دللن باتهم

-GO GO GO GO- במחמש כ<this>.
By Tamar, Avi’s daughter:

January 2010 3:30 AM

As I sit by your bed listening to you slowly breathe in and breathe out. I think of different conversations that we had. I remember stories that you told me of your Haganah days. Great and heroic stories. I remember the first time you asked Dani to carve the Thanksgiving turkey instead of you. And when you’d paid me a penny for every dandelion I picked out of the grass in Lawrenceville NJ. I also think of when I had a dilemma I came to you – you always cleared my distress by pointing out both sides of the matter. Stressing your point more by putting your thumb and forefinger together and saying “that’s the way it’s done BUM-BUM-BUM”. I think of these things and feel so fortunate that you are my father- and can honestly say that you make me want to be a better person. From you I learned charity, compassion and tolerance. I have always looked up to you seeing you as a smart, kind and loving person- you have always been and always will be a hero in my eyes.

I know you had a difficult childhood and coming out the wiser for it- wanting to make this a better world for us. Leaving everything behind and setting an example to your friends and family by making Aliya because you believe that all Jews belong in Israel.

A few weeks ago we spoke on the phone, you told me to be ready, you told me to be prepare the family – I told you it isn’t your time and to keep on going. I see you now with my own eyes and realize that you have had enough, that you’re tired.

This is the kind of dilemma I should bring to you – How do you prepare a family to say goodbye to makes them who they are – A Family. It’s hard to let go and it’s something that I don’t want to do.

I prefer that you always be here as the hero, traveler, well read, kind, honest and loving Father that you’ve always been.

Dad!

Barkais’ earth collects you today
in sadness and with love into her bosom.
May her soil be sweet unto you.
May your life and your doings be inscribed in the chain of life
with comfort and with hope.
Tamar