

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

Meredith Brody

Toby Dolinka

Michael Simon

Jean Barkin

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 whose lives made a difference, for good or bad, to the world.

Sacheen Littlefeather. The actor and activist who declined Marlon Brando's 1973 Academy Award for "The Godfather" on his behalf in an indelible protest of Hollywood's portrayal of Native Americans.

Loretta Lynn, who changed the country music world with songs about female power, self determination, and birth control.

Ash Carter, former defense secretary who opened combat jobs to women and ended a ban on transgender people serving in the military.

Jerry Lee Lewis, The untamable rock 'n' roll pioneer whose outrageous talent, energy and ego collided on such definitive records as "Great Balls of Fire" and "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On" and sustained a career otherwise upended by personal scandal.

Robert Clary, French-born survivor of Nazi concentration camps during World War II who played a feisty prisoner of war in the improbable 1960s sitcom "Hogan's Heroes."

Gaylord Perry, baseball Hall of Famer and two-time Cy Young Award winner and master of the spitball.

Julia Reichert, Oscar-winning documentary filmmaker, often called the "godmother of American independent documentaries," whose films explored themes of race, class and gender.

Dorothy Pittman Hughes, pioneering Black feminist, child welfare advocate and lifelong community activist.

Bob McGrath, actor, musician and children's author widely known for his portrayal of one of the first regular characters on the children's show "Sesame Street."

Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa, the so-called last Hawaiian princess whose lineage included the royal family that once ruled the islands and an Irish businessman who became one of Hawaii's largest landowners.

Franco Harris, The Hall of Fame running back whose heads-up thinking authored the "Immaculate Reception," considered the most iconic play in NFL history.

Pelé, The Brazilian king of soccer who won a record three World Cups and became one of the most commanding sports figures of the last century as soccer's most prolific scorer.

Vivienne Westwood, the influential fashion designer who became an outspoken advocate of fighting global warming, warning of planetary doom if climate change was not controlled.

Barbara Walters, an intrepid interviewer, anchor and program host, she led the way as the first woman to become a TV news superstar.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, the first pontiff in 600 years to resign.

Adolfo Kaminsky, whose professional expertise in removing ink stains gave him the skills to remove ink from paper and helped him forge false documents, saving upwards of 14,000 Jews in Nazi Germany.

Solly Perel, the German-Israeli author and Holocaust survivor, 97, whose incredible life story was immortalized in the 1990 film, Europa Europa.

Burt Bacharach, 20th century pop music legend who composed songs with trademark sophisticated meter-changes and chord progressions.

Judy Heumann, the mother of the disability rights movement.

Traute Lafrenz, the last known survivor of the White Rose, a group of students who resisted the Nazi regime in Germany during World War II.

Haim Topol, Fiddler par Excellence.

Dr. Raphael Mechoulam, the Bulgarian-born Holocaust survivor who moved to Israel and discovered the THC compound

Ben Ferencz, the last surviving Nuremberg prosecutor.

Meir Shalev, One of Israeli's greatest novelists, Shalev's understated blend of humor with social commentary won him widespread recognition.

Al Jaffe, who created brilliant, irreverent and intricate Mad Magazine illustrations, including and especially his epic foldable panoramas at the end of each magazine.

Mary Quant, inventor of the mini-skirt.

Harry Belafonte, advocate for social justice and the fight against AIDS and Apartheid, Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony award winner, and the first artist to sell a million albums.

Jerry Springer, news anchor, mayor of Cincinnati, and host of TV Guide's Worst TV show ever, and self-proclaimed "ringmaster of civilization's end."

Rabbi Harold Kushner, who wrote When Bad Things Happen to Good People to fulfill a promise he made to his son Aaron, who died at age 14, that his story would not be forgotten.

Sheldon Harnick, the lyricist who made Jewish longing universal in 'Fiddler on the Roof.'

John Goodenough, who shared a Nobel Prize for co-developing the first portable rechargeable lithium-ion battery.

Rabbi Kassel Abelson, a leader in the American Conservative movement for equality for women who led the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards during the discussions of gender and sexual orientation.

Milan Kundera – Czech-French writer known for his groundbreaking literary style, which was equal parts poetry and philosophy.

Tony Bennet, who showed us that life begins again at 60, with 17 of his 19 grammy awards coming after age 60.

Paul Rubens, better known as Pee Wee Herman, the boisterous comedian who turned his rejection from Saturday Night Live in 1980 into a most unlikely children's television cult classic, and whose arrest for a sex-related offense all but destroyed the Pee Wee character.

Bob Barker, America's game show host for 53 years.

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