

Dear Grandma,

It's hard to believe that we are all standing here at your levaya, and that this is the final goodbye.

You were such a major part of all your grandchildren's lives. To sum up your presence in a few short sentences is hard beyond belief.

One of my first memories' is sitting at your kitchen table eating food you made. I always loved coming over to you. The food was always delicious, I especially loved you giving me chocolate buttons for afters. We definitely shared a love for anything chocolate.

What more can a little girl wish for than a grandma who knows how to tame a head full of thick hair into two even pigtails just the way I liked it, with a straight parting right down the middle. Everything you did was precise, organized and tidy, and I loved it despite me not having inherited this trait at all.

from a very early age I realized I can make you laugh by saying clever comments, from then on, I enjoyed purposely saying things that would elicit a laugh.

When we made aliya, it was really strange not to see you on a weekly basis. I missed my grandparents dearly. Whenever you and grandpa flew out to visit, we were all so excited to see you and spend time with you at the flat in zichron moshe!

We all felt so lucky and blessed when you and grandpa made aliya, and were once again a permanent fixture in our lives.

When my parents went away on holidays I would come and stay with you and grandpa! I loved staying with you! Being the eldest of four sisters meant I was

surrounded by constant chattering and bickering- in a nutshell- noise! Lots of noise! Staying with you I had an oasis of calm- peace and quiet!! You always understood what it's like being the oldest sister and we bonded over our common experiences. Nobody understood me quite like you. We had real quality time during those periods.

The fact that I am so close to my sisters is 100 percent affected by the relationship between you and your sisters. The famous pose in the pictures of the sisters standing next to each other is recreated by my sisters and I at every family simcha. No matter the bickering and arguments all siblings have, there was never a broigez in the family. Family was above all else.

Another thing that was so important to you was going to shul. You and aunty ruth always sat at your seats in nachalat zeev and I loved it when there was an empty seat in your row so I could sit next to you. Your yekkish minhagim were so important to you and you passed this on to your children and grandchildren.

Six years ago, the whole family spent a shabbat together to celebrate Grandpa and your 60th wedding anniversary. As a surprise we organized a T shirt for everyone to wear. We deliberated what to write on the T shirt that would express our feelings. We ended up quoting the gmara from מסכת תענית :

אילן אילן במה אברכך? ... שיהיו צאצאיך כמותך.

If there is one thing, we grandchildren want to aspire to- is the wonderful relationship you and grandpa ייבדל לחיים ארוכים had. You were such role models to us all. The way you both took care of each other and your devotion to one another throughout the years.

I remember coming to visit you from sherut leumi you would both give me some money "to spend on something nice". Grandpa would leave the room at some

point- probably to clean something and you would slip me another 100 shekel note and whisper "don't tell grandpa". What you didn't know, was that before I left, grandpa would do the same "don't tell grandma". Both of you were so generous. Your family values seeped down to us all. The fact that we are all so close is a credit to you both and the example you set for us.

We spoke often on the phone, one of the things I loved most was how easy it was to talk to you. We never ran out of things to say. You had concrete views about politics and were not shy about expressing these views at any chance you had. This stemmed from your strong Zionist beliefs and love for Israel. Having being a young child who escaped Nazi Germany just in time, and losing your three older brothers shaped these views and your outlook, I'm sure.

I remember the uneasy feeling realizing at some point that your memory seemed to be declining. At first, we all told ourselves you were under the weather, or maybe it was the combination of the different medicines you were taking that were making you confused. It was hard to accept that the grandma we all loved so much was slipping away from us.

Two weeks ago, I came to see you at the hospital, you were in the room alone and it was just the two of us. by that point you were unable to talk or communicate much. I'm not a doctor but it was obvious that the end was near. I'm grateful to Hashem I had the chance to say goodbye, stroke you, hold your hand and express my gratitude and my love to you. Saying tehilim was always important to you and part of your daily routine, so it felt right for me to read tehilim at your bedside and daven.

Even though the last time I saw you, you were ill and weak, this is not the way I choose to remember you.

I choose to remember you as the intelligent, vibrant, well put together woman you were. With your curly sheitle, bright lipstick, painted nails, matching earrings and your handbag that always had a fan in it- just in case!!

I choose to remember your contagious laugh, your cynical entertaining remarks and your solid unwavering political views. I choose to remember your mildly unhealthy addiction listening and watching the news at all times of the day.

I choose to remember your love for newborn babies. No one in the world knew how to burp a baby like grandma! As you would always say: "give me that baby!!"

I choose to remember your love of scrabble and Remi-cube.

I choose to remember the practical, sensible, loving grandmother you were to all your grandchildren.

The past year and half, during Corona we were hardly able to see you. I want to ask for your מחילה if you felt we weren't there enough. מחילה if there was anything we could have done and didn't do.

I promise you grandma. We will all take care and look after grandpa for you. We may not know how to make gefilte fish and chopped liver quite like you, but we will do our best to keep him fed and healthy.

Grandma, please be a מליצת יושר for us all. You will always be in our hearts and never forgotten.

תהיי נשמתך צרורה בצרור החיים.