

Brandeis Class of 78 30th Reunion

Dayle A. Friedman

Mac or PC? I am a devoted Mac user!

LP, CD, or IPOD?

I love IPOD, but need more time to truly adapt (or lessons from my kids)

What was your major? Did you continue in that field?

My major was NEJS...I would say I did continue in the field (as a rabbi).

Career? Do tell!

I direct Hiddur: The Center for Aging and Judaism of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. We work to transform the culture of aging through professional education, scholarship and spiritual resources. Before this, I worked for many years as a chaplain in a community of 1100 Jewish elders. It is a privilege to continue the pursuits that were born at Brandeis, where I loved being part of the Roxbury Group, dedicated crew of volunteers who brought Shabbat services to elders in a personal care home.

Favorite memory from Brandeis days?

Favorite memory: so many—walking and singing on the wall by the castle on a Shabbat evening; the Rolling Thunder Review concert; hanging out with friends.

My favorite Brandeis professor:

Lawrence Fuchs (so inspiring, and he cared so much!)

What have I done since graduation that I'm most proud of?

I am proudest of my three kids; parenting is the most challenging, humbling and rewarding task of my life!

Are you single or married? Tell us about your family:

I am married to David Ferleger, who is an attorney specializing in civil rights and disabilities law (and an incredible mensch). We have three kids—Anya is 14, about to start high school...she loves to sing, speak Hebrew and is a terrific Torah reader. Anat and Avram are 9. Anat loves to take care of smaller children; she is quite remarkably caring and sensitive. Avram loves devising gadgets, spycraft, and everything that has gear attached to it. We have a noisy, warm, chaotic house!

Goals for the next 10 years:

1. See my kids through the next phase of their lives with patience and love—unbelievable that all three will be in college by then, God willing!
2. Care for my parents and mother-in-law with wisdom as they age.
3. Write a book on spiritual guidance for aging.
4. Learn a lot!

Bucket list:

1. Go on the zip line in the rain forest in Costa Rica.
2. Spend more time in Israel.
3. Enjoy every day!

Joke:

(OK, this one is occupational).

Three old Jewish ladies are sitting on a bench in Miami.

“Oy!” the first one says.

“Vey iz mir,” the second one sighs.

The third one pipes up: “I thought we agreed not to talk about the children.”

This is me and my family (clockwise from top—Avram, Anat, Anya, David and me)

