדָם לְהֵבֵל דָּמָה,  
יָמָיו כְּצֵל עוֹבֵר.  
בְּבֹקֶר יִצְיֵץ וְחָלָה,  
לְעֶרֶב יִמּוֹלֵל וַיָּבֵשׁ.  
לְמִנּוֹת יָמֵינוּ כֵּן הוֹדַע  
וְנִבְיָא לְבָב חֻקְמָה.

On this solemn day we each make judgments about the quality  
of our life.

We re-examine our deeds and relationships with our commu-  
nity and with others.

We express our yearnings for a new year, a new beginning,  
a year during which we commit ourselves to work toward  
bringing health and peace to all.

We long for a year when individually and communally we shall  
strive to live in a way that is more reflective of the ideals that  
we cherish.

Now, in the midst of looking at our life and assessing its quality,  
we pause to reflect and to remember, and to dedicate our-  
selves anew.

God is always before me, at my  
right hand, lest I fall.  
Therefore I am glad, made  
happy, though I know that  
my flesh will lie in the ground  
forever.

שְׁוִיתִי ה' לְנֶגְדֵי תְמִידָה,  
כִּי מִיְמִינִי בַל־אֲמוּט.  
לְכֵן שְׂמֵחַ לְבִי וַיִּגַּל  
כְּבוֹדִי, אַף בְּשָׂרִי יִשְׁכַּן  
לְבַטָּח.

The deaths of those we now remember left holes in our lives.  
But we are grateful for the gift of their lives and we are strength-  
ened by the blessings that they left us and the precious memo-  
ries that comfort and sustain us as we recall them this day.

*WE RECALL*

Some of us recall parents who watched over us, nursed us, guided us, and sacrificed for us.

Some of us lovingly call to mind a wife, husband, or partner with whom we were truly united—in our hopes and our pains, in our failures and our achievements, in our joys and our sorrows.

Some of us remember brothers and sisters, who grew up together with us, sharing in the play of childhood, in the youthful adventure of discovering life's possibilities, bound to us by a heritage of family tradition and by years of togetherness and love.

Some of us call to mind children, entrusted to us too briefly, to whom we gave our loving care and from whom we received a trust that enriched our lives.

So many of us recall beloved relatives and friends whose affection and devotion enhanced our lives, and whose visible presence will never return to cheer, encourage, or support us.

Though they are gone, we are grateful for the blessings they brought to our lives. We are sustained and comforted by the thought that their presence in our lives remains an enduring blessing that we can bequeath to others.

We can show our devotion to them by our devotion to those ideas that they cherished.

O God of love, make us worthy of the love we have received by teaching us to love You with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our might, and to spread the light of Your divine love on all whose lives touch ours.

Give us strength to live faithfully, for we are cheered by our confidence that You will not permit our lives to be wasted, but will bring all our worthy strivings to live on, even as we may not see their fulfillment.

—MORDECAI M. KAPLAN, EUGENE KOHN, AND IRA EISENSTEIN  
*(adapted from Mahzor Hadash)*



*Each congregant continues with the appropriate passages among the following, in silent meditation. Personal meditations may also be added.*

*We rise.*

*In memory of a father:*

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמַת אָבִי מוֹרֵי שְׁהֶלְךָ לְעוֹלָמוֹ. הַנְּנִי  
נֹדֵב / נֹדֶבֶת צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְּכָרַת נְשָׁמָתוֹ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נְפִשׁוֹ  
צְרוּרָה בְּצִרוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת  
אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my father who has gone to his eternal home. In loving testimony to his life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to him. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is his soul bound up in the bond of life. May I prove myself worthy of the gift of life and the many other gifts with which he blessed me. May these moments of meditation strengthen the ties that link me to his memory and to our entire family. May he rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of a mother:*

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמַת אִמִּי מוֹרְתִי שְׁהֶלְכָה לְעוֹלָמָהּ. הַנְּנִי  
נֹדֵב / נֹדֶבֶת צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְּכָרַת נְשָׁמָתָהּ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נְפִשָּׁה  
צְרוּרָה בְּצִרוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתָה כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת  
אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my mother who has gone to her eternal home. In loving testimony to her life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to her. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is her soul bound up in the bond of life. May I prove myself worthy of the gift of life and the many other gifts with which she blessed me. May these moments of meditation strengthen the ties that link me to her memory and to our entire family. May she rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of a wife:*

