

Or Ami ONE Concert

*An Evening Celebrating
the Music, Career and Legacy of*

*Cantor
Doug Cotler*





The Singer Family
would like to thank
Cantor Doug Cotler
for his years of
dedication to our
community,
our congregation,
and to our family.
His beautiful music
will remain
in our hearts always.
With great respect
and admiration.

Kellie, Jeffrey,
Emily, Sophie & Rylee



Welcome To
Or Ami ONE Concert
An Evening of Celebration!

MARCH 26, 2022

- 5:30 Cocktails and Appetizers
- 6:00 Havdalah
- 6:30 Small Plated Gourmet Tastings
- 7:30 Auction Closes
- 8:00 Concert Celebration
of Cantor Doug Cotler's
Music, Career and Legacy
- 9:30 Dessert and Coffee Reception
Candy Bar Opens
- 10:30 Celebration Ends

Our Special Guests



MARC SUMMERS is an American television personality, comedian, game show host, producer, and talk show host. He's best known for hosting "Double Dare" for Nickelodeon and "Unwrapped" for Food Network. Marc and his wife Alice were early supporters of Cantor Doug and members of Congregation Or Ami.



JULIE SILVER is one of the most celebrated and beloved performers of contemporary Jewish music today. She tours the world, and has been engaging audiences with her gorgeous compositions and liturgical settings, her lyrical guitar playing, her dynamic stage presence, and her megawatt smile for over 25 years.



CANTOR RABBI KYLE COTLER is the eldest son of Cantor Doug and Gail. He currently serves Temple Beth Emet - The Free Synagogue in Evanston, Illinois. Kyle grew up at Congregation Or Ami and was one of the first to become a Bar Mitzvah here and is the first in our congregation to become a Cantor or Rabbi.



DR. RICHARD GILBERT is Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. He won a Grammy Award with Cantor Doug Cotler in 1984 for their song "Manhunt" which was in the movie "Flashdance." The album sold over 18 million copies and was Number 1 in over 30 countries!

A Message from our Rabbis

Thank you for coming to celebrate as Congregation Or Ami and the Caring Community Foundation honor our own Cantor Doug Cotler.

Tonight, Cantor Doug Cotler, Or Ami's founding clergy member, receives the inaugural *Ner Tamid Lifetime Achievement Award*. And what a lifetime of achievement!

All over the Jewish world, leaders recognize Cantor Doug's tremendous influence on Jewish music. Even as he leads us to *Listen* to God and reminds us that we are *standing on the shoulders* of those who came before us, Cantor Doug also challenges each of us — *sh'ma bini, shimi biti* ("listen my son, listen my daughter") — to hear the lessons of our Jewish past and present. He embeds within his music this deep Jewish wisdom; he uplifts his encounters with others with kindness, compassion, and strength.

Because of Cantor Doug, thousands of Jewish individuals and families carry our sacred teachings in their hearts and souls. Tonight, he takes another step toward retirement. Tonight his legacy will be embedded that much more deeply in our congregation and the larger community.

We thank our event chairs Deanna Glassberg and Jessica Nedick, their volunteers, and all our donors. You help sustain this sacred community to ensure the continuation of Cantor Doug's profoundly inspirational legacy.

Congregation Or Ami continues to grow and continues to be warm and welcoming. We are proud that Congregation Or Ami is a sanctuary of kindness, a safe Jewish community for today, your second home.

Mazel tov to our Cantor Doug Cotler and to our whole community for reaching this *simcha*. As your partners in prayer, we cherish how you make being on the bimah so much fun! We can't wait to welcome you back as Cantor Emeritus.

We will miss you! And we love you!

Rabbi Paul Kipnes Rabbi Julia Weisz

Thank You to Our Or Ami ONE Concert Sponsors

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Ike and Brooke Praw

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Harry and Judy Friedman

INSTRUMENTALIST SPONSOR

Hugh and Lisa Roberts

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Scott and Heidi Friedman

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Ike and Brooke Praw

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Eddie Franklin z"l

Susan Guldbeck

Paul and Lucille Goldin

Heidi Padveen

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Brad and Beth Cohan

Marc and Erin Mayer

Paul and Rachel Dashevsky

Jared and Rachel Paul

Seth and Michelle Finkelstein

Mark and April Powers

Peter and Lesli Kraut

Alan Lazar and Gustavo Ruiz

Steve and Susan Lotwin

Acknowledgements

EVENT PRODUCERS

Deanna Glassberg
Jessica Nedick

AUCTION COMMITTEE

Laurie Keleman
Marla Landis
Brooke Praw

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY

Michael Kaplan
Jason Segal

OR AMI STAFF

Lisette Tuohy
Icela Alcala
Andrew Fromer
Rabbinic Intern Mira Weller
Rabbinic-Education Resident Shirah Kraus
Rabbinic Intern Max Antman

CLERGY

Rabbi Paul Kipnes
Cantor Doug Cotler
Rabbi Julia Weisz

Video Participants

OR AMI EARLY YEARS:

Laurie Tragen-Boykoff
Terry Boykoff
Olivia Cohen-Cutler
Diane Townsend
Jonathon Wolfson
Stephanie Wolfson

CANTOR DOUG'S LEGACY:

Rabbi Daniel Freeland
Judy Caplan Ginsburgh
Rabbi Elliott Kleinman
Josh Nelson
Cantor Beth Schafer
Julie Silver

YOUTH VOCALISTS:

Cassidy May Benullo
Eden Bookman
Bella Echols
Lisa Friedman
Sam Gross
Anna Hiskey
Leah Kelly
Rachel Kelly
Annie Reznik
Rachel Sands
Sarah Steinhauer
Jacqueline Wu

HINEINI "HERE I AM"

WORDS AND MUSIC BY RICK RECHT

Rich Abrams
Bettie Ross Blumer
Linda Blumenthal
Sheryl Braunstein
Jill Citron
Cantor Doug Cotler
Pam Dyne
Susan Frankel
Jeff Frankel
Steve Greenberg
Donna Hennes
Rabbi Paul Kipnes
Jared Kliger
Carol Lieberstein
Elissa Linick
Lawrence Linick
Yvonne Meyer
Ken Newson
Kevin Palm
Scott Pucker
Talee Sands

MUSICIANS:

Joey Brasler - Electric Guitar
Lindsay Deutsch - Violin
Darryl Lieberstein - Bass
Aaron Meyer - Piano
Ken Meyer - Drums
Scott Rabin - Guitar

President's Welcome

Thank you to everyone who helped make this special event possible. Our annual Or Ami ONE event allows our amazing Or Ami community to continue our mission of providing much needed care and services within our community, country, and around the world. Now more than ever, our mission of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world, calls out to all of us. Or Ami ONE helps us answer that call.

