

Eugene L. Brody 78

died. August 5, 1979/2 Ab 5738

Bereaved Relatives & Friends:

Our sages tell us: "Al korchacha ata nolad..v'al korchacha ata met" - "Against your will are you born and against your will you die (Perek 4.29). The test of the successful life is how the days between these two points were spent. It would be a tragedy if the few days on earth were wasted. It becomes the ending of a complete cycle if the days on this earth were well spent and beneficially experienced.

This gathering of loved ones and many many friends is a tribute to the life of Eugene Brody and to the remarkable full life he lived. It is a tribute to the effort and love and care of his father, of blessed memory, and, yibadlu beyn hachayim, to his devoted mother. His parents raised him with a wholesome outlook on life, and he lived it to the fullest.

To him, every step and curb was as a mountain, but nought stood in his way in achievement. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alberta after 14 painstaking years of study and in another nine received a Bachelor of Science degree in the spring of 1977. A charter member of Alberta B'nai B'rith Lodge 2062, he was given a distinct honor by being awarded the Hillel Golden Key Award for his outstanding and devoted contributions to Hillel--over a total of 26 years. The University awarded him a Golden Key blazer which included membership in 1966 in the Honorary Golden Key Society. It was not all bookwork. Eugene was active as a reporter on the Gateway at the University of Alberta Radio. He wrote a series on music for the Performing arts for the University Radio and a series titled "60 Plus" for radio on the History of the University of Alberta -- 15 programs now in the archives of the University. A committee for Varsity Guest Week was not complete without his presence and work.

People was his interest wherever he went usually on his own steam -- and were he to ask people for help -- they would become immediate fast friends. Edmonton was his city and his life and everyone -- from bus drivers, to cabbies, to chance acquaintances -- all were wonderful to him -- recognizing the determination he had to make a full life for himself on his own--more than ever being prodded, he often had to be held back, such was his energy and determination to do for others.

Recently he told his uncle and aunt that he was happier these last five years than any time in his life. And indeed, he was happy when this past Wednesday night he saw the royal family at Government House -- when he also summed up his life motto: As someone born in Canada, I take my heritage seriously.

I know that Eugene is looking down upon us with his beautiful smile and would want me to thank you on his behalf. We will miss Eugene. His loved ones, Hillel, B'nai B'rith and Beth Shalom Synagogue, the University and Grant MacEwan College where he was trying to get a radio station started, the countless people whose lives his life touched, the many of us whose lives have been enriched through knowing and experiencing his presence. He has gone to join the company of the immortals in the heavens above, and even as he is being welcomed there in peace, so we here assembled bid him Godspeed on his journey to his eternal reward, and say unto him, "Lech leshalom, God in peace Eugene. Amen."

EUCOBY DELIVERED BY RABBI SAUL Z. HYMAN - August 7th. 1978