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמַת אִשְׁתִּי שְׁהֶלְכָה לְעוֹלָמָהּ. הַנְּנִי נֹדֵב צְדָקָה  
בְּעַד הַזְּכָרַת נְשָׁמָתָהּ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נְפִשָּׁה צְרוּרָה בְּצִרוֹר הַחַיִּים  
וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתָה כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ  
נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my wife who has gone to her eternal home. In loving testimony to her life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to her. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is her soul bound up in the bond of life. Love is as strong as death; deep bonds of love are indissoluble. The memory of our companionship and love overcomes loneliness, for all that we shared still endures. May she rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of a husband:*

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמַת בְּעַלִּי שְׁהֵלָה לְעוֹלָמוֹ. הִנְנִי נוֹדֶבֶת צְדָקָה  
בְּעַד הַזְּכָרַת נְשָׁמָתוֹ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נִפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בְּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים  
וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת אֶת־פְּנִיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בְּיַמֶּיךָ  
נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my husband who has gone to his eternal home. In loving testimony to his life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to him. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is his soul bound up in the bond of life. Love is as strong as death; deep bonds of love are indissoluble. The memory of our companionship and love overcomes loneliness, for all that we shared still endures. May he rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of a son or a brother:*

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמַת בְּנִי / אַחִי הָאֱהוּב שְׁהֵלָה לְעוֹלָמוֹ. הִנְנִי  
נוֹדֵב / נוֹדֶבֶת צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְּכָרַת נְשָׁמָתוֹ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נִפְשׁוֹ  
צְרוּרָה בְּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת  
אֶת־פְּנִיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בְּיַמֶּיךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my beloved son/brother who has gone to his eternal home. In loving testimony to his life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to him. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is his soul bound up in the bond of life. I am grateful for the sweetness of his life and for all he accomplished in his lifetime. May he rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of a daughter or a sister:*

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמַת בְּתִי / אַחוֹתִי הָאֱהוּבָה שְׁהֵלְכָה לְעוֹלָמָהּ.  
הִנְנִי נוֹדֵב / נוֹדֶבֶת צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְּכָרַת נְשָׁמָתָהּ. אֲנֵא תְהִי  
נִפְשָׁה צְרוּרָה בְּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתָה כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע  
שְׁמָחוֹת אֶת־פְּנִיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בְּיַמֶּיךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my beloved daughter/sister who has gone to her eternal home. In loving testimony to her life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to her. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is her soul bound up in the bond of life. I am grateful for the sweetness of her life and for all she accomplished in her lifetime. May she rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of other relatives and friends:*

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמוֹת קְרוּבֵי וְרַעֵי שְׁהָלְכוּ לְעוֹלָמָם. הַנְּנִי  
נוֹדֵב/ נוֹדֶבֶת צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְּכָרֶת נְשָׁמָתָם. אָנָּה תְהַיְינָה  
נַפְשׁוֹתֵיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת בְּצִרוּר הַחַיִּים וְתִהְיֶי מְנוּחָתָם כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע  
שְׁמַחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of \_\_\_\_\_ and of all relatives and friends who have gone to their eternal home. In loving testimony to their lives I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to them. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, are their souls bound up in the bond of life. May these moments of meditation strengthen the ties that link me to their memory. May they rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of martyrs:*

