

We are not only members of individual families, but also members of the Jewish people and citizens of the world. Therefore, at this moment before Yizkor, we remember also the following people whose lives made a difference to the world.

Philip Berg, who brought Kabbalah to Hollywood.

Dr. Abraham Nemeth, creator of the Nemeth Braille Code for Math and Science, and editor of the Braille edition of Siddur Sim Shalom.

Tom Clancy, the techno-thriller author who wrote about the use of a hijacked airplane as a terrorist device in 1994.

Scott Carpenter, college dropout and juvenile delinquent; Mercury astronaut and 2nd American to orbit the earth.

Rabbi Ovadya Yosef, the brilliant legal scholar whose Shas party mobilized Sephardi and Midrahi Jews in Israel into a political force, but whose reputation was tarnished at the end by political corruption.

Lou Reed, guitarist, vocalist, and principal songwriter of the Velvet Underground, possibly the most influential band of its era.

Doris Lessing, writing from her own experience in "Golden Notebook," became one of the most important feminist voices of the 1960's.

Arik Einstein, the Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley and Bruce Springsteen of Israel, a singer of ballads and anthems and especially love songs that seduced entire generations.

Nelson Mandela, who chose reconciliation over revenge.

Peter O'Toole, whose set a record with eight Best Actor Oscar nominations without a victory.

Edgar Bronfman, who used his immense wealth and power to fight for Holocaust victims, Soviet Jewry, Hillel and Jewish learning.

Mikhail Kalishnikov, the inventor of a popular military weapon bearing his name who late in life wrote a letter to his Priest regretting his invention.

Ariel Sharon, the Israel hawk who was reportedly on the verge of taking a bold step towards peace when a stroke sent him into a coma for the last eight years of his life.

Shulamit Aloni, firebrand of Israeli left and human rights advocate.

Pete Seeger, who infused folk music with political action for the labor movement, civil rights, anti-war causes, and environmental causes.

Phillip Seymour Hoffman, who ended a prolific and widely admired acting career with a syringe of heroin.

Shirley Temple Black, the child star who brought cuteness, music and light into a country weighed down by depression.

Sid Caesar, one of the original kings of comedy.

Harold Ramis, comedic legend who brought us Ghostbusters, Caddyshack, and Groundhog Day.

Alice Herz-Sommer, at age 110 the oldest known Holocaust survivor, renowned concert pianist, subject of Oscar-winning short documentary "The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life."

Fred Phelps, the civil rights attorney turned pastor whose Westboro Baptist Church hate-filled pickets made him one of the most reviled person in America.

Maya Angelou - Poet and author, "I know why the caged bird sings."

Casey Casem, who taught us to count backwards from 40 and reminded us to "Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the Stars!"

Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, whose fusion of meditation, music, dance, and mysticism into synagogue practice energized and renewed the Jewish world.

James Garner, the charming, witty, anti-hero non-tough guy Maverick and Rockford.

Bel Kaufman, age 103, granddaughter of Sholem Aleichem and author of the classic novel of bureaucracy and education, "Up the Down Staircase."

Robin Williams, who made all of us laugh but whose death is a reminder of the serious nature of depression.

Lauren Bacall, who charmed us with a husky voice and her trademark tilted up eyes.

Leonard Fein, founder of MAZON: A Jewish response to hunger.

Joan Rivers, whose wit was both self-deprecating and sharply acerbic.

Menahem Golan, prolific Israeli-born champion of low budget action movies.

Tony Gwinn, one of the greatest baseball hitters of all time and universally admired for his character.

All these do we remember, together with the ones who were so close to us, for they too are a part of our world.