

We have the opportunity to pray a private *Yizkor* prayer for each person in our lives whom we are remembering:

Yizkor Memorial Prayer (gender-neutral)

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים אֶת נִשְׁמַת [הוֹרְתִי מוֹרְתִי /
סִבְתִּי / דוֹדְתִי / אֲחָתִי / בִּתִּי / דוֹדִי /
חֲבֵרְתִּי] (פְּלוֹנִי(ת) מִבֵּית פְּלוֹנִי(ת)) שֶׁהָלַךְ
לְעוֹלָמָהּ, בְּעָבוּר שְׁבָלִי נָדָר אֶתֵּן צְדָקָה
בְּעֵד הַנֶּשְׁמָה. בְּשֹׁכֵר זֶה תִּהְיֶה הַנֶּפֶשׁ
צְרוּרָה צְרוּרָה בְּצִרוּר הַחַיִּים. וְתִהְיֶה
מְנוּחָתָה כְּבוֹד, שֶׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת אֶת פָּנֶיהָ,
נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינָהּ נִצָּח.

*Yizkor Elohim et nishmat [horeti moreti / sabeti /
dodeti / acheti / beti / dodi / chavei-reti] (Name
mi-beit Parent(s)) sheh-halcheh l'olameh, ba-avur
sheh-b'li neder etein tz'dakah ba'ad ha-n'shamah.
Bis'char zeh t'hei ha-nefesh tz'rurah bitz'ror
ha-chayim. Ut'hi m'nuchateh kavod, sova s'machot
et panecha, n'imot biy'mincha netzach.*

May God remember the soul of my [parent, teacher / grandparent / parent's sibling / sibling / child / beloved / friend] (Name) who has gone to their eternal home. For the sake of *Tikkun Olam*, I freely give *tzedakah* in their memory. May their soul be bound up in the bond of life. May they rest with honor, at one with the One who is life eternal; and may the beauty of their life shine forevermore.



This prayer is modelled on the Yizkor prayer in *Mishkan HaNefesh*. I began with David E. Rendburg's version as presented on the Nonbinary Hebrew Project website and adapted it to match. This was in the Yizkor service booklet that the entire congregation used this year (5785), along with two gendered versions. The gendered version had a separate translation. This one appeared first, partly because it fit well in the space, and also so that it didn't appear as an afterthought.

I notice now that I didn't struggle with *ploni(t)*; without vowels, I read פְּלוֹנִי as masculine. This ending is not directly addressed in the NHP grammar tables, I think.

I also notice that I didn't use nonbinary Hebrew to refer to God. I mentally de-gender that language automatically. Also, I wasn't ready to change the name of the prayer (*Yiz-k'reh?*).

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