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Funerals, 1958.

WORDS SPOKEN BY ABBA HILLEL SILVER AT THE FUNERAL SERVICE OF
RALPH S. JOSEPH
Thursday, July 10, 1958

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My dear friends, the presence of death in our midst always brings to our minds many thoughts which are solemn and sorrow-laden.

Death makes us aware of our common mortality, of the fate which awaits us all, the strong and the weak, the rich and the poor, the wise and the simple. "There is no man that will not see death".

Death also makes us aware of the shortness of our lives and how swiftly our days pass away. Whenever we are summoned, there still remains so much that we would like to do -- so much to complete and so many new enterprises that we would like to undertake. "No man passes out of this world", declare our sages, "with half of his life's hopes realized, and half of his life's dreams come true".

And death also reminds us of how many things we must leave behind us when we descend into the silence of the grave:-- the very things to which we devoted the ~~summe~~ efforts and energies of our lives. All that we sought to acquire, to hold and to accumulate, we must surrender when our days upon earth are ended.

These sad and humbling reflections come to us when we find ourselves in the presence of death. But to the thoughtful man or woman there may come other thoughts, far less dispiriting and far more strengthening. For while death claims much of us there is so much more over which the hand of death can claim no dominion. In fact, that which is really ourselves, the essence of us, our inner spiritual selves, our loyalties, our influence, our example and all that we meant to those dear to us, abide as a living force long after we ourselves, that is, all that is mortal and perishable of us, have returned to our kindred dust. That which is spiritual is indestructible. This is what our sages meant when they said, "The righteous are alive even in death". Here is a form of immortality which is within the reach of all good men and women. Blessed indeed are they who, when their time comes can depart in peace and in quietude of soul, confident that something of them remains here upon earth -- a name, a memory, an achievement, an institution which they helped to build and maintain, a child whose life and character they helped to fashion, -- something that will hold and carry on the meaning and mission of their lives.

And so may it be with our dear departed friend, Ralph S. Joseph, whose earthly career is now ended and who has entered upon that pilgrimage ever-lasting which some day you and I too will be called upon to undertake.

There were qualities and interests and loyalties in his life which will long be cherished and treasured by all those who knew him and loved him. He was a member of an old family which, through the years, was distinguished for its civic interests and concern for all that was worthy and constructive in community life. Ralph Joseph followed that tradition. He was deeply interested in the progress of our community, especially in its cultural phases. He loved books and music. He knew the rare gifts which books and music could bestow on men. He knew that "music washes away from the soul the dust of every day" and that "there are palaces", as one of the mystics of our people said, "that open only to music".

And as for books, the words of the famed poet of the middle ages, Moses Ibn Ezra, come to mind:

"There is in the world no friend more faithful
and attentive, no teacher more proficient....It
will join you in solitude, accompany you in exile,
serve as a candle in the dark, and entertain you
in your loneliness. It will do you good, and ask
no favor in return. It gives, and does not take."

Ralph Joseph was deeply interested in all the organizations and institutions in our community which opened doors for young and old to these palaces of the spirit.

What he meant to those nearest and dearest to him in the intimate circle of family life, they know best and in that knowledge they will find, I am sure, in the days and years to come, a large measure of pride as well as of comfort and consolation. Mr. Joseph was privileged to enjoy the rare and precious love of his life's companion, Rae, a gracious spirit which all who knew her, always recall in sweet and grateful remembrance. He was blessed also in his children, Karl and Martha and in Mary, who went before him, and in his grandchildren. "The crown of the elders", declares the Book of Books, "are their grandchildren and the glory of children are their fathers".

What more need we say, dear friends, and what more ought we to say, when we stand before these dark veils of the mystery of death which we too will some day have to penetrate, but in humble submission to One who ordains all things, whether we understand them or not, repeat the words of utter trust and resignation which were pronounced by our forefathers on all such occasions of loss and bereavement -- "All that the Lord doeth is for the best".

Peace unto thy dust -- great peace unto thy soul!

