

## In Memory of Jechiel Rozyner z”l



*Jechiel Rozyner z”l*

The man was not fortunate enough to see [through] the project of which he had dreamt - together with us - that would one day be realised.

He passed away before this book, in memory of our *shtetl*, was published and, on this day, when all of us commune with the pages of the book, looking for our dear ones, names and memories, we cannot pass on without remembering Jechiel.

He was a humble and modest man. He did not like to stand out in daily life or in society. He was keen on doing and not talking. He saw excessive speech as weakening actions.

During all the years, he was the driving force behind the Organisation of Žarki Jews in Israel. We have him to thank for the annual gatherings which are held year after year.

More than once, we met and discussed a tangible project to commemorate the *shtetl* and its people, its beautiful past [and] its Jews and its traditions. And when, more than once, we proposed holding a fundraiser to this end, he opposed it vehemently. “We must not just collect money, unless we have a concrete goal!”, he would say.

And now, after years of hesitation, we have been fortunate enough to achieve our goal and his. And what a shame it is that Jechiel is not with us, on this day, to make together with him the blessing: “Who has granted us life, [sustained us] and enabled us to reach this occasion.”<sup>1</sup>

**A.A.**

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<sup>1</sup> [TN: Known as the “Shehecheyanu” blessing in Jewish liturgy; a prayer recited to celebrate special occasions.]