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמוֹת כָּל־אֶחָיוּנוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׁמָסוּ אֶת־נַפְשָׁם  
עַל קְדוּשַׁת הַשֵּׁם. הַנְּנִי נוֹדֵב/ נוֹדֶבֶת צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְּכָרֶת  
נְשָׁמוֹתֵיהֶם. אָנָּה יִשְׁמַע בְּחַיֵּינוּ הַד גְּבוּרָתָם וּמְסִירוֹתָם  
וְיִרְאֶה בְּמַעֲשֵׂינוּ טְהָר לִבָּם וְתִהְיֶינָה נַפְשׁוֹתֵיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת  
בְּצִרוּר הַחַיִּים וְתִהְיֶי מְנוּחָתָם כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמַחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ,  
נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the souls of our brethren, martyrs of our people, who gave their lives for the sanctification of God's name. In their memory do I pledge charity. May their bravery, their dedication, and their purity be reflected in our lives. May their souls be bound up in the bond of life. And may they rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*In memory of congregants:*

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמוֹת יְדֵיֵינוּ חֲבֵרֵי הַקְּהָל הַקְּדוֹשׁ הַזֶּה  
שְׁהָלְכוּ לְעוֹלָמָם. אָנָּה תְהַיְינָה נַפְשׁוֹתֵיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת בְּצִרוּר  
הַחַיִּים וְתִהְיֶי מְנוּחָתָם כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמַחוֹת אֶת־פְּנֵיךָ,  
נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

We lovingly recall the members of our congregation who no longer dwell on this earth. They have a special place in our hearts. We pray this day that all who have sustained the loss of loved ones be granted comfort and strength.

Exalted, compassionate God, comfort the bereaved families of this congregation. Help us to perpetuate everything that was worthy in the lives of those no longer with us, whom we remember this day. May their memory endure as a blessing. And let us say: Amen.

## We remember them



At the rising of the sun and at its going down,  
we remember them.

*At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,  
we remember them.*

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,  
we remember them.

*At the shining of the sun and in the warmth of summer,  
we remember them.*

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn,  
we remember them.

*At the beginning of the year and at its end,  
we remember them.*

As long as we live, they too will live;  
for they are now a part of us,  
as we remember them.

*When we are weary and in need of strength,  
we remember them.*

When we are lost and sick at heart,  
we remember them.

*When we have joy we crave to share,  
we remember them.*

When we have decisions that are difficult to make,  
we remember them.

*When we have achievements that are based on theirs,  
we remember them.*

As long as we live, they too will live;  
for they are now a part of us,  
as we remember them.

*Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer*

## A Yizkor Meditation in Memory of a Parent Who Was Hurtful

Dear God,

You know my heart. Indeed, You know me better than I know myself, so I turn to You before I rise for Kaddish.

My emotions swirl as I say this prayer. The parent I remember was not kind to me. His/her death left me with a legacy of unhealed wounds, of anger and of dismay that a parent could hurt a child as I was hurt.

I do not want to pretend to a love or to a grief that I do not feel, but I do want to do what is right as a Jew and as a child.

Help me, O God, to subdue my bitter emotions that do me no good, and to find that place in myself where happier memories may lie hidden, and where grief for all that could have been, all that should have been, may be calmed by forgiveness, or at least soothed by the passage of time.

I pray that You, who raise up slaves to freedom, will liberate me from the oppression of my hurt and anger, and that You will lead me from this desert to Your holy place.

-Robert Saks

## THE GIFT OF MEMORY

We thank You, O God of life and love,  
For the resurrecting gift of memory  
Which endows Your children, fashioned in Your image,  
With the Godlike sovereign power  
To give immortality through love.  
Praised be You, O God,  
Who enables Your children to remember.

*Morris Adler*

## **We mourn those congregants who have passed away this year**

*JUDITH (JUDIE) BERGER*

*STEVEN BERGER*

*RONALD CANTOR*

*EDUARDO COMELLA*

*STEPHANIE DEAN-KLUGER*

*MIRIAM FELDSTEIN*

*LOIS HILDEBRANDT*

*BARBARA KAPLAN*

*SENATOR GWEN MARGOLIS*

*SYDONIA (SYD) NACRON*

*MORRIS SCHEINER*

*PEARL TUCKER*

*STANLEY (ZELIG) WARMBRANDT*

*FLORENCE WERNER*

*GENERAL STUART R. WOLK*

Their memories are enshrined in this sanctuary, and  
are gratefully recorded upon the tablets of our hearts.

