



JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST CONGREGATION

Memorial Booklet 5782 / 2021

EL MALEY RACHAMIM

*O God, full of compassion, dwelling in the heavens' heights,
grant perfect rest beneath the sheltering wings of your Shechina,
among the holy and pure, illuminating like the brilliance of the skies,
the souls of our beloved ones who went to their eternal place of rest.
May you who are the source of mercy, shelter them eternally
beneath your wings and bind their souls among the living,
that they may rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.*

We Remember Them

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

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them

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

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we remember them

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

In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
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 joys we yearn to share,
we remember them

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

–Sylvan D. Kamens and Rabbi Jack Riemer

A Few Words of Introduction

When a righteous person dies, we say *zichrono livracha*—may his/her memory be for a blessing. We turn the memories of those we loved into blessings by echoing in our own lives the best of who they were in the world. During *Yizkor*, observed four times each year, we remember friends and family who are no longer with us and affirm that we will strive to live lives that indeed make their memories blessings. At *Yizkor* we remember all those we have lost over the course of our lifetime, not only those who died within the past year.

We asked you to share not only the names of your loved ones, but also some of their blessings. Who are the people who helped shape your life? How did you know them? What are your most profound memories of them? How have they changed the way that you look at the world?

This record of memories illuminates the gifts of those who touched our lives, allowing their values and deeds to through our entire community. We hope that by reading them, you will learn more and feel closer to your friends at JRC.

Yehiyu zichronam livracha.

We regret any inadvertent errors or omissions.

We would appreciate having them called to our attention so we can make corrections in the future.

Our Loved Ones Who Have Died During the Year ...

Beloved JRC member Ann Leiner

Miriam Gershfeld, beloved mother of Jeremy Gershfeld

Beloved JRC member Norman Ferber

Nehemiah Hasak, beloved father of Taal Hasak-Lowy (Todd)

Ruth Osborn, beloved grandmother of Jason Osborn
(Rebecca)

Audrey Matisoff, beloved mother of Stacey Matisoff Cloud
(Ryan Cloud) aunt of Sheila Nissim (Michael Cohen)
and Sam Cohen

Leonard "Len" Evens, beloved father of Sarah "Sally" Evens
(Stephen Spear)

Ralph Leviton, beloved stepfather of Emily Harris
(Jim Ridker), step-grandfather of Abby and
Matthew Harris-Ridker

Beloved JRC member Suzanne Berkson

James Levy, beloved father of Jonathan Levy
(Christine Duffy)

Sonia (Sunny) Willenson, beloved grandmother of
Marni Willenson (Tony Mangiullo)

Beloved JRC member Bruce Reynolds, Jr.

Beloved JRC member John Cosby (Linda)

Marjorie Present, beloved mother of Rhonda Present
(Larry Minsky)

Beloved JRC member Aaron Cohen (Sheila)

Dorothy Katz, beloved mother of Nancy Katz
(Kathy Wildman)

Beloved JRC member Carolyn Levin, mother of
Jil Deheeger (Jean-Paul)

Lees Waitroob, beloved grandmother of Anne Wildman

Beloved JRC member Marguerite “Jeany” Soshnik
(Ron Deitch)

Marilyn “Toddy” Richman, beloved mother of Ruth Richman

Fred Goldner, beloved father of Francie Goldner Niederman

Stephanie Dumser, beloved mother of Joan Dumser

Dr. Aharon Klieman, beloved brother-in-law of
Diane and Bennett Melnick

Edward B. Melnick, beloved father of Bennett Melnick
(Diane Melnick)

Ida Sondheimer, beloved mother of Stuart Sondheimer
(Bonnie Lucas)

David Sherman, beloved father of JRC Clergy Assistant
and Membership Coordinator Rachel Sherman

George Wolnak, beloved scousin of Jerry Herst

Shirley Berlau Freilich, beloved grandmother of Alyse Freilich
(Andrew Schulkin), great-grandmother of Sarah and Ethan
Schulkin

Eli Karsh, beloved brother of Joshua Karsh (Carolyn Shapiro),
uncle of Jonah and Gabriel Karsh

Ann Weisman, beloved sister of Sallie Gratch (Alan Gratch)
and aunt of Joel Gratch (Reese Gratch.)

