

MISS YOU KATE (AND MICHAEL)

Life started for the both of you,
In prewar Hungary.
Your life was filled with joy and hope
And possibility.

Your life, it changed suddenly.
The Nazis saw to that.
Your world was pulled from under you,
And in no time flat

You experienced a fate
That I cannot describe
Sans teary eyes and lumpy throat.
Yet, you did survive.

A holocaust the likes of which
Had not been seen before.
Something we must all insure
Shall happen nevermore.

Somehow, you both did escape
The fate six million met.
You began your life anew,
But vowed not to forget.

Your life reclaimed, you started in
On studies about science.
And even though you've been imbued
With abject self-reliance,

The two of you soon met and found
Your soulmates, eternal.
A partnership developed which
Encouraged you to spurn all

Others, whether in the lab,
Or at the swimming pool.
Devotion lasted 60 years.
Who says that love is cruel.

You started out in your careers.
Life seemed to progress well.
In Nineteen Hundred Fifty six
Again things went to Hell.

The Soviets weren't Hitler and
'There was no holocaust.
But for Jewish intellectuals
The cause again was lost.

Off to the holy land you were
Landing at the Weizmann,
Your scientific muscles flexed
With greatness in your sights and,

You soon were off to Germany
Your science sure did flourish.
Soon it began to be too big
For Max Planck to nourish.

You were rootless once again.
'For New York you were bound.
Finally this land was yours,
Goldene Medina found.

The IMD it was the place.
The actin was for you.
Soon your research grew some wings,
And suddenly it flew.

While you both were busy in the lab
Kate had a role, other.
She always always knew the import of
Her job as your kids mother.

You both made science in the lab,
And scientists at home.
Then you developed wanderlust.
'Twas time for you to roam.

You came out to Chicago and
Continued your career.
A long and storied one it's been.
And that's what brings us here.

Kate's mentored many scientists.
A champion for women,
Found time for science and her kids
Baking, Mike and swimmin'.

You wore so many hats then Kate.
Professor, mentor, mom.
It was always nice to see
It done with such aplomb.

Time marches on and so do we.
'That's why today we're here.
We've gathered here to let you know,
Your memory is dear.

This convocation's not enough,
To tell you how we feel.
Each of us here does love you both.
And surely we are real

Sad, that you're no longer here
in body. But in soul
We know that you will never leave.
I'm sure that you'll patrol

Our Hallways, offices and labs,
Your spirits are invasive.
Your formal presence may have stopped,
Your legend is pervasive,

Alav ha shalom, Michael, Kate
Of blessed memory
We celebrate a life well-lived
And a spirit always free.

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