What he meant to them. (3)

- He was priv. Bred to enjoy the rare and precious ~~companionship~~ ^{love} of his ~~beloved wife~~ life's companion - Ray - a gracious spirit which all ~~was~~ ^{who knew him} ~~recall~~ ^{always} ~~in~~ ^{recall} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~grate~~ ^{grate} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~remembrance~~ ^{remembrance}
- He was blessed also in his children Karl and Martha; and Dorothy who went before him - and in ^{his} grand-children -
- "The crown of the elders are their grand-children - and the play of children on their fathers."
- What was -

Ralph S. Joseph -

1958

(1)

The presence of death -

There were qualities and interests
and loyalties in his life - which
will long be treasured & cherished by -
Member of an old family
He was deeply interested in the progress

of our Community esp. its cultural
progress. For

He loved books and Music - He
~~was~~ knew the rare gifts which
books and music ^{could} bestow on man.

(Just) - And he was deeply inte-
rested in the orgs. & institutions
which opened doors for men

~~A BOOK IS THE MOST DELIGHTFUL COMPANION . . .~~

~~AN INANIMATE THING, YET IT TALKS . . . IT~~

~~STIMULATES YOUR LATENT TALENTS. THERE~~

IS IN THE WORLD NO FRIEND MORE FAITHFUL

AND ATTENTIVE, NO TEACHER MORE PROFICIENT . . .

IT WILL JOIN YOU IN SOLITUDE, ACCOMPANY

YOU IN EXILE, SERVE AS A CANDLE IN THE

DARK, AND ENTERTAIN YOU IN YOUR LONELINESS.

IT WILL DO YOU GOOD, AND ASK NO FAVOR IN

RETURN. IT GIVES, AND DOES NOT TAKE.

Music washes away from the soul
the dust of every day.
There are palaces that open
only to music

nevertheless succeeded in winning the 210 at 200 - more precious (2)

4/ Some men grow old and spend in the pursuit of material things - reach a point in life - where very meaning of what they are doing escapes them purpose of all their toil and toil.

Other men labor and grow weary in the quest of other interests - but are centered in love - and at the bottom, the cup drain - they find not sweetness and contentment - less and bitter days. "cup of astonishment and desolation" - 210 210 210

5/ These men and women never learned early enough - what our Sages 212 10/10 210 - 311/1 210 210 210 - "all the sound wisdom of living that a man can ever hope to acquire - resides ultimately in the heart"

- The 'Wisdom, the Heart' helps us to deploy our energies properly, and gives symmetry and balance to our lives - and intelligent organization. It never leads us down a blind alley.

- It throngs our world at every stage with many welcome guests, so that there is never loneliness in our hearts or emptiness.

- The Wise Heart ~~first~~ ^{210 210} teaches us to number our days - to consider how precious life is (see) it is so perilous and so swiftly vanishing - and that if we do not wish to perish utterly - ~~without~~ ^{leaving no trace of} memory or influence we must crowd each hour with immortality - with words and deeds and loyalties of imperishable truth and beauty.

Ed. Silverberg was graciously dowered with this wisdom ^{1958 Foreign} ³
the heart! and it gave direction to all his life's interests.
He loved people! He loved to be with people! people from
all walks of life.
He loved to be helpful - to young and old - every dead - rattle off
His was not a calculated philanthropy - but rather a
warm and spontaneous out-reaching of one human heart
to another.

Like that of a man who had thru his years of struggle,
and striving, and thru hard years of climbing and
achievement, heard and taken to heart "the sweet, sad
music of humanity"

~~6/ Ed. Silverberg~~

6/. Whatever success came to Ed. in his business
career, as the reward of spread ability and unflinching in-
dustry - he never ascribed it solely to himself. He was
always grateful to the community in which he deemed
himself privileged to work - to co-workers and associates
and more especially to this gracious land which gave
him, as it gives to all of us, the freedom and the op-
portunity to realize our careers and the legitimate
ambitions of our lives.

He accordingly, welcomed every opportunity to repay
what he received - to repay in service to others - in loyalty

and in conscientious citizenships - in eager participation in (4) all causes which tend to uphold and strengthen the institutions of a free people.