We would like to offer a special heartfelt thank you to our co-chairs, Deanna Glassberg and Jessica Nedick, for making this special night a reality. Their professional skills and expertise, combined with their love and passion for Or Ami, have brought us to this special night.

Why is this night different from all other nights? Because on this night, we honor the founder of Congregation Or Ami, our beloved Cantor Doug Cotler. He dared to take his vision of bringing together a Jewish community not just with prayer but with music. Not just any music, but his own blend of Jewish-spiritual, rock n' roll, and blues. Needless to say, it was a hit! While tonight may be bittersweet as we celebrate Cantor Doug's retirement, it is a celebration!

We will carry on and honor Cantor Doug's vision by continuing to embrace the "music" of our Or Ami community and by welcoming him back from time to time as Cantor Emeritus. It is with great pride that we carry on Cantor Doug's special and unique legacy. As Cantor Doug honored his musical heroes, Bob Dylan, among many others, by bringing their songs into Or Ami's life, we will continue to "stand on Cantor Doug's shoulders" to do the same.

L' Shalom,

Craig Steinhauer
President

Congregation Or Ami Officers and Board Members

Craig Steinhauer, President

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Karin Pofsky, Vice President

Richard Rutkin, Vice President

Sharon Weiss, Vice President

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Lesli Kraut, Immediate Past President

Rachel Dashevsky, Advisor to President

Michael Kaplan, Advisor to President

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Dan Germain

Sid Goldberg

Marla Landis

Alan Lazar

Susan Lotwin

Erin Mayer

Kevin Palm

Debby Pattiz

Rachel Paul

April Powers



**In a world of increasing brokenness and isolation,
the Caring Community Foundation strives to
create community by reaching out and supporting
the most vulnerable among us.**

By lifting up others, we lift ourselves up too.

**The Caring Community Foundation is an independent
non-profit foundation dedicated**

*The Caring Community Foundation is an independent
non-profit foundation dedicated to repairing the world
with particular focus on:*

- Sustaining people with special needs and their families
- Strengthening individuals and families struggling with and recovering from illness
- Strengthening the connections with Israel
- Combatting Anti-Semitism
- Supporting people in recovery from addictions
- Mentoring at-risk youth
- Alleviating homelessness and hunger
- Creating community in an isolating world

Thank You to Our Generous Auction Donors

Andrew Fromer	Michelle November
Art's Delicatessen & Restaurant	Michelle Schapiro
Boccaccio's	Mitch and Gayle Plessner
Calabasas Country Club	Mitch and Jessica Nedick
Camp JCA Shalom	Moorpark Country Club
Camp Kinneret	Mountain Gate Country Club
Carrie and Matt Slatoff	Natalie Backman Yoga
Cheesecake Factory	Nederlander
Congregation Or Ami	Orange Twist
Corepower Yoga	Pacific Park
Diane Townsend	Petersen Automotive Museum
Donna Hennes	Powers Family
Doreen and John DeRoy	Rabbi Julia Weisz
Eitan Ginsburg	Rabbi Paul Kipnes
Faculty Inc.	Richard Shamban
Fred and Susie Gruber	Sharon Bishop
Gary West Productions	Sit 'n Sleep
Howard and Joseph Rodgers	Susie and Allan Stark
In-N-Out Burger	The Hideaway Wine Co.
Jon and Stephanie Wolfson	The Landing
LA Exposures Photography	Westlake Golf Course



Best Wishes Cantor Doug on a
well deserved retirement.

Enjoy!!

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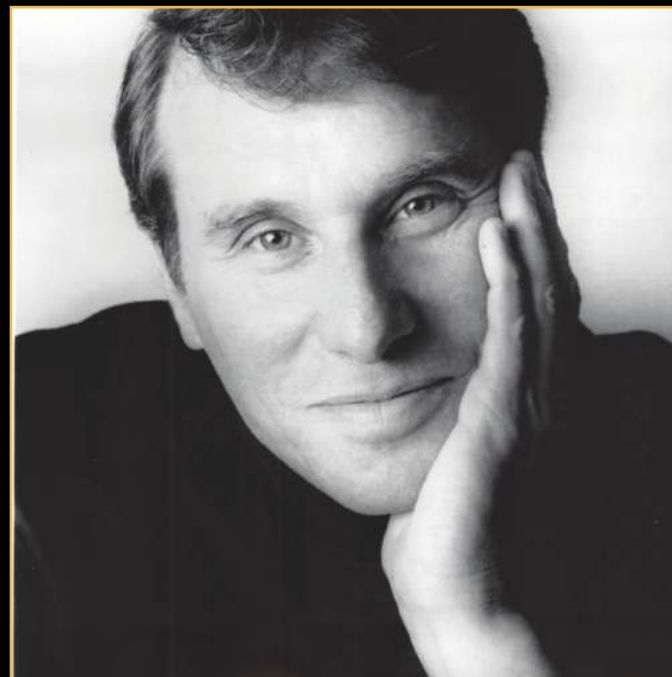
Photography and Video for all your event needs

HONORING

*Cantor
Doug Cotler*

RECIPIENT OF THE

*Ner Tamid
Lifetime Achievement Award*



Tribute from Cantor Doug's wife, Gail Pettler



*This is a bittersweet moment for me,
As my husband embarks on his retirement from Congregation Or Ami.*

*On the one hand I am so proud of my husband:
So many meaningful ritual moments and all the beautiful music.
He has raised you up when you were sad or lost
And he has laughed and sung with you when you rejoiced.*

*I love him with all my heart,
But now that he will no longer be working at Or Ami,
He will have more free time to be at home with me.
And he is going to drive me crazy.
So please, I am begging you, don't let him retire.
Please for the love of God
Give him something to do, so he is not hanging around the house all day.
Lord have mercy! Whatever am I going to do?*



Dear Cantor Cotler 3.0,

For the last three and a half decades, you've celebrated my victories and expressed your pride in my accomplishments. The tables have turned and now I get to *shepp nachas*. You won a Grammy, founded one of the fastest growing and most decorated synagogues in the country, innovated the Biennial music program, and wrote scores of liturgical pieces sung throughout the country. But perhaps your greatest achievements were the people you touched along the way; myself included. Were it not for you, countless cantors, rabbis, musicians, and educators may have taken drastically different directions in their lives. You were a mentor and inspiration, selflessly giving your sagacious words and sharing your life experience for the benefit of others. What a magnificent gift. You have passed the torch *midor l'dor*, from generation to generation, so the future of our people could shine incandescently. Thank you for being my dad, friend, mentor, colleague, and role model.

I love you and I am so proud of you.

Cantor Cotler 4.0



P.S. Can you ask mom if it's okay for me to stay up past my bedtime tonight?





I salute my father on his momentous retirement.

Well-earned and well-deserved.