WE REMEMBER

Beryl Michaels & John Bach

Irving Michaels, father of Beryl Michaels

Gussie Michaels, mother of Beryl Michaels

Claire Michaels, cousin of Beryl Michaels

Ruth Bach, mother of John Bach

Ira Bach, father of John Bach

Murial Bach Diamond, stepmother of John Bach

Susan Wolfson, stepsister of John Bach

Joel Blechman & Carol Hirsch Bleckman

Arthur I. Hirsh and Gloria Zeidman Hirsh, parents
of Carol Hirsh Blechman

Steven J. Hirsh, brother of Carol Hirsh Blechman

Rose Zeidman, beloved grandmother of Carol Hirsh Blechman

Ann Zeidman, Ellyn Ross and Stuart Chernoff, cherished cousins
of Carol Hirsh Blechman

Elaine and Larry Chernoff, aunt and uncle of Carol Hirsh Blechman

Marilyn and Robert Ross, aunt and uncle of Carol Hirsh Blechman

Marvin Blechman, father of Joel Blechman

Bobby Blechman, brother of Joel Blechman

Becky and Dick Block

Irwin Feldman, our son's brother-in-law

*A mensch, who is terribly missed by his wife, his young daughter,
and our whole family.*

Denise Chaitkin

Dallas Toepke, father of Denise Chaitkin

Marie Toepke, mother of Denise Chaitkin

Marc Chinitz & Lori Lippitz

Jack Chinitz, father of Marc Chinitz and father-in-law of Lori Lippitz

My father-in-law was already physically diminished by heart disease when I met him, but he was as spiritually deep and as loving a person as I have ever met. His devotion to Jewish observance was quiet and dignified—I often came to the breakfast table to find him davening (praying) with a tallit over his head. His devotion to his patients when he was a pediatrician was only matched by his intense love of family. A gentle man, he exemplified “shalom bayit”—the importance of keeping peace in the home.

Charles Aronin Lippitz, father of Lori Lippitz

My father loved life, music, jokes from the Borsht Belt to Monty Python, the drama of opera, and the deep truths of theater. After many years as a lawyer, at age 60, he became a film producer. At the end of his life, cut short by cancer, he told us all, “Life doesn’t owe me anything.” He showed me how one could be both funny and noble at the same time.

Irina Geinisman, dear friend of Lori Lippitz

A 13-year-old immigrant from the USSR, Irina arrived to Chicago in 1975, and my Russian teacher at ETHS asked me if I could be a friend to her. She became the closest friend I have ever known, wiser than her years, poetic, loving, and given of a preternatural understanding of the meaning of life. When she was the victim of an armed purse snatcher on the L platform, the world lost one of its purest souls. I will keep the flame of her memory alive all of my days.

Hattie and Julius Seligman, Lori’s maternal grandparents

Blanche Aronin Lippitz and Milton Lippitz, Lori’s paternal grandparents

Genia and Arco Baran, Marc’s maternal grandparents

Pauline and Phillip Chinitz, Marc’s paternal grandparents

Stacy Cloud

Audrey Matisoff, mother of Stacey Cloud (Ryan Cloud),
Grammy of Russell, Douglas & Malcolm Cloud

Sara & Stanley Cohn

Melvin Hurwitz, father of Sara Cohn
Charlotte Hurwitz, mother of Sara Cohn
Lou Cohn, father of Stan Cohn

Jil Levin Deheeger & Jean-Pierre Deheeger

Carolyn Shaye Levin, mother of Jil Levin Deheeger

My mother loved to laugh. (Who doesn't?) She laughed at the jokes other people told, and she laughed at her own jokes. And her laughter was contagious. She also loved to sing, and singing with her local grandsons was just about the best thing in the world. For them, too. And for me. I miss her a lot.

