

## An Extraordinary Man

He was married to his wife for over thirty years. He had two kids, a son and a daughter. He also had two grandchildren that he loved. This sounds like an ordinary man, but he was not ordinary he was extraordinary. I'm proud to say this extraordinary man was my grandfather.

My grandfather, Ian Levin, is the first person that comes to mind when I think of citizenship. Citizenship has to do with lawfulness and common good. He shared these characteristics with myself, the community, and the world. He knew he wanted to take a stand after reading *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, which is what I just finished reading in my language arts class. My grandfather realized at an early age that he wanted to become a lawyer and help people who were wrongfully accused and discriminated against. His whole life was dedicated to helping others. Throughout his career as a lawyer and then as a Federal Magistrate, he changed the lives of many. For example, the first thing he did after graduating law school was becoming a public defender. A public defender is a lawyer who represents a defendant in a criminal trial who is unable to afford legal help. As a public defender, he had many cases in which he helped people who were discriminated against or wrongfully accused. He also kept our country safe by covering a case that stopped a company from funding a terrorist group. Toward the end of his life, he represented families of the victims of the Holocaust in Hungary by seeking money that their family members had lost during this horrific tragedy.

This was just a small explanation of things my grandfather did to change his community, his country, and the world. Not only did he make an impact on others, but he made a lasting impression on myself. My grandfather taught me to be a good citizen and to treat others fairly and respectfully. I am inspired by his actions everyday and I too hope to one day impact hundreds of people's lives the way he did.