


Esther Isenberg

March 21, 1870 \* September 4, 1949




F U N E R A L   S E R V I C E   B Y

**Rabbi J. A. Cohen**

S T E P H E N   W I S E   F R E E   S Y N A G O G U E

N E W   Y O R K



F U N E R A L   S E R V I C E

for

Esther Isenberg

SEPTEMBER 9, 1949

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*They shall come with mourning, but I will lead them with tender mercy.  
I will turn their sorrow unto solace,*

*I will comfort them, and give them*

*Peace after their sorrow.*

*Thus saith the Lord:*

*Refrain thy voice from sadness and thine eyes from tears,*

*For thy work shall find its reward,*

*And there is hope for thy latter end.*

(JEREMIAH, XXXI)

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A WOMAN OF VALOUR WHO CAN FIND?

*A woman of valour, who can find?*

*Strength and dignity are her clothing;*

*She feareth not the time to come.*

*She openeth her mouth with wisdom;*

*And the law of kindness is on her tongue.*

*She looketh well to the ways of her household,*

*And eateth not the bread of idleness.*

*A woman that serveth the Lord,*

*She shall be praised.*

*Give her of the fruit of her hands;*

*And let her works praise her in the gates.*

(PROVERBS, 31)

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*I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains:*

*From whence shall my help come?*

*My help cometh from the Lord,*

*Who made heaven and earth.*

*The Lord shall keep thee from all evil;*

*He shall keep thy soul.*

*The Lord shall guard thy going out and thy coming in,*

*From this time forth and forever.*

(PSALM, 121)

Dear sons and daughter, dear grandchildren, kind kinsfolk and good friends of

## Esther Isenberg

Of her we may say with our ancient teachers:

“For length of days, and added years, and finally peace, shall be granted unto thee.”

How I pray that one could, dear friends, in this your dark hour, help to soften your grief, to lighten your sorrow. But your greatest comfort will come not from my words but from your own sweet recollections of your beloved mother, deeply devoted grandmother and great-grandmother.

ESTHER ISENBERG was a woman of many gifts and much energy. She poured them out unstintingly, sacrificially, serving the individuals of the community who were in need as well as her close-knit family circle. With quiet bravery she bore family responsibilities, overcoming heavy obstacles and disadvantaged circumstance. She served with zeal and enterprising spirit, so that her dear ones became bound to her by beautiful bonds of affection, woven out of her great love and their own deep devotion.

Deep was the esteem, devotion and affection between children and mother, richly rewarded by the ties of love that blessed their lives, with the faith that “Life is ever Lord of Death, and Love can never lose its own.”

Despite the advent of the years and the decades, she blessedly retained her interests and her faculties until her closing days. Her philosophic mood and her inner calm helped her to meet the severe buffetings of life, the heavy storms that swept her being.

Her closing years were darkened, over a decade ago, by the earlier going of her life’s companion, of revered memory. But with your love and devotion, good friends, she seemed to be lifted from the shadows.

Now you are in the shadow. How I pray that one could, my dear friends, in this, your dark hour, help to soften your grief, to lighten your sorrow. But your greatest comfort will come not from my words but from your own sweet recollections of your beloved mother.

She was a wonderful, good and kind-hearted person, whose life was enriched by the doing of good, personally, rather than in our own day when so much of it is done professionally. She was beloved by hundreds and to many she was adviser and confidante. Her good judgment stood her in good stead. Always her indomitable spirit carried her on in the face of difficulties.

All whom she served, or served her, learned to prize her. Everyone loved her; she brought joy to many. Nothing gave her greater joy than to be with her children, grandchildren and the ineffable pleasure she had in her great-grandchildren. Your very presence brought her high happiness. Her joyous nature, the gifts of her heart, the graces of her spirit won high praise from all within the orbit of her influence.

She was with all that, truly a simple soul whose heart was attuned to the sweet simplicities of life. Truly she shaped every act of her life to the welfare of her dearest ones. She loved people; she loved life; she was "goodness itself" in your own felicitous phrase; to know her was to love her; a vibrant being undaunted by difficulties.

She would be the first to remind you, "Nothing is here for tears," as the poet said, for it is rare to be vouchsafed the privilege of a service at which there can be no tears, save of gratitude for your dear one's generous years and her purposeful life.

In the intertwining of your mutual love, dear friends, may you each help the others to bear this heavy sorrow laid upon your hearts. Do so in the same way as, with limitless love, she helped you meet the countless major crises of your common lives.

She bore grief with bravery, with fortitude, translating it into zealous, unremitting

devotion to her children. As a good woman she was strengthened by faith. It brought balm to her heart and gratitude to God for the blessings that lighten the sorrows of life.

She was a good mother, who walked in God's path, sowing good seed. Now she goeth home to God, laden with heavy sheaves of righteous deeds. Her life, her good deeds, her generousities, these will make her memory a lasting inspiration to all who were blessed by her consecrated service.

