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LIFE AFTER LIFE | APR. 24, 2020

Our Way of Holding You A Brooklyn rabbi on what it's like to officiate a funeral over Zoom.

As told to Lisa Miller



LIFE AFTER LIFE

A series on the contours of grief.

Photo: saulgranda/Getty Images

Two weeks ago, Rabbi Rachel Timoner of Congregation Beth Elohim in Brooklyn, New York (where I am a member), performed her first virtual burial service. A member of her congregation had died at home of COVID-19, and because they were quarantined, his immediate family members — his wife and their two adult sons — were not able to travel to the cemetery. So Timoner went to the graveside and officiated the burial service by herself. The deceased's brother and sister-in-law were there, but 20 feet away, and the rest of the family watched over Zoom. "I was extremely moved that Rachel was willing to do this," the widow told me. "She kind of tried to make it like I was there. I think she knew that I was very troubled by

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*aid —
d of good-bye*

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TAGS: LIFE AFTER LIFE GRIEF MOURNING CORONAVIRUS MORE

2 COMMENTS

THE LATEST

2:48 P.M.

THE WEDDING FILES | **YESTERDAY AT 12:00 P.M.**

“Hordes and hordes of tourists were elbowing our family out of the way to film Tyler on the horse.”

By Kaitlin Menza

FIXATIONS | **YESTERDAY AT 10:00 A.M.**

kitchen table, alongside his pet donkey.

By Susannah Edelbaum

It frequently appears at his

YESTERDAY AT 9:27 A.M.

HOT BOD | **YESTERDAY AT 8:00 A.M.**

they don't consider it exercise.

By Maggie Lange

If it's not a competitive team sport,

6/18/2020 AT 7:19 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 6:34 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 5:59 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 5:48 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 4:48 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 4:45 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 4:38 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 3:16 P.M.

DAD WEEK | 6/18/2020 AT 3:10 P.M.

cookbook and pour-over kettle.

By The Editors

From an electric razor to a vegan

6/18/2020 AT 1:00 P.M.

6/18/2020 AT 12:33 P.M.

SPACE OF THE WEEK | 6/18/2020 AT 11:15 A.M.

Interior designer Leyden Lewis turned a dated high-rise apartment in midtown into a livable modern gallery.

By Wendy Goodman

6/18/2020 AT 11:08 A.M.

FIRST PERSON | 6/18/2020 AT 10:20 A.M.

I want to feel the peace that white people have enjoyed at my expense.

By Jennifer Neal

THEY SEEM COOL | 6/18/2020 AT 6:30 A.M.

Meet Macy Rodman.

By Devine Blacksher and Andrew Nguyen

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