Ron Deitch

Beth Jacoby–Deitch

*An extremely talented individual who made everything brighter.
A great wife and mother!*

Jeany Soshnik, member of JRC and fiance

Jeany and I met October 2016. She was my first date after my wife passed away earlier in the year. Over the next 4.5 years Jeany and I created a warm wonderful relationship. We became engaged in March 2020 and planned our wedding in July the same year. She was diagnosed with a glioblastoma in June and passed away in April of 2021. Jeany was a very special person who never lost a friend but only made them. She is terribly missed by all who knew her.

Ron Eber

Albert and Bertha Eber (great grandparents)

Milton and Mabel Eber (grandparents)

Albert and Clarisse Eber (parents)

Theodore Meyer Rifkin (step-father)

Saul Morris and Anna Kasanofsky (great grandparents)

Jack and Ethel Kasanoff (grandparents)

Marvin Kasanoff (uncle)

Jacob and Anna Herschman (great great grandparents) who
remained at the Russian Shytel Snitish

Nathan and Rachael Kalman (great grandparents) and Rachael's
sisters Rose Wall, Sonia Harris, Shandel Blum, Bessie Lewis and
Sima Gallagher (great grand aunts)

Audrey Eisenmann:

Her husband, David R. Pepperberg

Her parents, Ruth & Al Eisenmann

Her grandparents, Jella & Nathan Karlsruher

Her grandparents, Ida & Otto Eisenmann

Her aunt & uncle, Irene & Fredrick Schweizer

Her aunt & uncle, Ella & Ernst Eisenmann

Her step-father, Herbert Rosenfeld

Her mother-in-law, Rosalind Pepperberg

Eva Eisenstein

Her niece, Clare Eisenstein

A bright, talented young woman who lost her way in life with drugs.

Her nephew, Sean Eisenstein

His death released him from the torments of severe schizophrenia.

Mindy Ferber & Larry Marks

Norman Ferber, husband of Florence Ferber, father of Mindy Ferber,
grandfather of Shira Marks and Sammy Marks (Leah Cohen
Marks), great grandfather of Noam Cohen Marks

Joan Fields

Selma Blatt, mother of Joan Fields, grandmother of Loren Stillwell
Arthur Blatt, father of Joan Fields, grandfather of Loren Stillwell
Ruth Fields, mother of Jeremy Fields, grandmother of Loren Stillwell
David Fields, father of Jeremy Fields, grandfather of Loren Stillwell

Charlene & Howard Gelber

Clara Powitz, mother of Charlene
Morriss Powitz, father of Charlene
Anne Schiff, dear friend of Charlene
Irene Gelber, mother of Howard
Sam Gelber, father of Howard

Gail Lovinger Goldblatt

Lois and Lester Goldblatt, parents of Marty Goldblatt

*Lois brought music, joy, and dance into the lives of all who loved
her. Les was a caring and giving man with a twinkle in his eye who
is greatly missed.*

Edith and Maurie Lovinger, parents of Gail Lovinger

*She made the world wonderful by her very presence. He in always
in our hearts and thoughts.*

Sophie Zlotin and Honora Lovinger, grandmothers of
Gail Lovinger Goldblatt

Milton and Zelda Zlotin, Jack and Pearl Moswin, aunts and uncles
of Gail Lovinger Goldblatt

Anne Goldberg, aunt of Gail Lovinger Goldblatt

Darlene & Ray Grossman

Gertrude Adler Grossman & Leonard Jacob Grossman,
Ray's parents

Anne Lee & Martin Kramer, Darlene's parents

Sitting in the hospital after my father's heart attack and sudden death on the golf course (ten days after my sister's death), my mother could only repeat, "I don't believe it."

"It sounds like one of his terrible golf jokes," I confided.

