

בד"ה

הרב יוסף בן מנחם מענדל הלוי ע"ה

Rabbi Lichtman's *levayah* was held Monday afternoon at the *Eretz HaChaim* Cemetery near Beit Shemesh, a city where he and his wife, Liz, *y'badlah lichayim aruchim*, have lived since making Aliyah from Elizabeth almost ten years ago. As many may be aware, his health had declined over the years and he lived at home with his family nearby. He died peacefully in his sleep.

Rabbi Lichtman was *Sheliach Tzibbor* of the Shul for over forty-five years. He did not see himself as the *Chazzan*, for his goal was simply to lead the congregation in prayer. Yet, his expert knowledge of *Nusach Hatefilah*, a strong and euphonious voice, innovative melodies always anchored in tradition, made him more than just a leader of prayer. He was also part of the continual learning which was characteristic of Bais Yitzchok: a *d'var Torah* at the weekly Shabbos Kiddush, *Sefer HaChimuch*, *Mishna Brurah*, a Holiday Thought for the shul bulletins, community classes, etc. The Shul gave the Lichtmans a fond send-off on Sunday, June 28, 2009 with many long-time and new friends present. Perhaps the inscription on the gift of a wood and silver Challah board tells it all, “with eternal thanks and gratitude for decades of friendship, devoted service and love.” Our condolences to his wife, Liz, his sons, Noam, Rabbi Hillel Lichtman and Rabbi Moshe Lichtman, daughter, Hadassah Greenbaum and his sisters, Shifra Adler and Doris Newman and the many grand and great-grandchildren.

May Hashem comfort the family with all those who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem