

In Memoriam Submissions -

I could not be with my husband, Rabbi Rievan Slavkin, for 3 weeks before he died from COVID-19. It is very difficult and sad to know your loved one's life ended this way. My family and I were only able to say a final "I love you" by FaceTime right before he died. I pray he heard our words and somehow felt our love.

He will live on in our hearts and In the memories of all those he helped in his lifetime. He was respected and appreciated by many in the congregations he served and in the communities he lived.

Rosalie Slavkin

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My mom passed away on May 31, 2020. The cemetery where she is buried allowed us to have a graveside service, but we could only come out of our cars after their workers lowered the casket and left in their vehicle. It was a HUG-LESS funeral, and I was painfully aware of how comforting those hugs had been in the past.

Lynn

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Please include wife Phyllis R. Cohen in remembrance ceremony.

Zoom has helped connect with community in times of stress. Cannot take the place of personal contact to somehow help along the healing process, but it is better than no contact at all.

Arnold Cohen

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Thank you so much for providing a way to memorialize people who have died since March 3.

My neighbor Michael Lax who had no family passed away from Covid19 and was buried by the Hebrew Free Burial Society.

Please read his name on Thursday night.

Thank you so much,

Cantor Mandi Beckenstein

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My Dad, Lawrence (Larry) I Brown, passed away April 12th having suffered with dementia for years but died of COVID.

He was a proud US Air Force veteran, graduate of university of Michigan law school and loving Dad, Grandpa & husband.

Hope not too late to participate!

Thank you..

Tammi Lauder

After losing both my parents, Theodora and Irwin Balaban, to Covid-19 a week apart, I was stricken by tremendous grief. Before they passed, I was not able to be with them as they lost their battle to this disease on different floors of the same hospital. I relied on nurses and doctors that were so overwhelmed, I felt so distant. I could not hold their hands, tell them how much they mean to me and help them keep up their strength, and so the fight was lost. And when they passed, the Jewish tools for grieving that have been around for centuries were not available to me. There was no well attended funeral, no shiva, no friend or community to cry with. No shoulders, just virtual images. I am touched by all the people that reached out to me, sent me cards and trees, talked to me on the phone, and listened, but not having the opportunity to treat their deaths the way they wanted and expected was so hard to accept.

Jessica Jacobson in

Memory of

Theodora and Irwin Balaban

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Please include my dad, Daniel Haber, who passed away from Covid-19 on April 1st, with the following reflection:

Daniel Haber lived life to the fullest. He was an avid tennis player, a huge Mets fan & never missed an opportunity to talk endlessly about his granddaughters. We all miss him!

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Doris Rosen

The pandemic has upended everybody's lives in various ways and has made it imperative that we all draw on our strength of resilience to different degrees. Those who have lost dear ones have had to conjure up an "uber" resiliency because the complex and raw emotions and difficulties normally a part of this experience were complicated and magnified by the timing. The environment of chaos and the imposition of rules unlike any we could have imagined, although arguably necessary, were simply harsh and cruel. All aspects of the process were affected: Tending to a sick loved one, paying last respects, grieving, and wrapping up a loved one's life. We are a large community - those who have had this shared experience - we will all heal differently and at a different pace than we would have otherwise.

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My father Martin Fass passed away on April 17, 2020 as a result of covid -19. He was living in a memory care facility in new Rochelle. This was two months before his 83rd birthday and my daughter's Bat Mitzvah (who was able to wear his tallit). A long time JNF supporter, he was a successful accountant and wonderful father to me and my two sisters Maxine Berg and Melanie Glass and an amazing Papa to His 9 grandchildren. He was widowed by our amazing mom Barbara in 2008. Each of our respective towns and Jewish communities have been incredibly supportive and loving and helpful during this challenging time. We feel blessed to be surrounded by so much love and trying to incorporate his memory into every possible way to continue to honor him- our adored and amazing daddy. This has been especially tough considering all of the restrictions in place. Even the hospital (montefiore in new Rochelle was as kind and gentle and caring with this awful experience). We are forever changed by this. Deborah Fass Jacobs (brad)- Chappaqua, Ny Maxine Berg (Danny)-Wilton, Ct Melanie Glass (steven)-west orange, nj Kids:

Amanda, Nicole and Cameron Berg

Annie, Alex and Lily Glass

Sienna, Bryce and Mackenzie Jacobs

I lost my mom, Marilyn Kabalkin, on May 9th. I was caring for her in my home and too afraid to bring her to any hospital settings due to her advanced dementia and me not being allowed to accompany her. The hardest thing I have ever gone through.

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My mother, Milena Jelinek, passed away on April 15, 2020 from Covid-19 (

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/29/movies/milena-jelinek-dead-coronavirus.amp.html>).

Please add her name to the list of those who have recently passed away.

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Although I lost my father ten years ago, I didn't realize how much I valued Shiva until my mother passed away and the fear of the virus prevented our family and friends from visiting us, hugging us, and crying with us. Food delivered to us during our time of mourners is always welcome, but eating it alone and not being able to share it with friends and family is not the same thing.

Sincerely,

William and Melissa Jelinek

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Dear Mr. Forchheimer:

As per instructions in the flyer, please insert the name of Glenn D. Bellitto, a former Bronxville Trustee and Eastchester Councilman who succumbed to COVID-19.

Although my relationship with him would have normally been professional, e.g., interviewing him for the "Bronxville Bulletin," Mr. Bellitto warmly welcomed my wife and me to a Christmas party in his home.