

TEXT OF EULOGY GIVEN BY MR. BARNEY KATZ AT THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE MORRIS ABRAHAMSON ON SUNDAY MORNING 2nd JUNE 1985.

בשעת פטירתו על אדם אין מלואים אז לא יבין  
ואם זה קראו אל ה' ואלה ואלה ואלה ואלה  
ומלואים ואלה

In the hour of man's departure, neither silver nor gold nor precious stones nor pearls accompany him, but only Torah and good deeds.

3174 3175 111 2134 2135 2136 11

Seek not greatness for thyself and court not honour.

My friends, these quotations are taken from the "Sayings of the Fathers" known as "Pirke Avoth" and I would say that this fits in well in describing the character and lifestyle of our beloved Morris Abrahamson, who is about to leave this earth to his eternal resting place.

He was an ישׁר וְיָשָׁר תָּמִיד (Ish Yashar Tamim) - a straight, honest upright and complete and faultless gentleman. He did not seek the limelight nor honours and yet, he was loved and highly revered by all and above all, by his children and members of the family who bestowed on him so much love, respect and attention, which is so rare in present-day family life. The children have certainly fully complied with the commandments, כָּבוֹד אֶת אָבִיךָ וְאֶת אִמְךָ honour the father and thy mother. This is no doubt due to the great interest which the late Morris and his late wife Leah have displayed in giving their children a true Jewish education and appreciation of Jewish values.

The passing of Morris Abrahamson has removed from the local scene a veteran and popular personality. He was very closely and actively associated with every aspect of our Zionist and Jewish communal endeavours.

But his greatest love was the Shul, the Synagogue. Who can forget his appearance in Shul when he arrived for the Neilah Service last Yom Kippur, taking up his usual mitzvah of Psichat Neilah with his usual pride and dignity, deeply moved

by the holiness in standing in front of the open Holy Ark as if he was bidding fare-well to the holy sanctuary which he served devotedly and faithfully for all the years that he lived in this city. It was therefore most fitting, that the late Morris Abrahamson was honoured in being brought into the Shul before being laid to rest.

In Psalm 15 it is asked:- Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? and some of the answers given are:-

He who walks uprightly, does what is right, speaks the truth from his heart; who has no malice on his tongue, nor does evil to his fellow, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbour.

Since the destruction of the Temple, the tabernacle replaced by the Synagogue, the above psalm aptly portrays the qualities of our dearly departed Reb Moshe B'reb Avraham.

It is indeed a co-incidence that our Moshe Abrahamson was born on the 7th of Adar which according to tradition Moshe Rabbenu our law giver was born and died on that Hebrew date; and also, that our Morris<sup>was</sup> the son of Abraham a name which is synonymous with that of our Patriach Abraham, founder of the Jewish nation. Morris Abrahamson was a kind, friendly and a warm hearted man and loved people of all age-groups and he will be sorely missed in our community. He was indeed a complete Jew, a fully pledged supporter of the Zionist cause and Israel and a loyal citizen of this country for the past 73 years.

His memory will be cherished forever by all who had the privilege of knowing him. May He rest in peace!

To the bereaved family I say "May the Almighty comfort you with other mourners for Zion and Jerusalem".