



DAHLIA O. VERTREESE

MAYOR
HILLSIDE, NEW JERSEY

Dr. Jerry Rabinowitz, Cecil Rosenthal, David Rosenthal, Rose Mallinger, Bernice Simon, Sylvan Simon, Joe Stein, Joyce Fienberg, Dr. Richard Gottfried, Melvin Wax, Irving Younger, were extended branches of the Tree of Life synagogue and represented all that is possible with faith, hope and love for others.

On Saturday, October 27, 2018, we lost years of wisdom, we lost doctors, an advocate for community blood banks, a Goodwill ambassador, a research specialist and many other skilled and talented Americans.

On Saturday we lost individuals devoted to giving back. People who, in an instant, lost their lives as a consequence of political apathy and the irresponsible rhetoric historically used to blind society to our humanity, diminish our moral capitalism and deny the inalienable rights we have worked so hard to acquire and maintain for ALL people.

On behalf of the Township of Hillside, our heart and prayers go out to the families of the 11 souls who perished. We continue to stand with our Jewish brothers and sisters and all who believe in the power of people that have the courage to love each other and thus ourselves.

With adaptation to Lutheran Pastor, Martin Niemoller's poem,
remember...

*First they came for the Immigrants, and I did not speak out-because I was not an Immigrant;
Then they came for the Blacks, and I did not speak out- because I was not Black;
Then they came for the Sikhs, and I did not speak out-because I was not a Sikh;
Then they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out - because I was not a Socialist;
Then they came for the LBGT or Q, and I did not speak out- because I was not LBGT or Q;
Then they came for the Muslims, and I did not speak out-because I was not a Muslim;
Then they came for the Unions, and I did not speak out - because I was not in a Union;
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out - because I was not a Jew;*

Then they came for me - and there was no one left to speak out for me.