



## DAVID ABRAMSON

January 22, 1954 - March 23, 2017

SERVICES: 11:00 AM MONDAY 3/27/2017 at  
CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL  
2000 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Age 63, of Ann Arbor, David died on March 23, 2017.

David was always interested in education and began by enrolling in Washtenaw Community College to study auto mechanics. He then went to University of Michigan, also attended LS&A and graduated in 1975. He went on to obtain two master degrees, one in Educational Leadership and the other in Interdisciplinary Technology. He began a long career by teaching "Basic Car Care for Consumers at Washtenaw Community College. He met his wife, Ellen and a love affair that lasted for over 32 years began.

A convert to Judaism, he became a pillar of the Beth Israel community. He helped found the men's club (or as he called it; the mensch club) and also organized the Organ Donors Drive.

As a community organizer, David became a founder of the ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, where he was an agent for positive change for thousands of people. He also founded the BRIDGING 23 which presents a unique opportunity for neighbors, colleagues, and strangers to come together and create an atmosphere of community. He also helped create BRIDGING 8 MILE, to overcome racial divides.

Dedicated to Tikun Olam, David worked tirelessly to heal divisions and foster meaningful conversations on topics that are unavailable in most places of our fractured and polarized society.

Beloved husband for 32 years to Ellen Abramson.

Devoted father of Sarah (Rabbi Mendy) Rimler, Mara Abramson and Lorna (Joe) Servetter.

Loving grandfather of Chayala Rimler. Eli Rimler and Joshua Derby

Cherished brother of Ruth Logan, Jonna McCoon, John McCoon, Darlene Miller, Paula

Miller, Elsie Grammer, the late Ronald McCoon and the late Don Hopkins  
Also survived by a world of special friends that he deeply loved.

OFFICIATING:

Rabbi R. Dobrusin  
Rabbi Kim Blumenthal

INTERMENT:

Arbrocrest Cemetery

SHIVA:

The family will observe Shiva through Sunday morning  
at the residence  
3204 Farmbrook Court  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
(734) 476-9948

RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

7:40 PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

CONTRIBUTIONS:

If you would like to further honor the memory of  
DAVID ABRAMSON  
you may do so by making a contribution to:

David Abramson Fund  
Association for Youth Empowerment  
C/O Roderic Scott  
16615 Five Points Street  
Redford, MI 48240

or

Chabad at Arizona State University  
971 South Ash Avenue  
Tempe, AZ 85281

<http://www.jewishasu.com/donate> and enter David Abramson Fund in the Comments Box

# Cemetery

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## Arbor Crest Memorial Park Cemetery

2521 Glazier Way  
Ann Arbor, MI,

# Events

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**MAR** **Service** 11:00AM  
**27**

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Beth Israel Congregation  
2000 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI, US

**MAR** **Shiva**  
**27**

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Ellen Abramson  
3204 Farmbrook Court, Ann Arbor, MI, US,  
48108

# Comments

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“ Met David while we both worked for Intelligent Controls ( Cosworth) in Novi . David's help was immense to me and others. He and his family extended a helping hand in tough times and I will forever be indebted. Now that my life journey is on the downside I look forward to our discussions when we meet once again. You are missed old friend.

David Perry

**david perry** - October 11, 2020 at 05:37 PM

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“ I live in London, Ontario now where I serve a Unity church there. I met David in connection with Detroit Unity and David's "Bridging 8 Mile." I only heard this evening of his passing. I wish good fortune to David and the family he loves who remain here. I am greatly comforted by these words from "The Prophet" by Kahlil Gibran:

The Prophet, by Kahlil Gibran:

Then Almitra spoke, saying, We would ask now of Death. And he said:  
You would know the secret of death. But how shall you find it unless you seek it in the heart of life?

The owl whose night-bound eyes are blind unto the day cannot unveil the mystery of light.

If you would indeed behold the spirit of death, open your heart wide unto the body of life. For life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one.

In the depth of your hopes and desires lies your silent knowledge of the beyond; And like seeds dreaming beneath the snow your heart dreams of spring. Trust the dreams, for in them is hidden the gate to eternity. Your fear of death is but the trembling of the shepherd when he stands before the king whose hand is to be laid upon him in honor. Is the shepherd not joyful beneath his trembling, that he shall wear the mark of the king? Yet is he not more mindful of his trembling?

For what it is to die but to stand naked in the wind and to melt into the sun? And what is it to cease breathing, but to free the breath from its restless tides, that it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered?

Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing.  
And when you have reached the mountain top, then you shall begin to climb.  
And when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly dance."

David sings and dances today.

John Considine - April 28, 2017 at 10:22 PM

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“ Dear Ellen, Mara and family,  
Our heartfelt condolences and love to you all.  
The Jackson Family (Mary, Loren, Tess, Charlie, and Sara)

Mary Hampton - March 27, 2017 at 08:41 AM

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“ Dear Ellen and Family,

So sorry to hear about the loss of David. He was a warrior for children and all humanity. He was an inspiration and his impact will last for generations.

Much love and prayers.  
Terry Duperon

**Terry Duperon** - March 26, 2017 at 08:52 AM

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“ I first met this energetic, loving, powerful man as he was introducing Challenge Day to the Detroit area. He worked tirelessly to promote the idea that all children (and all people) deserve to feel safe, loved and celebrated. He will be greatly missed and his contributions will live on in the hearts and minds of thousands that he touched. Thank you, God, for the gift of David! Heartfelt sympathy to his family and many friends who will miss his physical presence, though he will always be in our hearts!

**Mary Myers** - March 25, 2017 at 11:34 AM

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“ David was terrific person, will always remember him.....rick forman

**rick forman** - March 25, 2017 at 05:38 AM

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“ Dear Ellen and Family,  
I was deeply saddened to hear the news of David's passing. You and David have been such powerful forces in my life. I will always be grateful to have known him. What a man!  
Such talent, drive, creativity. Such love for you and his family. You all will be in my prayers.

Bonnie Cameron, Pittsburgh, PA

**Bonnie Cameron** - March 24, 2017 at 08:19 PM

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“ Ellen & Family,

I was so stunned and saddened to hear the news of David's passing. I will miss his energy and passion for life, as well as his eagerness and willingness to contribute in so many ways. He will always be remembered and greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

**Steve Law Akron OH** - March 24, 2017 at 11:19 AM

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“ Dear Ellen and family,

I received news of David's passing this afternoon and while I didn't know him as well as others, I spoke with him just a couple of short weeks ago about coaching a program. David never hesitated in contributing, making things happen, touching life and lives any way he could. He was, is and will remain an incredible contribution to you, your family, countless friends, everyone at Landmark and the untold communities and lives he touched. May time gently and tenderly enfold this deep love and loss of David into your hearts and lives and may he live on through you and all he knew. My deepest heartfelt condolences, love and prayers to you and your family. Peace and love, Carol Steele

**Carol Steele** - March 24, 2017 at 12:25 AM