I am grateful for the gifts you have given me:

Life, Love, Curiosity, and Music.

You taught me to swim, to ride, to be fair, to dialogue.

You showed me how to listen and to learn.

We, the audience, all loved and shared your music.

With your inspiring music, I have traveled

And met pivotal teachers and friends.

As I begin my sojourn as a father,

I hold you close as I hold my children closer.

I cherish our family bond as I stand on your shoulders

And perhaps I may see a little further.

Noah Cotler



Doug,



As you are providing the soundtrack to our spiritual journeys, you pause, laugh, and lightly let us know that something different is about to descend into our sanctuary. Perhaps it's an amazing new song, maybe a joke that comes right up to the edge of appropriate. Sometimes it's a comment that encapsulates the experience of holding onto Jewish

values in this jumbled world. Always, it is you making us think and feel, worry less and wonder more.

Unless it's just a comment that gets Paul and you kibitzing on the bimah in contradistinction to the meticulously organized order of service. Then we crack up... enjoying our own private moment while others are looking on.



Thank you for jumping into Paul's high holy day sermon to tell an unexpected yet spot on story. And for changing up a Shabbat plan to perfectly project hope and possibility right when we need it.

Thank you for making Paul's experience of being clergy in this once-new shul seem a spectacular gift from above.

And thank you for guiding our family through BMitzvah celebrations and painful losses, through the ups and downs of parenting and the wonder of finding God on a beach.

May you be blessed on your journey ahead. We will miss the day to day!

Love, Paul and Michelle



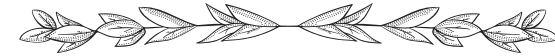


To “Uncle” Doug,

Your music has been
a part of our lives since
before most of us were born!
Thank you for the gardening tips,
the guitar lessons,
the socially-distanced visits,
and of course, all the singing.
You rock hard,
and we will miss you!

Love,

Julia, David,
Noam, Maddie, Eve and Pitzi

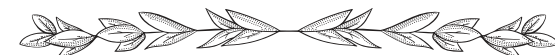


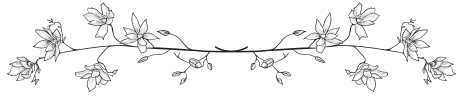
*Thank you, Cantor Doug, for helping us raise
our family Jewishly, and for giving us music to connect
with Or Ami and find our Jewish way in the world.
More than anything, we will miss hearing you
sing “Listen.” Among the gifts we cherish the
most is your embodiment of the balance between
silly and serious, humorous and holy,
mensch-ical and musical. The special pride and
pleasure shining in your eyes when other musicians—
young and old—take center stage to lift up
our congregation is sacred.*



We love you!

*The Pattiz Family
Debby & Davidson, Dani & Josh*





We have been big fans of Cantor Doug since day 1 of joining Or Ami! Not only does he have a wonderful voice and amazing skills as a composer but he also shares his incredible warmth and spirituality to all who surround him. One of our favorite memories is when he led a group hike on Shabbat and stopped in various natural settings to sing songs. Very simple but truly heartwarming!

He will be very missed!

With Affection,
Steven and Jessie Galson



*A lot more to do – a lot more to see.
Can't wait to be a part of this journey!*



*Mazel tov!!!
Love, Fred and Susie*





Congratulations Cantor Doug!

I am so happy you are being honored tonight! Kudos to you and your life's work and dedication that has personally brought so much to me and my family.

Eddie and I became partners at Congregation Or Ami in 2018. We immediately participated in the Cuba Trip with Rabbi Paul and Michelle and because we enjoyed that trip so much, when the opportunity came available to go to Israel we jumped on it. We were so excited that you and Gail and Rabbi Paul and Michelle were joining us on that trip. What a fantastic and amazing time we had! The bus rides were especially fun with you and Rabbi Paul bantering back and forth with all your jokes, stories, and voice changes that were hysterical and kept us laughing. Thank you for those wonderful memories!

At services we looked forward to and so enjoyed your songs and your singing. I participated in the Adult B'nai Mitzvah class which started off in person and ended with our Zoom ceremony in December 2020. Thank you for all your help with my prayer Shalom Rav. Your advice and working with you I so appreciated and you made our Zoom B'nai Mitzvah so wonderful and memorable. I will cherish that forever.

Thank you for your participation with your beautiful songs that you sang at Eddie's funeral just 3 weeks ago. I know that Eddie must have been enjoying hearing your voice and your songs, as he always did, and it brought such comfort to my children, Alexandra and Matthew, and myself. I will miss you as our Cantor and will miss your larger than life persona. Thank you for always lifting our hearts and souls. Mazel tov and enjoy retirement!

All my best,

Love, Lynn Franklin



*SINCE WE MET IN 1993
YOU HAVE BEEN
OUR JEWISH ROCK STAR,
SPIRITUAL GUIDE, AND FRIEND.*

*Good luck and Godspeed Doug Cotler
on the next part of your incredible journey.*

*With love and gratitude,
Olivia & Andy Cohen-Cutler*





Dear Cantor Doug,

*Thank you for so many years of service
to our temple and community.*

We will miss your beautiful and soulful music.

*We wish that your retirement will continue
to bring you much health, happiness,
love, and joyful music.*

Mazel Tov!

Faye and Gary Waldman



Dear Cantor Doug,

We're so grateful for the many times
your warm voice, inspirational music, and
delightful sense of humor brought us joy
and comfort, and lifted our spirits.

The very first time we attended Congregation
Or Ami services we knew this was a synagogue
like no other. We quickly realized this was
indeed the warm and welcoming community
we had always hoped for.

Having the privilege of working with you
"behind the scenes" producing High Holy Day
services these past two years has further
increased our appreciation for
your artistry and dedication.

With great affection,

Judy and Harry Friedman





Cantor Doug,

*Mazel Tov on your well-deserved retirement
and for being recognized with
The Ner Tamid Lifetime Achievement Award!*

*Like an Eternal Light, year after year
you light up our lives, sharing your
knowledge, music, stories, and wisdom.*

*Thank you for your leadership, mentorship
and friendship, and for your beautiful songs
that live in our hearts for eternity.*

*We wish you joy, health, and happiness as you
embark on the next exciting chapter of your life!*

All our love to you, Gail, and the family,

*Heidi, Scott, Lisa & Joshua
Friedman*



And the award goes to...



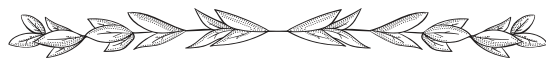
CANTOR DOUG

*You truly brought inspirational
music to our souls*

Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement.
We will certainly miss your music, wit, and personality.
And now we look forward to you being Doug.



