

Howard William Kaufmann Eulogy

Yih'-yu l'-ra-tzon im-rei fi, im-rei fi
V'-heg-yon li-bi l'-fa-ne-cha
A-do-nai, tzu-ri, A-do-nai
Tzu-ri v'-go-a-li, v'-go-a-li

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart
be acceptable to you,
Adonai, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Psalm 19 reminds us that wherever we are, God will always be our steady rock and everlasting redeemer in our moments of joy and our moments of grief. Today, we hold onto these words as we remember and honor the life of Howard William Kaufmann. Howard was a rock for his family and friends, and his beautiful life will always be a blessed memory.

Howard (Howie) was born in Brooklyn, New York, and he was raised in Lynbrooke Long Island to two wonderful parents, Bernard and Betty. Bernard and Betty raised Howard and his siblings in a Conservative Jewish household. Howard and his brothers had their Bar Mitzvah ceremony, celebrated the Jewish holidays, and enjoyed the Jewish customs and celebrations. They were told by their parents that they would need to marry a Jewish girl, which Howie achieved! Howie was very close to his twin brother Steven, and brothers Michael and Barry. Michael and Steven have passed away, but Howie would carry their memory forward for the rest of his life.

Howie went to public school in New York and attended the University of Rochester with a degree in accounting. His accounting and typing skills would allow him to serve in the US Army during the Vietnam war, as a very much needed job. Howie was proud of his service and appreciated his year fighting for our country across the ocean. Eventually, Howie built and operated his own business that imported and manufactured marine survival products. Andy, Beverly and Howie's son joined Howie's business, in which the two worked very closely together.

Beverly and Howie had two beautiful children together, in which they became their entire world. Andy and Bonnie were the light of Howie's life, and he would make sure to be there for his kids no matter what. Howie was required to travel a lot for his business when Andy and Bonnie were young. However, he would try his best to bring the entire family along on his trips. If not, Howie would bring back a souvenir for his children as a token of his love. In addition to his love for his children, Howie had a great love for his grandchildren, Sawyer, Zachery, Dana, Aaron, and Samantha. Howie was very close with his grandchildren, and he would travel with them and even bring them to Disney and ride the rides! A loving memory shared about Howie was the Denver trip, in which Howie spoiled his grandsons. Zachary and Sawyer had a very special bond with their grandfather. A sweet memory would be them splitting a cupcake - Howie would take the cake and the grandsons would eat the frosting. He would take the kids around the neighborhood and bring them to the pond to feed the ducks. Farrah, Howie's daughter-in-law,

shared that her sons would say that his french toast and hamburgers were so good that even when she would try to recreate it for her sons, they would say, "You don't make it the way Zaydee makes it." Farrah, Howie's daughter-in-law, had a very close relationship with him, and would call Howie "Dad" and rely on him for all fatherly tasks, being a handyman, a person to talk to, and someone to share beautiful moments with.

Howie loved his children and grandchildren immensely, and he had a special love for his "Honey", Beverly. Beverly met Howie when she was eleven years old at an engagement party. Years later, Beverly was invited by a family member to meet up with Howie in New York. After a short engagement, the two were married in April of 1971. For almost 54 years, Howie would love his "Honey" every day. He would do and want anything Beverly wanted. He would be with her at all times, and would soak up every minute to show his love and affection for Beverly. At one point, Howie suggested to Beverly that they go to Disney together, without the children or grandchildren. The two went to Disney and had a magical, relaxing time together. As the two continued to grow together, Howie's love for Beverly would continue to expand. Even at the end of Howie's life, he would hold Beverly's hand and kiss her even if he couldn't speak.

Howie was very close to his family. He had a special relationship with Howie, Beverly's brother, of blessed memory, and Pauline, his wife. Howie and Howie were very close and they would call each other "Howala", a yiddish rendition of their names. Howie loved his friend's sons, Michael and Jeffrey dearly. He was also close to his cousins Mark and Franny. At the end of Howie's life, he became close with his caretakers, Beth, Myra and Sai, all of whom Beverly is most grateful for and now considers them family.

In 2015, Howie's Parkinson symptoms progressed, but he took it would stride and would not show any stress about his diagnosis. Eventually in 2019, his dementia symptoms began to flare. The last several weeks of Howie's life was quite difficult. However, Beverly and his family were with him every moment. While in hospice, he would grab his loved ones hands to show his affection and love. He held his grandson, Sawyer's hand tight and would not let go. In the last moments of Howie's life, Beverly held his hand, and would ensure that he was never left alone.

Howie will always remain a rock for his family and loved ones for the rest of their own lives. He was a patient, kind, and generous man, who shared his deep values with those he knew. While Howie is no longer in this earthly realm, his memory lives on here as long as we remember him and share his stories. May God show compassion and love to Howie during his eternal peace. May his family be encompassed by the love and devotion Howie showed every day. Amen.