

an excerpt from the *book of life*



## Edgar and Julie Berner

*M*y maternal grandparents came from a *shtetl* in Romania where Grandpa Leibowitz was a farmer. He came to New York seeking freedom in 1911 and then brought his family over, one by one. Grandpa Leibowitz set the benchmark for many of my basic beliefs.

Julie's grandparents came from Hungary and Russia. Her father was a true patriarch whose gentle nature was loved by all.

It is our hope and prayer that our five children teach their children *tzedakah*, personal and social responsibility, love of our country in spite of its faults, love of learning and education, love of family and friendship, and an understanding of all the beautiful wisdom contained in the teachings of Judaism.

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