*With all our love and admiration,
Ike and Brooke Praw*



"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything." — Plato

Cantor Doug,

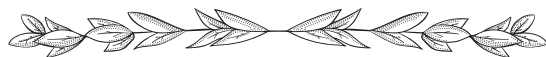
As we will always stand on your shoulders and promise to listen, we wish you the very best on your retirement and look forward to seeing more of "Doug"!

Thank you for always touching our souls and spirits.



Love,

*Bonnie, Dan, Laurie, Steve, Shelly, Gary,
Brooke, Ike, Marla and Stephen*



Doug,

Your talents are numerous!

You are a song-writer and musician extraordinaire.

But what always impacts me is your way with parody.

When you spin Jewish culture and religion into melodies and songs we already know, I feel connected to Judaism and the synagogue in a way that provides warmth and clarity. I love the fact that

you let people know you on a personal level and that you get to know them. You have gone out of your way to find talent within our temple and to showcase them.

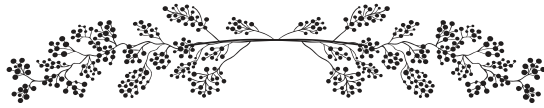
Your talent, hard work, and generosity are a rarity.

We'll miss you,

Love,

Nina and Jerry Treiman





The Keleman Family Celebrates Cantor Doug

This honor is well-deserved.

Your creativity, talent, and wonderful
charm are uncompromising.

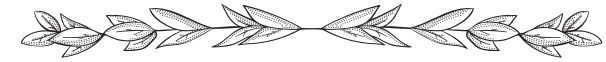
We've followed you from place to place
and enjoyed traveling with you and all your voices.

You chanted with passion and compassion
at our services and at B'nai Mitzvah for our
children Kerri and Adam, and Laurie.

Looking forward to the next chapter for Doug.

Love,

**Laurie, Steve,
Kerri, Brian, Adam, Sydney, and Ryland**



Cantor Doug,

*From our first Shabbat service,
when you called us to worship,
your music has inspired and
touched our hearts,*

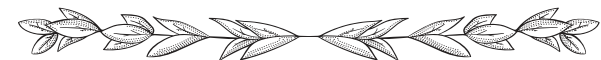
drawing us to The Holy One.

*Your warmth, humor, and concerns
for the needs of all the congregants
have impacted all of us.*

*We are so grateful for your friendship
and all you've meant to Or Ami.*

Blessings on you, Gail, and your family

Lisa and Hugh Roberts





Cantor Doug,

*Through your voice, your words and your music,
you have left a lasting impression on our family.*

We have fond memories of our time spent with you before the girls' B'not Mitzvah when you invited us to your home. Thank you for sharing your songs and stories with us; it meant more than you know. You will be greatly missed, but your inspiration lives on in your kindness, your generosity, and especially your music.

Mazel tov on receiving the
Ner Tamid Lifetime Achievement Award.



Fondly,
The Groff Family
Robbie, Jodi, Estee & Marlie



Constantly singing
Always warm and welcoming
No one else like you
Top of the top
Original
Really the absolute best

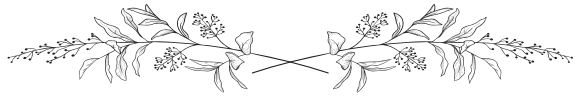
Dear friend to so many
Out of this world music
Unbelievably wonderful
Gosh we are going to miss you!

From A to Z, from ages 1 to 110, from Genesis to Deuteronomy, there is no one else like you!

Thank you for always being you and for the many wonderful moments and memories you have given us!

Lots of Love from,

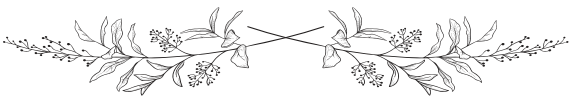
Beth, Brad, Avery, and Paige Cohan
Rachel, Paul, Jordan, and Nathan Dashevsky
Seth, Michelle, and Hannah Finkelstein
Peter, Lesli, Andrew, and Rachel Kraut
Susan and Steve Lotwin
Erin, Marc, Colin, and Noah Mayer
Jared and Rachel Paul
Mark and April Powers
Alan Lazar, Gustavo Ruiz, Mia and Viviana Ruiz-Lazar



DOUG,

WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED BY YOU
CREATING & GUIDING COA.
YOUR SUPERB MUSICIANSHIP
HAS BEEN A SHINING STAR
FOR US ALL &
OTHER TEMPLES NATIONWIDE.
WE LOVE YOU!

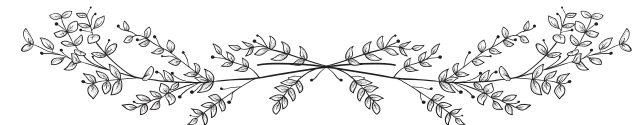
SARINA & ALAN KAYE



Congratulations Doug
on such a successful career.
Thank you for being
such an important part of
our family over the years.

Enjoy your retirement.

The Entins, Entins, Schers,
Litwins, and AV Masters





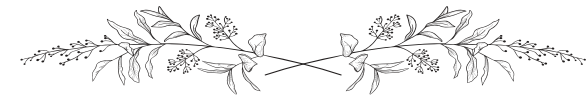
Cantor Doug,

It was an honor
working with you for over 20 years.
You brought joy, humor, love,
and beautiful music into my
classrooms. Thank you for making
so many wonderful memories for
my students and for me.

With appreciation, respect, and love,

Miss Patti

**Dennis also sends his best wishes
for a wonderful retirement.*



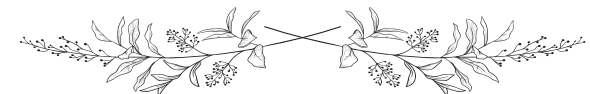
Cantor Doug,

*Thank you for filling our lives
with beautiful music, uplifting hymns,
and meaningful moments.*

*We wish you much happiness as you
begin the next chapter in your life.*

Love to you and Gail,

Jodi and Joe Miller



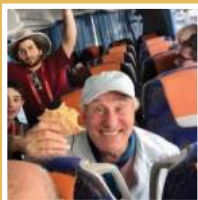
Congratulations

You will be missed on the Bimah, but the beauty of your musical legacy will continue.

We have been lucky to call you and Gail "friends" for over three decades.

We've watched Kyle and Noah grow into amazing, accomplished men that are a blessing to both of you.

For the many multi-generational Jewish milestones of our family's journey, you have been there.



Doug, on your much-deserved and long-awaited retirement.

And, when that journey took a dark turn, you were there, with your guitar, music, and menschkeit, to lift us up.

For this and so much more, we say, "Thank You!" To you, dear Dougy, we know THE BEST IS YET TO COME.

