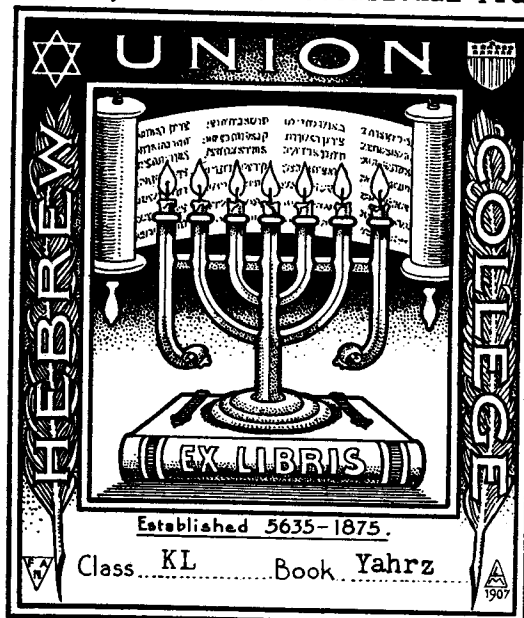


Liturgies,- Reform.- Occasional Prayers



Prayers for the Sick and the Dead

THE GIFT OF  
PUBLISHERS

FAMILY CEREMONY

# THE YAHRTZEIT LIGHT

*Joint Committee on Ceremonies, U.A.H.C. and C.C.A.R.*

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*The family is gathered at dusk, before the evening meal, on the eve of the anniversary of the death of the departed. The head of the family speaks:*

Dear Ones — at this moment which bears the memory of our beloved \* \* \* \* (name), let us join hands in token of God's grace. A link has been broken in the chain of affection which has long bound us together, yet the blessed bonds of home and love remain. With prayerful hearts, we receive this divine gift of life which holds us together in family union.

Eternal God, we thank Thee that in the hour of bereavement Thou didst sustain us. Though sorrow lingers in our memory, we have learned that love is stronger than death. At Thy command, our loved one has gone to his (her) eternal rest. To Thee we lift grateful hearts, for we sense our beloved in our very midst as a living presence. We acknowledge Thy mercy, O Father, Who doth strengthen Thy children with faith and peace.

*At this point it would be appropriate for members of the group to recite a passage from the Bible or Prayerbook which was a favorite of the departed, or to recall intimate characteristics and tender incidents in his or her life.*

As our dear one lives again for us in these words and memories, we kindle the Yahrzeit Light and sanctify it in the remembrance of the Divine Word: "The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord."

*Kindle the light.*

זֶכֶר צַדִּיק לְבִרְכָּה: *Zecher tsadik liv'rocho.* The memory of the righteous is a blessing.