



**Joyce Fienberg** forged a quarter-century career as a University of Pittsburgh researcher. But graduate students knew her also as a surrogate mother — a warm host who welcomed them into her family’s home and kept sending holiday cards for years afterward. “She was always smiling, greeting everyone”. “She loved her role of being mom to all of us”. Mrs. Fienberg was “very intelligent and engaging and had a certain elegance to her demeanor that isn’t always found in an academic context”. She had two sons, Anthony and Howard, and Mrs. Fienberg was “the proud grandmother to her grandchildren” the development center said.

**Cecil and David Rosenthal** lived together in an apartment in Squirrel Hill. They were regulars at Tree of Life, where Cecil could be found serving as a greeter, “Everybody knew them”. Cecil and David had a love for life and for those around them. As long-standing recipients of ACHIEVA’s residential and employment services, they were as much a part of the ACHIEVA family as they were their beloved neighborhood of Squirrel Hill. “They loved life. They loved their community. They spent a lot of time at the Tree of Life, never missing a Saturday”. “Cecil’s laugh was infectious. David was so kind and had such a gentle spirit. Together, they looked out for one another”. They were inseparable. Most of all, “they were kind, good people with a strong faith and respect for everyone around”.

**Sylvan and Bernice Simon** were wed 62 years ago at the same synagogue in which they spent their last moments. Syl and Bernice were a sweet, down-to-earth couple. “They held hands and they always smiled, and he would open the door for her, all those things that you want from another person”. “They were really generous and nice to everybody”. The Simons’ front door has three stickers affixed to it, two say *Support Our Troops* and *God Bless America*. A third says *America the Beautiful* over a photo of Mount Rushmore. A loving couple, together forever.

**Jerry Rabinowitz** started treating HIV Aids patients before the disease had a common name. He did it with compassion and grace, never wearing the latex gloves when he spoke with his patients as many did. He held a lamp up that lit the way and continued to practice with such care and thoughtfulness through the years of his family practice. “In addition to being the president of the Dor Chadash Congregation he was a doctor, a healer”. “When he heard shots he ran outside to try and see if anyone was hurt and needed a doctor”. That was just the way he was. Just what Jerry did.

**Rose Mallinger** at the age of 97 was the oldest of the group. Although she was not a survivor of the holocaust as some had reported, she bore witness to almost an entire century of one of the most pivotal times in Jewish history. Rose was born in 1921 — the fourth of six children of Yiddish-speaking parents who had themselves arrived in the U.S. from Lithuania as children. “She was full of life with a lot of energy”. There wasn’t anyone who didn’t expect her to live into her hundreds. She regularly attended Tree of Life with her daughter, Andrea, who was injured in the shooting.

**Melvin Wax** was always the first in the synagogue for each service. He was devoted and caring, a pure soul. An accountant, Melvin worked for Calig Steel Drum for over 20 years. He was past president of New Light congregation. He read Haftarah regularly and often led parts of the service as he did that last time. His greatest passions were his grandson, his Judaism, and the Pittsburgh Pirates.

**Rich Gottfried** broke both his knees, on the ice last winter. He was not expected to make a quick or full recovery but due to his determination, he was back at shul, reading Haftara as he does many weeks with his leg braces. He was due to retire soon and wanted to spend more time strengthening himself and the shul. He will never get the chance to do that. A 1970 graduate of Uniontown High School, Mr. Gottfried earned his bachelor’s in English literature from the University of Pittsburgh in 1974 and his dental medicine degree from Pitt in 1980. That same year, he married Margaret A. “Peg” Durachko, a dental school classmate and practicing Roman Catholic. They supported each other’s faith which included a drive to continue to learn and to seek ways of helping the vulnerable including new immigrants.

**Dan Stein** just became a grandfather seven months ago. Dan always had a word of cheer and a fist bump for everyone at shul. He read his bar mitzvah Haftara each year, annotated with the date. He helped out everywhere and made the tough stuff look effortless. “He had a phenomenal ability to smile”. “He could make the situation light and happy”.

**Irving Younger** ran a real estate company. Outside of work, Younger was a devout participant in his congregation, Dor Chadash, which only recently had begun holding services at the Tree of Life. He went every day. He was an usher at his synagogue, and he never missed a day”. He’d come home, maybe grab a bite to eat and go back again”. “He was so kind”. “He was a beautiful person, a beautiful soul”.