We love you,

— The Altmans

*Robyn, Michael, Lindsay, Tony, Alexa,
Matthew, Jessica, Asher, Devyn,
William, Ryder, and Beau*





Thank you for your gift of song.
Your music has lifted our souls.
Your smile has touched our hearts.
Congratulations on your retirement.
We wish you and Gail a symphony of
great times and laughter.
We will miss you.

Catherine and Robert Rosenthal



THANK YOU
FOR ALL
THE JOY AND CELEBRATION
YOU HAVE BROUGHT
TO OUR LIVES.



MIKE AND ALEXANDER
WERNER RESNICK



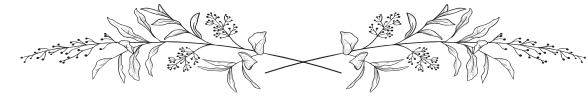


Dear Cantor Doug,



*Thank you for making
the first 15 years of our
Or Ami experience
life-changing!*

*We love you,
The Blumenthal / Kelly Family*



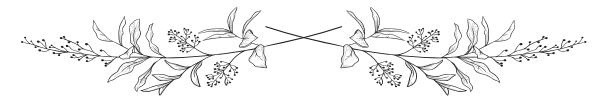
Dearest Cantor Doug,

*You are truly a light that
continues to shine through your music.*

*We thank you for your spiritual
inspiration and wish you the very best
today and always.*

With love and gratitude,

Marcia and Jim Brammer





Cantor Doug,

You are an inspiration to all.

Your songs will live on in our hearts.

Thanks for your devotion to Or Ami.

Lynn Klinenberg



Doug

You have helped us all
STAND
ON THE SHOULDERS
of those who came before
and as a result
we can see even further.
Thanks for helping us
LISTEN.

Rabbi Steven Stark Lowenstein

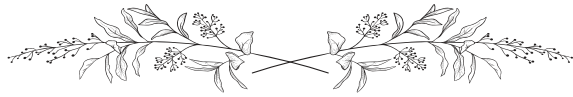
Rabbi Pam Mandel

Rabbi Phyllis Sommer

Cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz

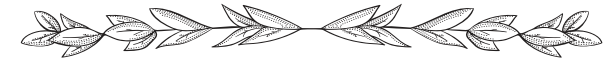
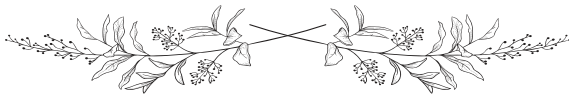
Cantor Julie Staple





Thank you
for sharing with us
your soulful melodies
and
your melodic soul.

Rabbi Leah Kroll
Dr. Michael Zeldin
Dr. Terry Gock



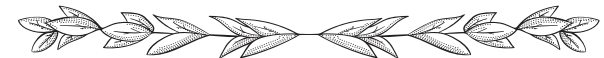
Cantor Doug,

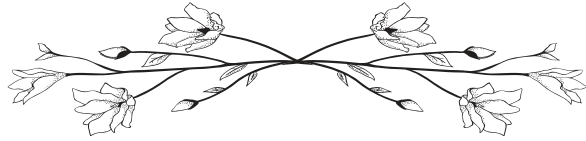
We are extremely grateful to you for your years of service to Congregation Or Ami. You have been instrumental in making the temple the warm and inviting place that it is, and have enriched our lives tremendously over the years. We appreciate your talents and never cease to be amazed by your ability to create original music.

We feel very fortunate to have been able to travel with you to Europe. We enjoyed sharing experiences and laughter on our trips and your music deepened and enriched our sightseeing experiences. I, Dick, immensely enjoyed the one-on-one lunch conversations we had about our formative years and how we arrived at where we are today. You have been a very important part of our life cycle events during our time at Or Ami. Your officiation at our Zoom wedding was very meaningful and endearing to us.

We will be very sad to see you go. It will be very difficult to go to services, especially at the High Holy Days, without your being there to welcome us. We will miss our loving, caring and compassionate Cantor who has enriched our lives with your beautiful music.

Lovingly, Carol and Dick Chamow

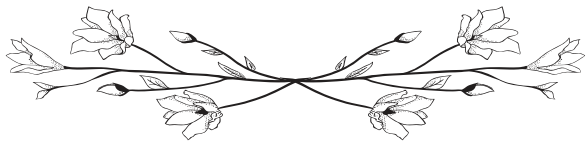




Cantor Doug

Your music is so inspiring. It was through your music that I became attached to the Torah and Jewish culture. It was your music that kindled my love for Congregation Or Ami. It is your music that always gets me through the difficult days. You have certainly made a difference in our Jewish community and in the world. The good that you share has brightened all our days, makes the world a much better place, and will continue to do so for many generations to come. My parents and I wish only the best for you and your family as you begin the next chapter of your journey.

Brandon Kaplan & Family



Dear Cantor Doug,

Singing with you has been the greatest joy of our lives. Your music is an inspiration to us all. We wish you a glorious retirement.

With much love from the Or Ami Chorale,

Rich Abrams	Linda Blumenthal (Choir Mom)
Sheryl Braunstein	Toby Caplan-Stonefield
Jill Citron	Fariba Cooper
Debbie Cutter	Pam Dyne
Donna Hennes	Susan Frankel
Steve Goldstein	Steve Greenberg
Carol Lieberstein	Darryl Lieberstein
Elissa Linick	Lawrence Linick
Ken Meyer	Yvonne Meyer
Ken Newson	Kevin Palm
Scott Pucker	Cathie Rutkin
Talee Sands	Richard Slavett
Stacy Tillis	Debra Tobias





Listen!

Thank You God for our wonderful Cantor Doug and your countless contributions to Congregation Or Ami. Even if we said **Help Me Rabbi**, we couldn't possibly put into words how much we will miss having you in our daily lives. Of all **The Things God Gives**, we are so thankful for the impact you've had on all of us, from our tiniest babies to our most beloved great grandparents. **It's So Amazing** that one person can improve the lives of so many. So even if we find ourselves **Wasting Away in Manischewitzville** while trying to **Be True To Your Shul** after you're gone, we will cherish your music always. Moving forward at Or Ami, we will always be **Standing on the Shoulders** of the foundation you've built for us.

With best wishes for a happy healthy retirement,

The Congregation Or Ami Book Group

Robin Feldman	Jessica Nedick
Cydney Fox	Janice Orlowski
Lynn Franklin	Lisy Schwartz
Carol Hanson	Carrie Slatoff
Erin Mayer	Wendy Spears
Cynthia Moss	Lori Waldman



Thank you for inspiring, motivating, and entertaining us. You always capture the spirit of Or Ami Village. We especially love the programs you produce and present for us. They are an incredible joy for us all.

And now with your retirement, you'll have even more time to spend with us! With great appreciation, gratitude, and love ...