- Community Chest. actively

7/. He was a leader in our welfare campaigns - on the
Boards of numerous institutions - Gave of his time,
thought, service and substance most generously - and
never parochial! - in his humanitarian interests - Sawing

8/. Proud and loyal Jew - Faithful to his God and people. Board
Our Temple knew him as one of its most devoted members.
His needs were close to his heart: - He was zealous
in assisting in its progress and expansion.

We shall miss him greatly but we shall never forget him!



9/. The last 2 years of his life were shadowed by a long
illness, which I like to think of him as he was
in the full sweep of his active life - full of high in
enterprise - and curious - meeting thus every difficulty.
But even after his illness suddenly struck him
down - his valiant spirit never flagged
He confronted death with courage - even as he frankly
with goodness and intelligence.

10/. What he meant - The love which he gave he received back
many-fold - Rare devotion his wife - Hilda - who led
life - hand in hand with him - thru lean years - and perseverance
lost him the joy of companionship - Tenderest care and devotion - shadowed

Blessed and strengthened with you - who will, I am sure (5)

Brother and a sister -

— חנה רבקה — אהרן רבקה —

— 17/1/1926 —



1/ One should not attempt to comfort
 the ^{heart} overcharged with grief ^{and} to room for words
 of consolation; however, ^{deeply} ~~deeply~~ ^{sincerely} spoken.
 The hand of time must first touch with its
 healing ministry. the ~~unseen~~ ^{upward} which death
 has wrought - before it can welcome the ~~born~~
 - Certainly in the compounded grief of this
 hour - in the dazed, bewildered & anguished
 hearts - words ~~are~~ will fail to pierce the
 walls of gloom.

2/ Death finds its way to every door -
 - And to some doors ~~more frequently than~~
 - We do not know why - It is one with the
 whole mystery of life and death - hidden
 in the mind of God.
 - For the case, the old who die - we ac-
 cept the fact more readily - "They come
 to their end in ripe old age - as a
 shock of grain comes up to the threshing
 floor in its season" -
 - When the young are called away - we
 are unreconciled - baffled - as are left
 questioning

- And there is no answer but in
resignation to the will of God - who does not
willingly afflict His children -
- And in a rededication to the tasks of life -

3/1. ~~(Lent)~~

4). No life is complete - for our work is never
done -

Whenever we are called away - so much
On the other hand, no part of life is ever en-
tirely incomplete

Whether a candle shines a long time or
a short time - it shines and gives
valuable light - while it lasts

- The value of a fine painting -

- A Sonnet is composed of only 14 short, good
- a thing of beauty in its ^{very} controlled per-
fectness

- a little pool of water -

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Words of Tribute
spoken at the funeral services of
JULIUS GOODMAN
at The Temple, Sunday, August 17th, 1958
by
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

There is a verse in the Book of Proverbs: "Riches do not profit in
the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death."

לֹא יִנְצֵל עֲשָׂרִים בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא וְצִדִּיק יִשְׁלָט

על 12 / 17 / 18 / 16 /

One may quite rightly ask: how does righteousness or charity -

Zedakah - deliver a man from death? Surely we must all die sooner or
later. Even the most righteous and charitable cannot permanently escape
death. Nevertheless our Book of Proverbs does assert the conviction that
Zedakah delivers from death. In another chapter it repeats this same
thought: "In the way of righteousness is life - and in its pathway there
is deathlessness" -

My Friends: For man there are two kinds of deaths - physical death -
the universal fate of all men when the body returns to the earth whence it
came - and the death of utter extinction when a man abruptly ceases to
exist as though he had never lived upon earth and the very meaning and the
mission of his life are erased from the memory of men in complete and
total oblivion.

It is from this latter fate - the death of "never being remembered" -
because one's life was not worth remembering - that a life of goodness and

the love of our fellow-men delivers us.

A community long remembers with gratitude its faithful children and their names forever remain sweet upon the lips of those who revere merit and esteem character. The memory of such honored dead, their example, their influence continue to inspire and edify the living, long after they themselves - all that was mortal and perishable of them - have found the peace and the rest of the grave. It is for such a death that one should prayerfully hope:

"O, let me die the death of the righteous

And let my end be like his!"