May the Source of all comfort send consolation and  
healing to those who mourn them. May their memories  
endure among us as lasting benediction. And let us  
say: Amen.

*In memory of the six million:*

אל מלא רחמים שוכן במרומים המצא מנוחה נכונה תחת  
כנפי השכינה במעלות קדושים וטהורים כזהר הרקיע מזהירים.  
את־נשמות כל־אחינו בני ישראל, אנשים נשים וטף, שנהרגו  
ושנטבחו ושנשרפו ושנחנקו. בגן עדן תהי מנוחתם. אָנָּא בְּעַל  
הַרְחָמִים, הַסְתִּירם בְּסִתְרֵךְ כְּנָפֶיךָ לְעוֹלָמִים וְצָרָר בְּצִרּוֹר הַחַיִּים  
את־נשמותיהם. ה' הוא נחלתם, וינחמו בשלום על משכבותיהם.  
וְנֹאמֵר אָמֵן.

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace in Your sheltering Presence, among the holy and the pure, to the souls of all our brethren, men, women and children of the House of Israel who were slaughtered and burned. May their memory endure, inspiring truth and loyalty in our lives. May their souls thus be bound up in the bond of life. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

*In memory of the fallen soldiers of the United States:*

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace among the holy and the pure, in Your sheltering Presence, to the souls of the heroic men and women of this great country's armed forces who offered their souls for the security and freedom of the United States of America. O merciful Father, shelter their souls forever under the cover of Thy wings. May their souls thus be bound up in the bond of life. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

אל מלא רחמים  
שוכן במרומים המצא מנוחה נכונה על כנפי השכינה  
במעלות קדושים וטהורים כזהר הרקיע מזהירים,  
לנשמות חילי צבא הגנה לישראל  
אשר מסרו נפשם על קדשת השם ועל כבוש הארץ.  
בעל הרחמים יסתירם בסתר כנפיו לעולמים, ויצרר  
בצרור החיים את נשמתם, ה' הוא נחלתם, בגן עדן תהא  
מנוחתם ויגוחו בשלום על משכבם, ונאמר אמן.

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace among the holy and the pure, in Your sheltering Presence, to the souls of the heroic and dauntless soldiers, men and women of *TZAHAL—The Israel Defense Forces*, who gave their lives in the battles for the sanctification of God and Eretz Israel. May the memory of the valiant heroes of freedom endure, inspiring truth and loyalty in our lives. May their souls thus be bound up in the bond of life. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

*In memory of all the dead:*

אל מלא רחמים שוכן במרומים המצא מנוחה נכונה תחת  
כנפי השכינה במעלות קדושים וטהורים כזהר הרקיע מזהירים  
את-נשמות כל-אלה שהזכרנו היום לברכה שהלכו לעולמם,  
בגן עדן תהי מנוחתם. אנא בעל הרחמים, הסתירם בסתר  
כנפיה לעולמים וצרר בצרור החיים את-נשמותיהם. ה' הוא  
נחלתם, ויגוחו בשלום על משכבותיהם. ונאמר אמן.

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect peace among the holy and the pure, in Your sheltering Presence, to the souls of all our beloved who have gone to their eternal home. May their memory endure as inspiration for deeds of charity and goodness in our lives. May their souls thus be bound up in the bond of life. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.



מְנוּמָר לְדָוָד:

ה' רֵעִי לֹא אֶחְסָר:

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

בְּנֵאוֹת דֶּשָׁא יְרֵבֵיצָנִי.

God makes me lie down in green pastures,

עַל־מֵי מְנַחוֹת יְנַהֲלֵנִי:

And leads me beside the still waters.

נַפְשִׁי יִשׁוּבָב. יְנַחֲנִי בְּמַעְגְּלֵי צְדָק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ:

God revives my spirit—and guides me  
in paths of righteousness, for the sake of God's name.

גַּם כִּי־אֵלֶךְ בְּגֵיא צִלְמוֹת. לֹא־אִירָא רָע כִּי־אֲתָה עִמָּדִי.

Though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death,  
I fear no evil; for You are with me.

שִׁבְטְךָ וּמִשְׁעֶנְתְּךָ הִמָּה יְנַחֲמֵנִי:

Your rod and Your staff comfort me.

