



Shabbat VeHadarta - in honor of Senior Citizens

Prayer of the Minister for Senior Citizens | Uri Orbach

Lord of the Universe, of the young and old | As minister of the seniors, if I may be so bold | I ask that you accept my prayer for the aged | although I myself am not quite at that stage yet:

May it be Your will to give all retirees a busier year | May those that suffer ill health have more cheer | Please find love for all the lonely and solitary | Let the curious learn, let those who want to party party, and those who want to work – work | And most importantly – restore honor and dignity to the golden years.

Forgive me, Almighty, if I'm a bit of a nudge | (and if the rhymes aren't perfect, please don't hold a grudge) | But a lot of free time can sometimes be too much | So make it possible for our elders to volunteer | And give of their knowledge and lend a sympathetic ear | May it be a richer year for the elderly in need | (You probably have connections that the Treasury might heed) | And may they find joy in their family and offspring | Because at this age the big things are the little things.

Our Father in Heaven, He who sits on high | Have compassion on those who aren't so spry | Forgive me if I sound a bit concerned | But running this ministry I have learned | That it's hard to take care of the elderly without a budget or protocol | All week long and on "Discount Tuesdays" most of all. | Give us the strength, when all is said and done | To understand that the world doesn't belong only to the young.

Erev Rosh Hashanah, 5775, September 2014





!שבת שלום
Shabbat Shalom!

The late Israeli Minister Uri Orbach z"l (1960-2015) conceived the Shabbat VaHadarta project as a special time every year to honor senior citizens, on the Shabbat of the Kedoshim Torah portion, in which the verse "Rise in the presence of the elderly, honor the aged" appears.