

Greenburgh Hebrew Center

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> Jay M. Stein, Rabbi Janet Leuchter, Cantor Barry A. Kenter, Rabbi Emeritus Lori E. Sloane, President

14 Iyyar 5779 May 19, 2019

Dear Lori,

How fitting you are being honored by the synagogue during the weeks that we have been counting the Omer, the days between the second night of Passover and Shavuot. We begin your celebration on the 29th day of the counting of the Omer. Many years ago, members of GHC took a tour of the Rare Book Room at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. There we were shown a Hebrew Bible bearing the inscription, "This book is mine and my wife's," signed by Robert Barrett Browning. Of her husband, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, wrote, "How do I love thee, let me count the ways....." [Sonnets from the Portuguese 43]. Tonight, we at GHC ask, "How do we love you, let us count the ways."

We love you for your quiet strength and dignity, your attention to detail, your ability to persevere, push us forward, and provide direction to all of the efforts required to make of us a community. Your finely honed and tuned skills have enabled you to create beautiful pieces of jewelry, fashion wool garments of incredible beauty, create meals and kiddushim that fete the eyes and fill our bellies. Your sensitivity, awareness of nuance, empathy and character impacted your presidency. You overcame your dislike of public speaking, delivering passionate appeals and short announcements. Your passion for GHC was manifest in thoughtful articles, letters to the congregation, and your everpresent awareness that yours was an awesome responsibility. And all of this while actively engaged and involved in the life of your family and the practice of medicine.

You have looked well to the ways of your household, whether here on Broadway or off-Broadway, on Willow Lane or in Milford. You, Mark, Judi and I have shared many journeys together, special family moments deeply engrained in our collective memory. Relish the joy that comes with becoming an IPP; accept with grace the honor that rightly comes to you this evening.

B'ididut, *Barry A. Kenter* Barry A. Kenter