תַּעֲרֹךְ לְפָנַי שְׁלֹחַן נֹגַד צָרָרִי.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my foes.

דִּשְׁנַתָּ בְּשֶׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי כּוֹסֵי רוּחָה:

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

אֵךְ טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יְרַדְפוּנִי כָּל־יְמֵי חַיֵּי.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.

וְשָׁבְתִי בְּבֵית־ה' לְאָרְךָ יָמִים:

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

אָשָׂא עֵינַי אֶל־הַהָרִים. מֵאֵין יבֹא עֲזָרִי:

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains;  
From where will my help come?

עֲזָרִי מֵעַם ה' עָשָׂה שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ:

My help comes from the Lord,  
Who made heaven and earth.

אֶל־יִתֵּן לְמוֹט רַגְלֶךָ. אֶל־יָנוּם שֹׁמְרֶךָ:

God will not allow your foot to give way;  
God, who guards you, will not slumber.

הִנֵּה לֹא־יָנוּם וְלֹא יִישָׁן. שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל:

For the Guardian of Israel  
Neither slumbers nor sleeps.

ה' שֹׁמְרֶךָ. ה' צִלְּךָ עַל־יָד יְמִינֶךָ:

The Lord is your keeper;  
The Lord is your protection at your right hand.

יוֹמָם הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ לֹא־יַכְּכָה. וַיָּרֵחַ בַּלַּיְלָה:

The sun shall not smite you by day,  
Nor the moon by night.

ה' יִשְׁמְרֶךָ מִכָּל־רָע. יִשְׁמַר אֶת־נַפְשֶׁךָ:

The Lord shall keep you from all evil;  
God shall keep your soul.

ה' יִשְׁמַר־צֵאתְךָ וּבואֶךָ. מֵעַתָּה וְעַד־עוֹלָם:

The Lord shall guard your going out and your coming in,  
From this time forth and forever.

## What death cannot take from us

Death has cast its dark shadow over this home,  
And it has left us all deeply bereft.

*A voice has been stilled, a heart has been stopped,  
Laughter has departed, joy has fled.*

Gone are the warmth and the glow of a loved one's presence;  
The chain of love has lost a vital link.

*Death has taken a life which was precious;  
It has brought pain, loneliness, and sorrow.*

And yet there is so much which death cannot touch,  
So much over which it has no dominion.

*Death cannot rob us of our past:  
The years, the dreams, the experiences which we shared.*

Death cannot take from us the love we knew;  
It is woven into the tapestry of our lives.

*The lessons we were taught we shall continue to cherish;  
We shall cling to the wisdom which lives on.*

What we have had, we shall always possess;  
What we have known, we shall always hold dear.

*Death cannot take from us our abiding trust,  
That God will give us strength to endure what we must.*

Death cannot take from us our sustaining hope—  
That darkness will yield to light, and hurt give way to healing.

*Death cannot take from us the comforting faith,  
That with God every soul is precious; none is ever lost.*

Thus, even in sorrow, we thank the Lord our God,  
For our memories and our hopes, for our trust and our faith.

*For these, we believe, need never be lost;  
These, and so much more, death cannot take from us.*

## Yizkor reflections

### SHALL I CRY OUT IN ANGER?

Shall I cry out in anger, O God,  
Because Your gifts are mine but for a while?

*Shall I forget the blessing of health  
The moment it gives way to illness and pain?*

Shall I be ungrateful for the moments of laughter,  
The seasons of joy, the days of gladness and festivity?

*When a fate beyond my understanding takes from me  
Friends and kin whom I have cherished, and leaves me  
Bereft of shining presences that have lit my way  
Through years of companionship and affection,*

When tears cloud my eyes and darken the world,  
And my heart is heavy within me,  
Shall I blot from the mind the love  
I have known and in which I have rejoiced?

*Shall I grieve for a youth that has gone  
Once my hair is gray and my shoulders bent,  
And forget days of vibrancy and power?*

Shall I, in days of adversity, fail to recall  
The hours of joy and glory You once granted me?

