

Katz Family

Three years have passed since the departure of our dear husband and father, the distinguished and beloved Mordechai David - Marcos Katz.

He was the ninth generation to the Admor Rabbi Chaim of Sanz, zecher tzadik livracha, and a Holocaust survivor.

Marcos knew how to combine his vision as an educator with the world of business and industry.

He began his career in education at the age of twenty when he was appointed the principal of the Jewish school in Monterey. He later became an industrialist and a leading businessman, who learned to imbue his material achievements with his spiritual vision.

We founded the Katz prize in 1975 in memory of Marcos's dear mother. Marcos's parents nurtured in us how to connect between the world of halachah and modern life, and the importance of applying Jewish law in all situations.

For more than 40 years, it has been our privilege and pleasure to award this prize to individuals and institutions who fulfilled the testament of my late husband's parents, myself and our family from Mexico, the United States and Israel who are with us on this touching evening.

This year we are awarding the prize to a number of outstanding personalities: Rabbi Alfonso Pedazur Arbib, Rabbi Eliezer Melamed,

Rabbi Ratzon Arusi and Professor Yaacov Choueka, whose life works entailed the dedicated, diligent and skillful daily application of halacha in the modern era.

We would like to thank the members of the Prize Committee, the chairman Prof. Menachem Ben Sasson, and his colleagues, Rabbi Aryeh Stern, the chief rabbi of Jerusalem, the dayan Rabbi Shlomo Dichovsky and Rabbi Chaim Sabato, the head of the Bircat Moshe Hesder yeshiva in Ma'aleh Adumim, for their rigorous selection that led to awarding the prize on this exalted evening.

We pray and hope that the merits of the head of our family, Marcos, will stand for us and all of Israel forever.

May his memory be blessed.

Adina Katz and the family