

הרב נח הייך

Rabbi Kenneth N. Hain

CONGREGATION BETH SHOLOM

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Dear Beth Sholom Family,

This Shabbat, Parshat Terumah, will mark the first Shabbat in 68 years that our revered and beloved Rabbi Emeritus Gilbert Klaperman z'l will not be with us. His passing leaves a huge void of a towering presence in our Congregation Beth Sholom and American Jewry.

As we read this Shabbat of the obligation to build a sacred sanctuary to serve Hashem, Rabbi Klaperman was quite literally a builder of our Shul, as well as so much of our religious and educational infrastructure in the Five Towns community. As the Rabbi of the first Orthodox Shul in Nassau County, he founded the first Orthodox Yeshiva in the county. He bravely fought for the establishment of an Eruv and for a Vaad HaKashruth in the Five Towns. He was a fierce advocate for our People, Soviet Jewry and the State of Israel.

It is critically important that each of us recognize and appreciate Rabbi Klaperman's extraordinary legacy. When Orthodoxy was a fledgling movement in the 1940's and 50's, Rabbi Klaperman was one of the few bold and articulate spokesmen for the establishment of a Torah-true Judaism that could and would be sustainable in the 20th century. All of the religious institutions and abundant amenities in our thriving Five Towns community today, are a direct result of Rabbi Klaperman's vision and efforts.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife Susan Alter, his sister Sylvia Tuchman and his children Joel Klaperman, Frieda Klaperman and Carol Morrow.

May the memory of Harav Gedaliah ben R. Elazar HaCohen z'l be for a blessing. May his beloved Congregation Beth Sholom continue to honor his memory for generations to come.

Shabbat Shalom.

B'vracha,



Rabbi Kenneth N. Hain