Terry & Rich Abrams	Peter & Lesli Kraut
Starr Barnbaum	Rabbi Beth Lieberman
Joey & Liz Brasler	& Steve Landau
Jill Citron	Steve Goldstein & Suzanne
Nancy Cole	Levenson-Goldstein
Robin Feldman	Laurie & Mike Marmor
Cydney & Joel Fox	Shirley Newman
Judy & Harry Friedman	Ken & Linda Newson
Shelly & Gary Gluck	Murray November
Sid & Sharon Goldberg	Janice & Yaakov (Jan) Orlowski
Curt Gorlick & Terri Novak	Ike & Brooke Praw
Susan & Fred Granich	Lisa & Hugh Roberts
Howard Weithorn &	Jill & Mark Shear
Lynn Ingber-Weithorn	Bonnie & Ross Somers
Lyn & Alan Kabakoff	Gil & Marilyn Spiegel
Patti & Jeff Kaminski	Ellen Weisman
Susanne Klein	


55 and Better. **Together.**

Dear Cantor Doug,

We have been truly blessed and moved
by your dedication, stories, creativity,
and inspiring music and lyrics.
You are a gift not only to all of us at Or Ami,
but to so many people worldwide.
You light up a room with your presence.
May your retirement be just as wonderful
as your working career.
We wish you good health,
and all the exciting things life has to offer.

With much love,

Curt Gorlick and Terri Novak Myron and Nancy Dembo

Dear Cantor Doug,

*It is with deep gratitude that I thank you
for the many years of beautiful
& inspirational music.*

Mazel tov!

Shirley Newman

Congratulations Cantor Doug on your well deserved retirement!

Our family has shared many special times
with you as our friend and our spiritual leader.
From Bay Laurel to Mureau Road, we've seen
lots of changes and having you there made it both
meaningful and fun. Now it's time to.....
"LISTEN"..... to your friends and family
and enjoy some restful time off.

Love the Kaplans

Caryl, Gary, Jordan, Michael, Alyssa

Thank you for your
many years of soulful and
inspirational music that has
touched the hearts of so many.

Diana Barnes

For all that you do tirelessly,
for all that you share generously,
and for all that we have been blessed
with having shared these years with you.....
We thank you and wish you continued joy
in the next rich chapter of your life.

With love,
Allison and Randy Levine

*Cantor Doug,
Congratulations on your retirement.
Enjoy. We cannot thank you enough for
all your hard work and dedication.
We don't know how we all would have
made it through our years at Or Ami without
your never ending support, kind words,
and loving music.*

The Wiviott Family

Dear Doug,
Your kindness, talent, and beautiful voice is
a gift to us all. We were so happy and honored to have
you as our spiritual leader for so many years.
May your new journey be a beautiful one.

With Love,
Sandee & Joel Greene and Donna & Jeff Hennes

*Dear Cantor Doug,
Thank you for being so gracious and welcoming
to us when we joined the synagogue just a few years ago.
When I told you I wanted to be in the choir, and
you immediately welcomed me with your warmth
and enthusiasm, I knew we had found our new home.
Best wishes to you and your family on your retirement.*

*Much love and respect,
Pam and Barry Dyne*

Doug,
Your music brings life to
American Judaism.
What a great treat it was for me
to share the pulpit with you
for Or Ami's start-up years.
I'll never forget!

Rabbi Jerry Goldstein

Thank you for all the years of
love, warmth, caring, and music
you have given us.
Here's to a bright, exciting
future filled with many new adventures.

With love,
Joyce Barkin,
Harris and Judy Steinberg



*"In the high spheres there are
temples which may be opened
only with song"*

– Shneur Zalman of Liadi

Cantor Doug –

Thank you for opening those
temples for me, for my family,
for our congregation, and for
every person who has had the
privilege of hearing your music.
We wish you the best of
everything in your retirement!

Scott and Gaynor Rabin
and Family



*With many thanks for 22 wonderful years of
playing piano, drumming, and singing with you!*

We wish you all the joys of retirement!

Mazel Tov!

Ken, Yvonne, and Aaron Meyer

Temple Isaiah takes great pride in being the place that Cantor Doug Cotler got his start. Kol Hakavod on the occasion of receiving the Ner Tamid "Eternal Light" Lifetime Achievement Award. Indeed, we stand on your shoulders carrying on the legacy that your father began and that you carried forward.



Temple Isaiah, Lafayette, CA

Rabbi Jill Perlman

Cantor Leigh Korn

Rabbi Alissa Miller

Rabbi Nicki Greninger

Dear Cantor Doug,

You have been a blessing in our lives.
Thank you for moving us with your music,
bringing generations of our family together
in song and prayer. Thank you for sharing
your warmth, kindness, and humor.
We will miss you!

With love,
David, Jeni, Kayla, and Isabelle Stone

Music, beautiful music!
Uplifting, soulful, and even silly.
Cantor Doug, when you sing, the world just seems right!
For 20+ years, we have shared
simchas and sadness with you,
and your counsel has always been a comfort.
Your retirement will truly be bittersweet.
Cantor Doug, we wish you all good things.
We will always carry your tunes in our hearts.

With love and gratitude,
Clark, Marcy, Jessa, and Ethan
Cameron

Mazel Tov Cantor Doug Cotler,
for your leadership and soulful musical ability over
the many years at Or Ami and all over the Jewish world.
For many years, you have lifted my soul through your spirit,
humor, and skills on the piano and guitar. Your devotion
to the Jewish people has inspired me and helped me
become the rabbi I am. Abby and I send our love
and blessings in the next chapter ahead.

With love,
Jonathan and Abby Fisch

Doug,

Thank you for all your great music
and spiritual guidance over the years!
Wishing you the best in your retirement.

Love,

The Miller Family
Lisa, Tony, Austin, Noah, and Alec

Cantor Doug:

*You have redefined what it means to be a cantor.
Your passion, sense of humor, and song writing
brilliance will never be duplicated.
You will be sorely missed, but fondly
remembered every time we sing your creations.
May you live long and prosper.*

Terry and Rich Abrams

*When we were looking for a shul
In Calabasas we felt the pull*

*At our first service, as Listen was sung
we both were surprised to find tears and began to cry
We knew then we'd stay for more than a quick try*

*Thank you Cantor Doug for your spirituality
and humor you have brought.*

We will miss you.

Jill and Mark Shear

Cantor Doug,

Thank you for bringing the love of music into our Or Ami community! You not only brought inspiration and love to a Jewish community, you brought "cool" with your blend of rock n' roll and blues. Your unique style allowed everyone to engage in Jewish teachings in a new way. Where in the past, temple congregants were just the "audience", you brought the congregants to the bimah by allowing everyone to participate. You taught us that while the teachings of Torah are very deep and serious lessons, they can be taught in fun ways.

