

***We Honor & Remember***



**Rabbi Barry Silver**

**November 18, 1956 ~ March 21, 2024**

***Carpe diem!***

**Cherish each day! Be a blessing!  
Experience the miracle of life!**

## A brief bio of a Rabbi-rouser: our beloved *'Rabbi Barry'*

Those who knew Rabbi Barry immediately understood his ethos – *Carpe diem!* Seize the day! Embrace each & every precious moment! Phil Ochs, the famous folk singer for social justice, sums up Rabbi Barry in the song, *'When I'm Gone'* a.k.a. *'Guess I'll have to do it while I'm here.'* A visit to Rabbi Barry's web site [rabbibarrysilver.com](http://rabbibarrysilver.com) lays out all of his many lifetime projects in grand detail.

Rabbi Barry wore many hats, journeyed many paths, played many roles: Rabbi, Attorney, Florida Legislator, Community Activist, Singer/Songwriter, Athlete, Trekkie, and most importantly a family man — loving son to Rabbi Sam (z"l) & Elaine (z"l), supportive brother to Lee (z"l), Josh, Noah & Dan, devoted husband to Francine and nurturing father to Ari & Brandon and Bonus Dad to Alex & Andrew Kaye. Mark Twain said that the sign of a good man is that he has a dog that loves him. Rabbi Barry loved Nudnick, the current family canine companion, as well as Cindy, the family pet growing up. Hebrew is read right to left and if you reverse dog, you get God. We know that Rabbi Barry believed God is within each one of us and that he loved all of God's creatures.

Perhaps Rabbi Barry's greatest gift was his ability to teach, encourage, and inspire others. This was most evident in his relationship with his sons: Ari taking to science at an early age and Brandon becoming quite proficient in basketball early on, into high school and beyond. Nieces and nephews were also a big part of his 'sports camp club'.

Rabbi Barry was a polymath and Renaissance man — someone of diverse and varied learning, much like Da Vinci & Benjamin Franklin. His knowledge and aptitude spanned the gamut of Religion, Music, Philosophy, History, Linguistics, Politics, Physics, Etymology, Anthropology, Astronomy, and Psychology. He practiced a variety of professions, spoke several languages (English, Spanish, French, Hebrew, Yiddish), thus allowing for cross-cultural communication. He engaged in many hobbies, played a variety of sports (frisbee, gymnastics, basketball, golf, tennis, trampoline, ping pong), was proficient at board games — Scrabble, Risk, Backgammon & Chess, to name a few. He read dozens of books each year, and spoke out on behalf of innumerable causes. His gift of oratory, like his father's, enabled him to move

people with breathtaking sermons that jolted them to take action to save the planet, speak up for women's rights, stand for economic and civil justice, and many other issues and causes. He was quite the wordsmith and punster. One of his best lines was: "*I am a pacifist, not a use-a-fist.*" Rabbi Barry, of course, was the ultimate pacifist, following MLK Jr. and Ghandi in the belief that non-violence is the only way to solve the world's problems.

His musical abilities included a wide-ranging voice, playing the violin, and a good ear for picking out a tune on the piano. Artistically, he could sketch with great accuracy. Despite all that ability and talent, his brother Dan remembers Barry as quite humble and kind-hearted, much like his father, Rabbi Sam. It was only logical that Barry would honor his father by carrying on as the Spiritual Leader of *Congregation L'Dor Va-Dor*.

Rabbi Barry's favorite vehicle for communicating his message was through his many creative and inspiring adaptations of familiar folk, rock, and pop songs: '*Sweet Sabbath Wine*' (Sweet Caroline), '*Sound of Shabbat*' (Sound of Silence), '*My World*' (My Girl), '*Giving Thanks for Our World*' (Top of the World), to name just a few.

In recent years, his favorite song became '*Cosmic Judaism Halleluyah*', after the iconic song '*Halleluyah*' by Leonard Cohen. Rabbi Barry used this song to explain his passion project, ***Cosmic Judaism***. In fact, his new book, *Cosmic Judaism – Uniting Judaism and Science to Enlighten the World*, lays out his fervent dream to forge a path for a new Judaic movement. *Cosmic Judaism* speaks to Jews and non-Jews who have had difficulty wrapping their heads and hearts around the traditional framing of scripture. His view offers a rational, science-based approach of our heritage. Rabbi Barry sought to reconcile the discrepancies between history, mystery, and fantasy.

In closing, Rabbi Barry epitomized the definition of altruistic, and 'truistic'—always seeking truth through logic and reason. Rabbi Barry was convinced that all of us could be good people without having to believe a bunch of superstitious nonsense. His constant aim was to influence people to improve themselves. Through his positive messages, Rabbi Barry sought to entertain, elevate, and enlighten people to be ethical and compassionate towards animals, humans, and the fullness of all creation.