*Shall the time of darkness put out forever  
The glow of the light in which I once walked?*

Give me the vision, O God, to see and feel  
That imbedded deep in each of Your gifts  
Is a core of eternity, undiminished and bright,  
An eternity that survives the dread hours of  
affliction and misery.

*Those I have loved, though now beyond my view,  
Have given form and quality to my life,  
And they live on, unfailingly feeding  
My heart and mind and imagination.*

They have led me into the wide universe  
I continue to inhabit, and their presence  
Is more vital to me than their absence.

*What You give, O Lord, You do not take away,  
And bounties once granted  
Shed their radiance evermore.*

Within me Your love and vision,  
Now woven deep into the texture of my being,  
Live and will be mine forever.

*Morris Adler (adapted)*

## ***Mourner's Kaddish***

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא בְּעַלְמָא דִּי בְּרָא כְרַעוּתֵהּ. וְיַמְלִיךְ  
מַלְכוּתֵהּ בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעִנְיַת  
וּבְיָמֵן קַרִיב, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וּלְעִלְמֵי עִלְמַיָּא.

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדַּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה  
וְיִתְהַלַּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקֻדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא, לְעֵלְא לְעֵלְא מְכַל-בְּרַכְתָּא  
וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבְּחָתָא וְנִחְמָתָא דְאַמְרֵן בְּעַלְמָא, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

עוֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְוָמֵי הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

*Yit-gadal ve-yit-kadash shmei raba, b'alma divra khir'utei ve-  
yamlikh mal-khutei b-hayei-khon uve'yomei-khon uve-hayei dis-  
khol beit yisrael ba-agala u-vizman kariv v'imru amen.*

*Ye-hei shmei raba meva-rakh l'alam ul'almei 'almaya.*

*Yit-barakh ve-yish-tabah ve-yitpa'ar ve-yitromam ve-yitnasei ve-yit-  
hadar ve-yit'aleh ve-yit-halal shmei d-kudsha brikh hu, l'eila l'eila  
mikol bir-khata ve-shirata tush-be-hata ve-nehe-mata da-amiran  
b'alma, v'imru amen.*

*Ye-hei shlama raba min shmaya ve-hayim aleinu v'al kol yisrael  
v'imru amen.*

*Oseh shalom bimromav hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael  
v'imru amen.*

## A RELIGION OF LIFE

Judaism is a religion of life, which makes no cult out of death, which seeks no private salvation from the grave, which accepts with confidence and trust both the miracle of birth and the mystery of death.

Our faith does not close its eyes to tragedy and does not deny that we human beings shall never possess the everlastingness of stone, the silent enduring quality of the mountain peak; but we have other gifts, conscious minds, aspiring hearts, far-visionsed souls.

Our faith tells us that God has given to each human being the ability to paint a portrait large or small, beautiful or ugly, radiant or blooming; and our faith summons us to become portrait painters of soul-landscapes, worthy to be hung in any art gallery of the spirit.

Judaism proclaims that God has arranged our journey so that in years brief or many we can find love, joy, and the fruits of fulfillment (partial and relative though they be), and that when our day is finished, we should accept its final note with the same calm trust that we greet the skylark's song at sunrise.

*Joshua Loth Liebman*

## A RESPONSE AND A WITNESS

The facts of life and death are neutral. It is we, by our responses, who give meaning to suffering and death.

Illnesses, accidents, human tragedies do kill people. But they do not necessarily kill life or destroy faith.

If the death and suffering of someone we love makes us bitter, jealous, hostile to religion, and incapable of happiness, then it is we who turn the person who has died into one of the "devil's martyrs." If the death of someone close to us brings us to explore the limits of our capacities for strength, love, and cheerfulness, if it leads us to discover sources of consolation which we never knew before, then we make our departed into a witness for the affirmation of life rather than its rejection.

There is one thing which we can still do for those whom we have loved and lost. We could not keep them alive. Perhaps we could not even lessen their pain significantly. But now, after their death, we can let them be witnesses for God and for life.

The dead depend on us for their redemption and their immortality.

*Harold Kushner (adapted)*