



Jay L. Kooper, President

Dear Julie,

At a time when Temple B'nai Abraham needed you the most. At a time when you had already given everything of yourself to the Temple, you answered the call to once again to become Temple President without hesitation or reservation for one simple reason: Your Temple needed you.

In Temple B'nai Abraham's 170-year history there have only been 30 Temple Presidents and only 2 Presidents have served more than once. You occupy a rare place in the Temple's history as serving as both the Temple's 26th and 29th President. And with all due respect to the only other 2-time Temple President (Leo Brody, for all of those Temple history buffs out there), no President faced the unique barrage of challenges that you faced in your second tenure as President. You literally led our Temple through pestilence and floods. You literally led our Temple back from the second half of the COVID-19 pandemic to today, where our services are once again in-person, warm and well attended, our building and grounds are expanded and fortified to handle the challenges of climate change, and our programs, schools and activities are in full swing. That is the legacy you leave as President.

There really is no way we can adequately thank you for all you have done in service to Temple B'nai Abraham. Time and again you have selflessly served and led us. Our gratitude is a debt that we can never truly begin to repay. But we hope the shabbat dinner in your honor and the well-deserved relaxation to come as a Past President (once again) will be a good first down payment.

Thank you for everything you have done. Thank you for being a role model for me as I begin my tenure. Thank you for being the very best of Temple B'nai Abraham.

With great affection,