Clergy Officiating - *'Celebration of Life'*

Cantor Elaine Shapiro

וְהִיא שְׁעֵמֻדָּה *V'hi She-amda*

Cantor Carol Garrett

*There is Love* - Tribute to Rabbi Barry Silver

Cantor Jennifer Werby

שְׁכִיבֵינוּ *Hashkiveinu*

orig. melody & English text by S. Brodsky, K. Chasen, J. Zweiback  
lyric adaptation by Rabbi Barry Silver

Rabbi Loring Frank

'A [far too] Short Visit' - ALBERT EINSTEIN

Cantorial Soloist Andy Susman

*TIME* - Fyvush Finkel

Throughout the celebration,  
family members will share their fond memories.



♪ *Hinei Mah Tov* Psalm 133:1 (FOLK)

Hebrew • English • Creole • Spanish • Arabic • French

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### **23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm** (a modern interpretation)

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The world is my treasure, I shall not want.  
I give thanks for green pastures that provide our daily bread.  
I rejoice in the sacred waters of the ocean,  
rivers, lakes and streams, the sources of life.  
May we restore their purity for Earth's sake  
and for all future generations.  
I seek the spiritual path and the peace of a good name.  
Yea, though I walk in the valley of the shadow of mortality,  
I shall fear no evil.  
For reason and love, they comfort me and  
I have no need of false gods.  
My enemies are no more when I make them my friends.  
My mind is anointed with reason.  
My *Yiddisha Kopf* runneth over with *emet*  
and my heart rejoices with *tzedek*.  
Surely, I shall pursue kindness and mercy  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the abode of love and peace forever.

♪ *V'hi She-amda*

וְהִיא שְׁעֵמֶדָה

And it is this (the Torah) that has stood by and sustained our ancestors and us. For not only one enemy has risen to destroy us, but in every generation, they rise seeking to destroy us. But the guidance of wise elders, great leaders, and THE CREATIVE POWER of the universe delivers us from their hands.

וְהִיא שְׁעֵמֶדָה לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ וְלָנוּ  
שֶׁלֹא אֶחָד בְּלֶבֶד עָמַד עָלֵינוּ לְכַלּוֹתֵנוּ  
אֶלֶּא שֶׁבְּכָל דּוֹר וָדוֹר עוֹמְדִים עָלֵינוּ לְכַלּוֹתֵנוּ  
וְהַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא מְצִילֵנוּ מִיָּדָם

*V'hi she-am'dah la-avoteinu v'lanu.*

*Shelo echad bilvad, amad aleinu l'chaloteinu.*

*Ela sheb'chol dor vador, om'dim aleinu l'chaloteinu,*

*v'HaKadosh Baruch Hu matzileinu mi-yadam.*

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Dear Barry,

You have been our fearless leader, gathering us to right the wrongs making this world a better, kinder more just society.

Thank you for your leadership & wisdom.

*With love,*

*Cantor Elaine Shapiro*

We come to the end of the road and our frail human bodies stop us.  
We turn around and face the world: all that's left is love. We will feel  
your love forever, dear friend, and share it generously!

*Your Cantor,  
Carol Garrett*

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Barry, your love, music, and passion will endure far beyond  
the limits of your physical presence. Your unwavering determination  
was evident in all aspects of your life. Now, you've transcended  
from the corporeal to the metaphysical realm, becoming  
a cosmic force that will illuminate the paths of all who crossed  
your journey, inspiring them to strive for a better world.

Your friend, Cantor Jennifer Werby

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Thank you, Rabbi Barry, for showing us how to make  
every precious moment count!

With gratitude,  
'Cantor Andy' Susman

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You, Rabbi Barry, along with your parents, Rabbi Sam (z"l) & Elaine (z"l), have  
been committed to creating and building a synagogue for the community and  
cosmos for nearly 30 years. I have had the pleasure to work by your side  
almost every step of the way and am in awe of all you have  
accomplished. We have been steadfast in our love for our Congregation  
*L'Dor Va-Dor*, which you have led and brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> century! You have  
been an inspiration, the backbone, the groundwork for our congregation and  
all its members and friends. You will not ever be forgotten! Your legacy and  
spirit will live on within each and every one of us! We love you and will miss  
you very much in our lives!

*Sharon Leibovitz, your friend*

## 'A [far too] Short Visit'

ALBERT EINSTEIN

“Strange is our situation here on Earth. Each of us comes for a short visit, not knowing why, yet sometimes seeming to divine a purpose. From the standpoint of daily life, however, there is one thing we do know: that we are here for the sake of others - above all for those upon whose smiles and well-being our own happiness depends.”