Hers was both the burden and the blessing of a full life; as her years ripened she gracefully declined. Then, just like a flame flickers and fades out, so did she softly give up her being. Silently, she slipped away to that holy rest which awaits a life well spent. God sent his silent messenger to bring her that ineffable quietude whose undreamed beauty we are yet to know. Her earthly life, blessed with zealous service and precious inner serenity, should be a token that she is now encompassed by a peace serene and holy.

When sorrow darkens our way, with an immortal hope we ask for strength and light. But you, her dearly beloved, your way of sorrow should not be dark; it is lighted by the sympathy that enkindles the hearts of the men and women who have come to attest, by their presence, to the quality and goodness of the life and spirit of your dear mother, your dear kinswoman and friend.

At peace lies before us the mortal remains of a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother in Israel; but here also lies the will of God. In calm submission to God's holy decree you accept the divine will with trust, with humble resignation and with hope, the everlasting hope of life eternal.

IN THAT FAITH, WE NOW JOIN OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER:

O Lord, Thou art the Sovereign abounding in mercy! In Thy hand are the souls of all living beings and the spirits of all human-kind.

Accept in grace and favor the prayer we pronounce in behalf of the soul of

ESTHER ISENBERG

Remember her many virtues and countless deeds, performed in righteousness on earth.  
Bestow upon her soul the full measure of Thy favor. Amen.

*(El Mole in Hebrew)*

✱

*Through the dark clouds of earthly grief and sorrow, we pray for the comfort of  
Thy healing influence, to soothe our wounds and console our hearts. Truly,  
Thou givest and Thou takest away, and if in death we cling too fondly to our  
Own, it is because Thou hath fashioned our hearts for life and love.*

Oh God, lift up the hearts of all who mourn, give to all who loved

ESTHER ISENBERG

Peace; unto Thy faithful servant grant Thou life eternal.

✱

Hers was a good life, long and helpful. From her life, beauty and joy, kindness and  
generosity, helpfulness and peace have come. May these now go with her, as she is  
borne off to final rest.

ESTHER ISENBERG

*Go thy way, for the Lord has called thee!*

*Go thy way, and may the Lord be with thee!*

*May thy righteousness go before thee, and the glory of the Lord receive thee!*

AMEN

✱

PSALM XXIII

*"The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.*

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;*

*He leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul;*

*He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*

*I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me;*

*Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;*

*Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;*

*And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever?"*

AMEN

In Memory of

Jacob Isenberg

NINETEENTH DAY OF IYAR

MAY 6 . . . . . 1950  
MAY 25 . . . . . 1951  
MAY 14 . . . . . 1952  
MAY 4 . . . . . 1953  
MAY 22 . . . . . 1954  
MAY 11 . . . . . 1955  
APRIL 30 . . . . . 1956  
MAY 20 . . . . . 1957  
MAY 9 . . . . . 1958  
MAY 27 . . . . . 1959  
MAY 16 . . . . . 1960  
MAY 5 . . . . . 1961  
MAY 23 . . . . . 1962  
MAY 13 . . . . . 1963  
MAY 1 . . . . . 1964  
MAY 21 . . . . . 1965  
MAY 9 . . . . . 1966  
MAY 29 . . . . . 1967  
MAY 17 . . . . . 1968  
MAY 7 . . . . . 1969  
MAY 25 . . . . . 1970  
MAY 14 . . . . . 1971  
MAY 3 . . . . . 1972  
MAY 21 . . . . . 1973  
MAY 11 . . . . . 1974


Esther Isenberg

TENTH DAY OF ELUL

AUGUST 23 . . . . . 1950  
SEPTEMBER 11 . . . . . 1951  
AUGUST 31 . . . . . 1952  
AUGUST 21 . . . . . 1953  
SEPTEMBER 8 . . . . . 1954  
AUGUST 28 . . . . . 1955  
AUGUST 17 . . . . . 1956  
SEPTEMBER 6 . . . . . 1957  
AUGUST 25 . . . . . 1958  
SEPTEMBER 13 . . . . . 1959  
SEPTEMBER 2 . . . . . 1960  
AUGUST 22 . . . . . 1961  
SEPTEMBER 9 . . . . . 1962  
AUGUST 30 . . . . . 1963  
AUGUST 18 . . . . . 1964  
SEPTEMBER 7 . . . . . 1965  
AUGUST 26 . . . . . 1966  
SEPTEMBER 16 . . . . . 1967  
SEPTEMBER 3 . . . . . 1968  
AUGUST 24 . . . . . 1969  
SEPTEMBER 11 . . . . . 1970  
AUGUST 31 . . . . . 1971

*Light Yahrzeit candle the night before the above dates*





# Interment Record

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MT. HEBRON CEMETERY • FLUSHING, NEW YORK

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## Jacob Isenberg

APRIL 15, 1868 TO MAY 15, 1933

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## Esther Isenberg

MARCH 21, 1870 TO SEPTEMBER 4, 1949

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## Henry Wachsman

DECEMBER 6, 1873 TO MAY 17, 1948