Thank you for planting the seeds of Or Ami and for nurturing our amazing Jewish community all these years to help it grow. We promise to honor and continue your legacy for generations to come.

With Love,

The Steinhauer Family: Craig, Tracy, Alex, and Sarah

The Marvelous Cantor Doug Cotler

Cantor Doug, the Pied Piper of Congregation Or Ami
We sing, we kvell with your beautiful words and melody
Our spirits are lifted with the sound of your voice
You know that you touch us so deeply in song as we chant and rejoice
We'll miss you, we'll remember, and sing all of your prayers
For the Congregants at Or Ami, it's Cantor Doug extraordinaire

When we listen to God, we'll think of you
Those remarkable words are a reflection so true
Standing on the Shoulders of the Ones who came before Me
That's our Cantor Doug singing and inspiring everyone you see
We'll miss you, we'll remember, and sing all of your prayers
For the Congregants at Or Ami, it's Cantor Doug extraordinaire

**Paul and Lucille Goldin
Eddie Franklin z"l and Susie Guldbeck
Heidi Padveen**

FAREWELL CANTOR DOUG COTLER

Cantor Doug fills our Or Ami synagogue with joy. It starts with his wide smile and warm hug ushering us to enter the Synagogue and guiding us to feel "You're Home." He is the keeper of the rhythm of our gathering making sure the service starts on time: "That's how we roll at Or Ami." With his rich voice, his sweet piano, his rhythmic guitar, his distinctive harmonica, his music fills our Temple with beautiful melodies that transport our worship to a higher plane. I love to sneak into the Sanctuary before services and watch him teaching and mentoring Or Ami's talented youth musicians. During services, he calms their jitters and guides their impressive musical performances. His wonderful sense of humor is on display as when during one service the only song he performed was different versions of Mi Chamocha and at Chanukah wearing his "Latka Man" Jacket. Cantor Doug Cotler sings me a sweet lullaby every night as I go to sleep listening on YouTube Music to his stirring version of "Grateful" performed at Rosh Hashanah 2018. Followed by his original song that is sung at every Or Ami Service, the life guiding song "Listen." We will miss him beyond belief.

— Carol Anne Smart & Lyn Edward Schafer

Doug,

I join with clergy in Los Angeles in
saluting you for a lifetime of dedication
to the Jewish Community.
Your music inspires so many
and enriches our lives.

Yashar Koach, Rabbi Ron Stern

*We will Listen to our Hearts
and Stand on the Shoulders of the Ones
who Came Before Us...always and because
your beautiful lyrics have taught, inspired,
and helped us feel holiness to this day.*

*Thank you Cantor Doug and
Mazel Tov on your retirement.*

The Greenman Family



Cantor Doug,
Mazel Tov on your Ner Tamid Lifetime Achievement Award. You definitely deserve it!

I have been so lucky and honored to be able to work with you for 33 years!!

Thank you for always being there with guidance and wisdom. I greatly value our friendship!!

I will miss you so much, but I know that your retirement will be a great next chapter in your life with your wonderful family.

Much love, Diane

Cantor Cotler,

You have lifted the spirits of your congregation for decades as one of the “sweet singers of Israel.” The music has come from your heart, deep into our souls, and we thank you for sharing your gifts with all of us. We will continue to hear and feel your melodies for years to come. Mazel Tov on this honor.

We share in your joy!

Your Friends at Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills

Congratulations Cousin Doug!!



*Always loving you,
Emma, Deb, Barry & Renee xo*

To us, you have always been “Cantor Doug” — soulful, inspiring and very-very funny. But it turns out there is so much more to the man, Doug Cotler.

We are fortunate to have spent these past months getting to know you, working alongside you, and being inspired by the stories we’ve heard from so many of the people whose lives you have touched.

Happy Retirement...you’ve earned it!

The Gala Girls

Dear Cantor Doug,

*Thank you for the gift of your gorgeous music
and voice, your wonderful sense of humor, and your
honesty and encouragement. Thank you for being there for
us through sorrow and joy, and for being a guiding light
for all of us at Or Ami all through the years.*

Sheryl Braunstein & Jared Kliger

Doug,

*You have always been a friend, a colleague and, at times,
a humorous influence that has helped Heidi and me walk
rhythmically and harmoniously down our life's path together.
We continue to share Doug-isms in our daily conversations.
We hope that you, Gail, Kyle, Noah, and your extended
family will be able to continue to walk your path with a
never-ending song as a harmonious tribute to yesterday,
today and tomorrow.*

Cantor Rabbi Ron and Heidi Eichaker

When some big macher
says his shul is great,
We tell him right away, ain't you
heard of COA, its #1 in the state!
And one of the reasons for that
is Cantor Doug.
Your songs, your writing,
your music touches our souls.
Your knowledge is endless;
your wisdom profound.
Our love for you is immeasurable,
Our respect for you immense.
Thank you Cantor Doug for all that
you've brought to the temple
and to our family.

Love, Helene and Andy Baker

Dear Cantor Doug,

Thank you for inspiring Rachel
with your beautiful music
and giving her amazing
opportunities to sing at temple
for the past 6 years!
You have been an amazing
musical mentor and will always
be remembered and cherished!
Wishing you a wonderful retirement
with your beautiful growing family!!

With Love, The Sands Family
(Marco, Talee, Sabrina, Rachel)

Cantor Doug:

Our community, congregation,
and our families have been enriched
by your music, kindness, wisdom,
and guidance. We are so grateful to
have listened to your beautiful songs
and music throughout the years.
We will cherish the beautiful sounds
of your voice and guitar you have
provided to the world.

Alan, Natalie, Matthew, Adam
Kazden

**To the man with the black guitar
and the white piano:** You've lit up
the Jewish community with your
original and melodious inspirational
songs. You've helped many
generations of congregants to feel
closer to their faith. Very often,
we find ourselves humming
your tunes and we always will.
Best wishes to you always.

With love,
Helene and Frank Phillips

Doug,
Thank you so much
for all your beautiful
& spiritual music,
the joy & uplifting
of our spirits bringing
us closer to G-d.
Whether it be trying
times or times of
Mitzvah you have
been there for us.
Have a joyful retirement.

Roberta Storck-Hagerty
& Dennis Hagerty

Thank you
for serving our
community
with grace, song,
and laughter.

Illece Buckley Weber
& Joe Weber

*Cantor Doug,
We have been your "groupies"
for over 25 years. Your music
has and will continue to bring
us much joy and happiness.
You leave Congregation Or Ami
with cherished memories.*

*Much love,
Pamela and Michael Goldstein*

*Cantor Doug,
Enjoy your retirement
with good health,
beautiful songs,
and music
surrounding you.*

*Lots of Hugs,
Murray November*

We're all standing
on your shoulders.
I remain grateful for
all I learned from you
and with you at Temple
Emanuel all those
years ago....