Our community is richer for the life of Julius Goodman and poorer for his death. I think that one can best sum up the essence and quality of his life in the words of that beautiful verse from the Psalms: "In him kindness and truth were met together, charity and peace were blended."

Julius Goodman was a quiet and modest man to the point of diffidence. He was gentle and considerate at all times and under all circumstances. He did not storm through life in a head-long campaign of conquest and acquisition. In calm dignity he performed his work in the world, to the hurt of none and at no cost to the spiritual mandates of his own soul. It is of such people that our Bible asserts: "The humble shall inherit the earth". Indeed, they are the true heirs of the world's most cherished treasures - the respect, love and admiration of our fellowmen.

Julius Goodman was a man of sterling integrity and of impeccable standards in his business life. He was highly respected by all his

colleagues and associates in the industry. A man is known by the regard in which he is held by the men who work with him, who come in daily contact with him, his co-workers, his employees. Julius Goodman won and held their affection and admiration.

Some business men limit their opportunities for the exercise of high moral principles to times and spheres beyond their business. Their social conscience seems to come to life, if at all, after business hours. The world of Julius Goodman was not so divided. Within the practices and disciplines of his calling as a successful merchant and business man, he discovered many opportunities to practice the same identical code of fairness, justice and considerateness which guided him in all his other activities.

Julius Goodman shared in our community life in an impressive measure. Whatever he found constructive in it, whatever institution or agency he believed helped men, women and children to a better life, received from him whole-hearted support. He gave not only financial aid, which is sometimes very easy to give, but time and thought and personal service and dedicated leadership. The reward of charity, declared our sages, depends upon the extent of grace, gentleness and sympathy which accompany it.

Having no children of his own, he sought to be a father to the orphan. In the words of Job - he was eyes to the blind, feet to the lame and he searched out the cause of him whom he did not know. His encompassing humanity recognized no barriers of race or creed. His loving-kindness was never parochial. Nothing human was ever alien to him.

Julius Goodman was a loyal member of the Household of Israel. Our tradition defines this loyalty:

"Whoever has a generous eye, a humble mind and a modest spirit
is a true disciple of Abraham, our Father."

And Abraham, you will remember, was called "the Beloved of God". And so we part - as part we must - from one who may also be called "Beloved of God", grateful for the life which he lived in our midst and for the example and inspiration which he bequeathed unto us.

Shalom La-Aphorecho! Peace unto thy dust, great peace unto thy soul.



1. We ^{have been} taught - to reconcile ourselves
"There is no man living - who will not see D."
"All flesh waxeth old as a garment. For
the Covenant from the beginning is: 'Thou shalt die
the death'"

2. We have also been taught - not to fear D.

- 75000000 -

- If I ascend to heaven - If I make my
bed in the heavens... there art thou I

3. We have also been taught - that the work of
the righteous - outlives them - influences
endures - Memory like the Echo -

- 75000000 -

4. Finally - taught - not to measure life
by duration - e.g. l. = Value of Painting

5. Thus that's come to our minds at this hour
gathered - Eschtrude Rand -

Measured in years - short - Not incomplete

- Lived a full, unconfused, creative life.

- Life rich in many worthy interests - in
prominently social & civic activities -

- Dedicated that, time, and energy to those
services and agencies in our community

which make our ~~existence~~ ^{shared existence} ~~life~~ ^{life} happier, and (2)
kindlier, and more humane and just.

- She trained herself for social work -
and so added professional skill to her
deep humanity.

6/. Along with her ^{active and trained} social ~~service~~ ^{interests} - she
had ~~strong~~ ^{active} and trained artistic interests.

- She was a very talented artist - a
painter and a writer.

- She reached out not only for ^{in life} ~~products~~
but for beauty as well.

- And so her life had many dimensions.

7/. If the saying is true - "ars longa,
vita brevis!" Gertrude's ~~life~~ ^{life}
extended far beyond her short life -

8/- What she meant to those - intimate

- husband - children - Carolyn - Eleanor -

- her parents - sisters & brothers -

WORDS SPOKEN BY ABBA HILLEL SILVER AT THE FUNERAL SERVICES OF
MRS. SYLVESTER FLESHEIM
Sunday, May 18, 1958

When death comes to a beloved one a light is extinguished and another light is kindled. The light which is extinguished is the physical life. The light which is kindled is the light of memory. This light shines on inextinguishably in the darkness of our loss and loneliness.