"It was," she replied. "About the guy who leaves at six in the morning to play and comes home at nine that night to find his wife on the phone. 'I was just calling the police,' she tells him. 'I thought you died on the course.' 'No, not me,' he answers. 'It was Harry. He died on the third hole. Then it was hit the ball, drag Harry. Hit the ball, drag Harry....'"

Donna Lee Kramer and Jeremy Kramer, Darlene's twin sister
and her son, Darlene's nephew

Sadie & Fred Kramer, Darlene's paternal grandparents

Helene, Heinrich and Günter Eisenmann, Darlene's maternal
grandparents and uncle, in Poland, 1942

Emily Harris & Jim Ridker

Ralph Leviton, stepfather of Emily Harris, stepgrandfather
of Matthew and Abby Harris-Ridker

Norma Harris, mother of Emily Harris, grandmother of
Abby and Matthew Harris-Ridker

Albert Harris, father of Emily Harris

Marjorie Jolles & Matthew Pearson

Martin Jolles, father of Marjorie Jolles

Ellen Rosen Kaplan & Lenny Kaplan

Elaine Stoler, beloved friend of Ellen Rosen Kaplan

I have known Elaine and her family for 63 years. She was an extraordinary woman, an exceptional artist, but most of all a tzaddik. She was kind and giving,, always remembering everyone's birthdays and anniversaries and sending hand made cards. She exhibited chesed in her encounters and knew how to listen deeply and care about others. She was a second mother to me and a dear beloved friend.

Her memory is already a blessing.

Nikki Feit, cousin of Lenny Kaplan

She passed away on August 28,2021 at the age of 78."

Judy Mendel & Jorge Kurganoff

Avi Kurganoff, son of Jorge and Judy, brother of Yael

Lea Mendel, mother of Judy Mendel, grandmother of Yael Kurganoff

Abraham Kurganoff, father of Jorge Kurganoff and grandfather of
Yael Kurganoff

Ed Mendel, father of Judy Mendel and grandfather of Yael Kurganoff

Marsha Landau

Ina Sherman, sister of Marsha Landau

Rhita Lippitz

Her mother, Hattie Seligman

Her father, Julius Seligman

Her mother-in-law, Blanche Aronin Lippitz

Her father-in-law, Milton C. Lippitz

Her husband, Charles Aronin Lippitz

Her brother-in-law, Irving H. Levy

Her sister-in-law, Shari Rosen

Her cousin Golda Lippitz.

Her dear friend Elaine Specter

Bonnie Lucas & Stuart Sondheimer

Ida Sondheimer, mother of Stuart

John Cosby, brother-in-law of Bonnie

Irv Miller

Gertrude Miller, mother of Irv Miller

Sol Miller, father of Irv Miller

Anna Miller, stepmother of Irv Miller

Baila Miller, wife of Irv Miller

Norma Gersh, mother of Baila Miller

Harry Milner, father of Baila Miller

Arlyn & Mark Miller

Melvin Miller, father of Mark Miller

Norma Miller, mother of Mark Miller

Leonard Afremow, father of Arlyn Miller

Esther Silverman, grandmother of Arlyn Miller

Julius "George" Silverman, grandfather of Arlyn Miller

Barbara Pinzur & David Pinzur

David's parents, Goldye and Sam Pinzur

Barbara's parents, Bernice and Sam Zlatin

David's grandparents, Sara and David Grey

David's grandparents, Esther and Louis Pinzur

Barbara's grandparents, Rose and Harry Robinson

Barbara's grandparents, Chaiah and Yale Zlatin

May all their memories be for a blessing.