*Shalom Chaver,  
Rabbi Loring Frank*



## ♪ **Cosmic Judaism *Halleluyah***

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(Sung to tune of Leonard Cohen's '*Halleluyah*')

- v1** A creative force began it all, in silence you can hear its call,  
and feel this cosmic power running thru ya.  
The planets, stars & galaxies, the setting sun, the lakes & trees,  
the buzzing bees rejoice in *Halleluyah!*  
*Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halleluyah, Halle-lu-u-yah*
- v2** One day the spark of life emerged,  
burst forth, diversified, and surged,  
and evolution led this force right to ya.  
It fashioned life in varied shapes like birds & trees & juicy grapes  
and talking apes that chanted *Halleluyah!* *Halleluyah x4*
- v3** A genius by the name of Charles  
set off debate and many quarrels  
you probably don't think about Darwin do ya?  
But he allowed the human race  
to finally understand our place  
in the tree of life and embrace *Halleluyah!* *Halleluyah x4*
- v4** From a remote and distant day  
preserved within our DNA  
are the struggles of forebears who never knew ya.  
But across tremendous space and time,  
stupendous power so sublime;  
did send us from the slime to *Halleluya!* *Halleluyah x4*
- v5** Our Mother Earth is holy ground  
where miracles each day abound  
with the gift of life the cosmos did imbue ya.  
So, wake up from your daily grind and utilize your heart & mind  
Come join with us and let's find *Halleluyah!* *Halleluyah x4*

## Meditations before the *Kaddish*

It is impossible to sum up the life of a person with a bouquet of words,  
as it is to sum up the universe with a handful of sand.

ZOE KLEIN

Dwell not on what has been lost, but rather, on what has been gained.  
We are but a moment's sunlight, fading in the grass.  
Days are like scrolls: write on them only what you want remembered.

Hebrew Proverb - CHET POWERS - *Bachya ibn Pakuda*

There are three ways to mourn.  
The first is to cry. The second is to grow silent.  
The third is to transform sorrow into song.

ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL

Time is a companion that goes with us on a journey.  
It reminds us to cherish each moment—it will never come again.

PATRICK STEWART

Eternity cannot be calculated like time;  
rather, it is a special kind of knowledge,  
affirming that our presence here on earth mattered.  
Like a stone dropped into water, the ripples continue  
even though the human eye can no longer see it.

ELAINE ZECHER

If the existing generation were given the chance to live forever,  
but on the clear understanding that never again would there be  
a child, or a youth, or first love; never again new persons  
with new hopes, new ideas, new achievements;  
ourselves for always and never any others —  
could the answer be in doubt?

CHAIM STERN

## *Kaddish YaTom* קדיש יתום Mourner's Kaddish

May the wonder of the universe be celebrated. May THE MYSTERY be consecrated.

May the brilliance of THE MYSTERY never fade from our magnificent world.

May the many ways of THE MYSTERY prevail in our own days, in our own lives  
and in the life of all ישראל *Yisrael*. And let us say, ואמרו *v'imru*: אמן *Amein*.

May we continue to acknowledge the beauty of THE MYSTERY though it is far beyond  
the sweetest songs we could ever sing! ואמרו *v'imru*: אמן *Amein*.

May abundant peace manifest for us and for all Israel! ואמרו *v'imru*: אמן *Amein*.

May THE MYSTERY facilitate peace for us and for all Israel, and

for all who dwell on earth. ואמרו *v'imru*: אמן *Amein*.

יתגדל ויתקדש שמה רבא. (אמן) בעלמא די ברא  
קרעותה, וימליך מלכותה בחייכון וביומיכון ובחיי  
דכל בית ישראל. בעגלא ובזמן קריב ואמרו אמן:

יהא שמה רבא מברך לעלם ולעלמי עלמא:

יתברך וישתבח, ויתפאר ויתרומם ויתנשא ויתהדר  
ויתעלה ויתהלל שמה דקדשא בריך הוא לעלא מן  
כל ברכתא ושירתא, תשבחתא ונחמתא, דאמירו  
בעלמא, ואמרו אמן: יהא שלמא רבא מן שמיא  
וחיים עלינו ועל כל ישראל, ואמרו אמן:  
עשה שלום במרומיו הוא יעשה שלום עלינו  
ועל כל ישראל ועל כל יושבי תבל, ואמרו אמן:

*Yit-gadal v'yit-kadash sh'mei raba, (Amein.)*

*b'alma dee-v'ra chir-u-tei, v'yam-lich mal-chu-tei*

*B'cha-yei-chon uv'yomei-chon uv'cha-yei d'chol beit Yisrael*

*Ba-agala u'viz-mahn kariv, —v'imru Amein.*

*Y-hei sh-mei raba m'varach, l'alam ul-al-mei al-ma-ya*

*Yit-barach v'yish-tabach v'yit-pa-ar v'yit-romam v'yit-na-sei v'yit-hadar*  
*v'yit-aleh v'yit-halal sh-mei d'kud-sha- Brich hu, l'eila min koll bir-chata v'shi-rata*  
*toosh-b'chata v'ne-cheh-mata da-amiran b'alma, —v'imru Amein.*

*Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'ma-ya, v'cha-yim, aleinu v'al kol Yisrael, —v'imru Amein.*

*Oseh shalom b'im'romav, hu ya-aseh shalom aleinu*

*v'al kol Yisrael v'al kol yosh-vei tei-veil—v'imru Amein.*

**Shiva will immediately follow the service  
at Barry (z"l) & Francine's home –  
18624 Cape Sable Dr.  
Boca Raton, FL 33498**

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**If you'd like to make a donation  
we welcome those to be made  
in Rabbi Barry's honor  
to *Congregation L'Dor Va-Dor*,  
so that his vision lives on**

**<https://www.ldorvador.org/donations/>**