

From grandfather: Nana would have been delighted by the way you focused on leadership in your d'var torah. If she had seen you grow these last three and a half years, she would have given you this advice—she had advice for everyone and usually managed to deliver it nicely whether it was solicited or not. ☺ She would have encouraged you to do as her mother always said, “if you’re going to do it anyhow, you may as well be gracious about it.” Doing it graciously even when it’s really not your first choice is a hard skill and one that I know you will develop more as you move into your adult role in the community. I hope that your independence and strength of will lead you through a life where you continue to make good decisions, even when they may not be popular with others. May you be blessed with patience and understanding, with wisdom and compassion, and with the ability to treat others the way you want to be treated. I wish for you to be a person of good character: strong but not tough, gentle but not weak, righteous but not self-righteous, and honest but not unforgiving. I love you!