Rabbi Laura Geller

Rabbi Zach Shapiro,
Cantor Lonee Frailich,
and the entire
Temple Akiba
of
Culver City family
embrace Doug
and Or Ami
with so much love!

MAZAL TOV!

We are so grateful to have grown
up with Cantor Cotler's music.
Your songs and melodies have
helped us celebrate our family's
greatest joys (all 5 weddings plus
welcoming a new generation!) and
brought us tremendous comfort
in our times of grief and sadness.
We are thankful you helped start
this congregation and we will
cherish the memories you helped
us create. His music has become
a staple in our homes and we will
continue to pass the music along
l'dor v'dor. Enjoy your well-earned
retirement, Doug!

With so much love,
Mishan, Josh, Kaylee, Andrew,
Talara, and our families.

For the people you've touched
With your words and your melody,
For the friendship we've shared
over decades of service,
I join the chorus of voices
sending my heartfelt blessings
and gratitude to you
for this well-deserved tribute.

Much love,
Reb Cantor Lisa Levine

Cantor Doug,

You have filled our hearts
and souls with the most joyful
music, the most inspiring parable,
while inviting us into your kind
heart. You gently inspired Sofia
and Quinn, and with tender
hands allowed all of the Chambers
to find our inspiration within
your arms. You will be so greatly
missed and never forgotten.

With love and affection
we say good luck!

The Chambers Family

Cantor Cotler was my

pulpit partner 40 years ago.
My congregation is still singing
the music he wrote and we are
singing on the wide shoulders
he brought to us in the 1980s.
Cantor Cotler has our deepest
appreciation for the music that
has touched us so deeply.

Rabbi Alan Lachtman

**Music may not save the
world, but it can
arouse the spirit which
can then go out and do
the saving.**

**Thanks for inspiring us
through your music all
these years, Doug.**

**May this new chapter
continue to bring
blessings to you and to
our world.**

Ellen and Billy Dreskin

**Doug Cotler has inspired
me and so many others.**

From the moment we met
I knew I had a friend for life,
a co-collaborator of
contemporary Jewish music,
and a lover of congregations
and prayer. Thank you Doug,
for all that you have done
and will continue to do.

Rabbi Bennett Miller,
New Brunswick, NJ

Congregation
Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek
Chester, CT,
Thanks you for your
years of generous spirit,
talent, and soul!



Marci Bellows, Rabbi
Belinda Brennan, Cantorial Soloist
Izzi Greenberg, President

*Doug Cotler's music
introduced my children
to singable Jewish music.
His spirit, dedication, and
gifted talent has
never been absent from
my sanctuary since.
Thank you and Bless you!*

Rabbi Mark Klein

Mazel Tov
from
**Robert Rosenberg,
Jane Wishner,
Mimi Rosenberg**
**and in Memory of
Martin Rosenberg
and
Mark Rosenberg**

Cantor Doug,

Thank you for
filling our souls and
guiding us with your
wisdom and music.

Mazel Tov!

Marsha Katz Rothpan
and Jeff Rothpan

Your voice
and presence
has brought great
warmth to
Congregation
Or Ami. Wishing
you all the best.

*Richard & Susan
Shamban*

Cantor Doug

*Thank you
for all you have
done for
Reform Judaism*

Rabbi Alan Henkin

Cantor Doug

when we were lost and felt
afraid and didn't know what
to say, you were always there for us.

From the very first service we
attended over 20 years ago,
your magical voice and your
guiding spirit have provided
solace from the wind and thunder.
And we know that even in your
retirement, if we close our eyes
and listen with our hearts and soul,
that we will hear your voice
coming from the edge of the
universe. We wish you Godspeed.

– The Pucker Barnes Family

Congregation Beth Israel

(Houston, Texas)

honors Cantor Doug Cotler
on his lifetime of service to
the Jewish people through
song, prayer, and spirit.

We have all benefited
from your gifts but no one
more than the people of
Congregation Or Ami.

Cantor Doug,

Thank you for sharing
your infectious smile,
uplifting and entertaining
music and friendship.
It has been our good fortune
to know you, spend time
with you, and sing with you.

Big Hugs,
Cathie & Richard Rutkin

Cantor, from the moment
we joined Or Ami, you have
been gracious, kind, and
welcoming. You have added
meaning to services with
your musical creativity, humor,
and love for our Jewish roots.
May your retirement bring
you peace and much love!

Robert & Cynthia Moss

Your music
and the spirit with which
you play have brought
great joy to our family
over the years.

Wishing you all
the best in this next
phase of your journey!

With Love,
Abby, Marsi, Brad
Gore

The Or Ami Band.
The Purim shows.
The Chorale, etc. etc. etc.
We love you,
Cantor Doug and Gail!

***Thank you for
all of the music.***

*Dianne Gubin &
Steve Greenberg*

The following people would like to honor
CANTOR DOUG COTLER

Lenore Alexander
Starr Kamhi Barnbaum
Rabbi Bruce S. Block
Rabbi Julie Bressler
The DeRoy Family
Jeffrey and Judy Diamond
DeDe Dryer
Pamela and Barry Dyne
The Echols Family
Wendy Erlanger
Steven and Jessie Galson
Rosalind Gold
Alma Heckman
Kathy Huck
Martin, Amy, Mia, and Josie Kanarek
Christi and Kunal Karandikar

The following people would like to honor
CANTOR DOUG COTLER

Rabbi Larry and Rhonda Karol
Rabbi Jan and Cantor Lanie Katzew
Rabbi Robert and Francine Klensin
Glenn and Linda Levie
Sara, Stuart, Lori, and Sandra Levine
Rabbi Bob Loewy and Congregation
Gates of Prayer – Metairie, LA
Sandra Lurey
Rachel Margolis
Janice and Yaakov (Jan) Orlowski
The Pasternak Family
The Schwartz Family
Howard, Whitney, Elijah, Finn, and Ruby
Donald and Margaret Sobel
Henry and Andrea Stupp
Howard Weithorn and Lynn Ingber-Weithorn
Cantor Rosalie Will



Baruch atah b'voecha
u'varuch atah b'tzetecha

Blessed Are You In Your Comings,
Blessed Are You In Your Goings

We will miss you as our Cantor
We will celebrate your participation
as our Cantor Emeritus

Love,

The people you continue to inspire —

*Generations of Or Ami
students, adults, parents, and grandparents,
staff, faculty, interns, and rabbis*



Cantor Doug,

*Thank you
for all you have done
for Congregation Or Ami.
Enjoy your
well-deserved retirement.*

Mazel Tov!

*Mark and Linda
Wolfson*





Dear Doug,

Your music inspires and amazes!

Mazel Tov on the next chapter!

You will be missed!

Love,

Stephanie & Jonathon Wolfson

& Family