Blessed indeed is the life which leaves behind it a glowing memory - to comfort those who would otherwise be utterly bereft.

It is a beautiful custom among our people to light a memorial lamp in our homes upon returning from the graveside where we laid to rest one dear to us. It is to signify that our dear one has not wholly vanished -- that while his day's work is over, his life is not. The flame continues to burn in the night of death even as a rare song continues to sing in our hearts long after silence has enfolded the voice of the singer.

For those who knew the companionship of true love, there always remains the legacy of influence and inspiration, of pledged loyalties and precious remembrances - and it is a living legacy, unspent and forever replenished.

Our lives are all too brief and the night comes all too soon even for those who are privileged to live the full span of which the Psalmist speaks. Yet we are commanded to live for things which are eternal - for truth and justice and love. We are urged to reach beyond our frail mortality to the immortal ways of life. For in so doing we, in very truth, partake of immortality!

When death comes, those lives which knew selflessness and love, and a dedication to the imperishable values of life, enter upon the career of a new life - a spiritual existence where they continue to influence the lives of those who knew them and loved them like a sweet benediction. This is what our sages meant when they declared that the righteous - the good and noble men and women -- live on even in their deaths. This is a profound wisdom distilled out of the boundless experience of the human race.

These thoughts come to our minds as we are gathered here to pay our memorial tribute to one whom we all knew, admired and loved -- Erma Flesheim.

Erma's life was never self-centered. She lived for others and found fulfillment in acts of loving kindness not only to those nearest and dearest to her, but to her friends and her community.

She sought the good in all things and in all ways, and whatever could contribute to make life sweeter, kindlier, more neighborly and helpful. She gave of her time and thought to many worthy civic institutions and causes and to the enrichment of our cultural life.

Hers was a gracious heritage. Her revered parents were themselves dedicated to these same high interests and standards and their names have remained sweet upon the lips of all those who knew them in spite of the passage of the years.

Erma Flesheim was blessed with a rare companionship of love and devotion with Sylvester, which began almost in their childhood. The banner over their lives was always love. Blessed indeed are those who are privileged to have all their vital experiences of their days transmuted by the alchemy of a profound, understanding and enduring love.

Erma was also blessed with children and grandchildren who returned in a manifold manner the love which she gave to them.

Erma's life was not free from trials -- what human life can truly be said to be one unbroken serenity? -- but she faced whatever life brought to her with fortitude and high courage, undefeated and unafraid.

Such a life does not end in utter silence and oblivion. That which is spiritual is indestructible. Erma Flesheim has bequeathed unto those closest to her a host of beautiful memories which they will forever treasure and which will continue to guide and inspire them throughout all the oncoming years.

* * * * *

1/ When death comes - extraneous - Kindled
 - shades inextricably - darkness - loss - loneliness

Blessed, indeed, is the life which leaves
glowing memory - to comfort - utterly bereft

2/ A beautiful custom - memorial lamp -
- laid to rest

3/ Not wholly vanished - what day's work is over
this life is not!

The flame continues to burn - in the night of
death - Saying - service has ended!

4/ For those who experience the compensation
from the loss - there always remains
the legacy of influence - inspiration -
- & precious remembrance - beats & breaths

5/ Our lives are all too brief - night comes
yet we are commanded to live for things
that are eternal - truth - justice - love
- to reach beyond our frail mortality
to the immortal ways of life -

For in so doing - we partake

6/ When death comes - those lives which
partook, love and selflessness - of service
and dedication to life's exalting values
- enter upon the career of a new life
a sp. existence - where they continue to live
in the lives of those - with a sweet
heredity

7/ Irma - ^{Gord} others - Circle
- inherited - parents - whose names
- Blessed with - years - of - love - (Sylvia)
- unfathomable - loving -
- drawn united by alchemy

8/ children - grand children

9/ Trials -