

Since last Yom Kippur, we mourn the loss of one members of our congregation:

Steve Levenburg

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

Bob Woodrick, a local business leader who dedicated his life to combating racism.

Sean Connery, arguably the best embodiment of Bond, James Bond, who also embodied the misogyny of a world in which men thought nothing of slapping women.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, the renowned and beloved teacher who brought Jewish learning and Jewish-Christian dialogue into the 21st century, while continuing to deny non-Orthodox Jews a place at the table.

Alex Trebek. Who was the beloved Jeopardy host for 30 years?

Pete Frates and **Anthony Quinn**, cofounders of the ALS fundraising ice bucket challenge, the “greatest social media campaign in history.”

Chuck Yeager, the first person to travel faster than the speed of sound.

Dawn Wells, Gilligan’s girl next door

Sheldon Adelson, the casino magnate, philanthropist, political influencer and mega-donor to Jewish and Israeli causes.

Hank Aaron, the Atlanta Brave who broke the Legendary Babe Ruth’s home run record.

Larry King, the most famous interviewer in the world.

Larry Flint, Free speech advocate, hard-core pornographer.

David Mintz, inventor of tofutti, parve ice cream.

Lou Ottens, inventor of the cassette tape.

Beverly Clearly, who told groundbreaking stories about kids who didn’t always listen to their parents.

Prince Philip Mountbatten, the longest serving royal consort in British history.

Bernie Madoff, who made off with billions of dollars stolen from thousands of investors, many within the Jewish community.

Michael Collins, the loneliest man, circling the moon 30 times waiting for his fellow astronauts to return.

Jackie Mason, first rabbi, then stand-up comic, then Rabbi Krustovsky, father of The Simpson’s Krusty the Clown.

Carl Levin, Michigan’s longest serving senator.

Ed Asner, the gravel-voiced Lou Grant times two.

Elaine Steiner, code name Yael Man, one of Israel’s most successful spies, whose intelligence led to a successful strike against more than 100 terrorists in a single raid.

Willard Scott, the unflaggingly exuberant Today Show weatherman.

Ida Nudel, prominent refusnik, icon for Soviet Jewry.

Norm Macdonald, the deadpan Saturday Night Live Weekend Update anchor.

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