Rhonda Present & Laurence Minsky

David Present, father of Rhonda Present and grandfather
of Jorie Minsky

Marjorie Present, mother of Rhonda Present and grandmother
of Jorie Minsky

Joseph Minsky, father of Laurence Minsky and grandfather
of Jorie Minsky

Doris Minsky, mother of Laurence Minsky and grandmother
of Jorie Minsky

Alan & Patty Rubin and Neal & Bonnie Rubin

Patty's father, Manuel Segal

Patty's mother, Sara Segal

Bonnie's father, Charles Segall

Bonnie's mother, Clara Segall

Alan and Neal's father, Stanley Rubin

Alan and Neal's mother, Dawn Missner Rubin

Alan and Neal's stepmother, Doris Patinkin Rubin

Alan and Neal's stepsister, Marsha Patinkin

David, Leora, Jesse and Jordana Siegel

remember with love

David's father, Efraim Siegel

Leora's father, Gerald Ornstein

Phoenix Singer

Sandra Singer, mother of Phoenix Singer

Paul Singer, father of Phoenix Singer

Kate & Alvin Spector

Sarah and Max Spector, Alvin's mother and father

Mary Korbel Johnson and Murrey Mathews Johnson,
Catherine's mother and father

Miriam McNear Korbel and Hope Mathews Johnson,
Catherine's grandmothers

Both of whom she honors with her Hebrew name, Miriam Tikvah.

This year, while going through family photos, I came across this one of my grandmother, Miriam Mc Near Korbel. I paused. She was 14 at the time. I thought, What would it be like to travel back in time and meet her at this age?

Jack and Betty Levin, aunt and uncle of Alvin and Catherine

Hillel Resner, brother-in-law of Catherine and Alvin

Hillel passed away in late July. My sister, Victoria, and he would be married 50 years this October. Their sweet son Sam arrived in 1989. Born and raised in San Francisco, Hillel was there in the 1960s. That is when he changed his name from Tom to Hillel. In fact, he was the personal astrologer for Carlos Santana. He went on to have a career in the music and recording industries and was a true innovator as publisher of MIX Magazine. Hillel was a born promoter, a natural-born marketer, and an intuitive editor with an eye for detail. He was an ethical man who always sought to do the right thing when faced with a tough decision. We will dearly miss our "Hilly."

Rebecca Spivack

Archie Werth, grandfather of Rebecca Spivack

Carl Marcelin, friend of Dario Walker & Rebecca Spivack

Ruth Werth, grandmother of Rebecca Spivack

Howard Tenner

Esther & Isaac Tenner, grandparents of Howard Tenner

Eva & Morris Fox, grandparents of Howard Tenner

Dorothy & Pedro Tenner, parents of Howard Tenner

Laurel & Bruce Watson

Gertrude K. Smith, mother of Laurel Watson, grandmother
of Paul Watson

Nancy Watson, mother of Bruce Watson

Chuck Watson, father of Bruce Watson

Marcie Weiss

Mildred Berkson, mother of Marcie Weiss, Jeff Berkson and
Earl Berkson, grandmother of Rachel and Gabe

Kenneth Berkson, father of Marcie Weiss, Jeff Berkson and
Earl Berkson, grandfather of Rachel and Gabe

Dale Good, husband of Marcie Weiss

Rabbi Rachel Weiss & Julia Tauber

Kenneth Berkson, grandfather of Rabbi Rachel Weiss

Mildred Berkson, grandmother of Rabbi Rachel Weiss

Dale Good, step-father of Rabbi Rachel Weiss

Henriette Marcus, grandmother of Julia Tauber

Marvin Marcus, grandfather of Julia Tauber

Jonathan Ophir, uncle of Julia Tauber

Phyllis Tauber Cingrani, grandmother of Julia Tauber

Jack Weiss, uncle of Rabbi Rachel Weiss

Gloria Davis Weiss, grandmother of Rabbi Rachel Weiss

Marvin Weiss, grandfather of Rabbi Rachel Weiss

Karen Ophir, aunt of Julia Tauber

Margie Morrison Zivin & Mark Zivin

Elaine and Art Morrison, parents of Margie Morrison Zivin

Jocelyn and Nat Zivin, parents of Mark Zivin

Fannie and Dave Weiss, Anne and Myer Morrison, grandparents
of Margie Morrison Zivin

Anna and Henry Stine, Dora and Abe Zivin, grandparents
of Mark Zivin

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