In the Torah just a few weeks ago we read the Parsha, Chaya Sarah, the life of Sarah. In that particular parsha the Torah sums up the life of Sarah, wife of Abraham mother of Issac, grandmother of Jacob. In doing so our text uses a rather complicated formula to explain Sarah's age at her death of 127 years. We read, and Sarah's life was 100 years and 20 years and seven years.

Commentators have looked at this text for thousands of years trying to understand why the Torah would describe her life in such a complicated way. Our rabbis teach, that this formula was used to make a distinction between the 3 periods of Sarah's life. The first 100 years when she was without a child, the next 20 years when she was a mother and cared for and raised Issac, and the last 7 years, presumably after the harrowing experience of the near sacrifice of her son Issac.

Like our sacred text so too can we begin to understand and describe the life of Cissie Lewis. Cissie's lifespan was 36 years and 48 years 10 years.

In her first 36 years Cissie lived met her husband and eternal partner Sam, they gave birth to 2 wonderful, cultured, caring and talented children, Brain and Reggie. They lived through the London Blitz, the nightly bombings of buildings and homes, the struggles of war torn Europe. To emerge on the other side of those fateful years with the hope and promise of life with their children in America.

The next 48 years, reunited with Brain and Reggie they quickly established a home and a business in New York. They became US citizens even before their children who had been here 5 years longer. They lived the American dream. It was not always easy in those days, but through Sam's perseverance and quick study, and Cissie unflappable spirit, toughness and valor they made it through. Ultimately to retire, move to California to be with their children and grandchildren Sari and Elaine.

In California the blessing of those 48 years continued for the entire family. They spent holidays and celebrations together. Thanksgiving was a highlight, a celebration of the life and family. Sari and Elaine went for walks with Cissie, they would hang out at the house, for lunch, for chocolate chip cookies just for the company of Sam and Cissie.

Cissie was an active woman and an active participant in the life of her family. She and Sam along with the whole family shared the blessing of their good fortune and family with the Sok family, allowing them to have the opportunity and promise that America has offered Sam and Cissie before them.

They were a wonderful 48 years filled with laughter, and cherished memories that shine so brightly, that in another form of the blessing that was her life, they far over shadow and outweigh the difficulty of these last 10 years. While Atlzheimer's may have dimmed her memory, it in no dimmed the cherished memories of Cissie shared by each of you here. You remembered for her, not just the details of daily care, for which she never lacked, but the detaisl f her life, and its tremendous message of joy, determination and

compassion. And you continue to remember her and for her now, even as we lay her to a final rest, alongside her beloved Sam.

Our tradition teaches that the truly righteous live on forever in the memories of those whose lives were touched by them, who lives and life's work was inspired by them, their character and spirit. And Cissie's lifespan was