The next page is a draft that I feel is about 80% complete. I would appreciate some help with the sections highlighted in yellow, and anything else you think can be improved upon.

For some background on the four yellow highlights, these are comments for each section:

1. “Just as god created…” I don’t love this transition. It’s not that meaningful, and I’ve already referenced numbers (36) in the opening paragraph and I reference numbers in the next paragraph after the highlighted section, so I’m inclined to move away from ‘here are his 7 passions’. Can you help with a better transition between the sections?
2. “His next great passion were his cats…” Re the cats section, is there any way to make this read less like he was a “cat person”. I picture someone sitting at home in their chair, petting their cats. He was a bold, outgoing guy. Separately, to clarify, the reference to 5 children is that he has 4 children+ a cat.
3. Bullet #6 below. I could use more help on the business section. He was a successful, dynamic, enterprising person. The anecdotes are good, but I feel like the current section understates how much he accomplished. I’m trying not to read off how many homes, hotels, banks etc he built b/c I think that comes off the wrong way.
4. Last highlight. I’d like to insert a paragraph or two: great quotes, commentary, rhetoric, etc. Some really memorable lines about life, or character, or something more generic but making it truly memorable.

Lastly, could you please send me as many drafts of eulogies you’re written as you can (you can take out last names) – I’m just looking for lots of ideas of other things people say, for anything that I could add.

Thank you

**Draft:**

The Talmud teaches that in every generation there are 36 righteous men. Unrecognized by their fellow men and even unknown to each other, they are said to be humble and pursue their lives in relative obscurity. But the world depends on them for its existence.

Dad —while did not live his life in relative obscurity-- embodied “the righteous man.” He was smart, generous, fiercely loyal and integrity was the bedrock of everything he did. Once he became your friend, you were his friend forever. When he became your partner, he was your partner for life. When you were born into this world and he became your parent, he was always your Dad. There was nothing he would not do for you.

Just as god created the earth in 7 days, the bride circle the groom 7 times, the first verse of the torah has 7 words, and the countless other symbolic groups of seven in Judaism, dad had 7 great passions.

1. The first was Judaism - trying to summarize his involvement would be like reading the cliff notes to a 400 page novel. Even the cliff notes are 30 pages. So sometime less is more. I will share only one anecdote to try and encapsulate his entire life’s devotion to Judaism. It was the summer after my bar-mitzvah, we were at home in Jerusalem, on the balcony, the old city behind us and the sunset falling on the Knesset in front of us. Dad and I sat there in a moment of silence. After a while, he turned to me and quietly said ‘my people’. If you knew dad’s love of Judaism, you knew dad.
2. His second great passion. It was years earlier. I must have been 6 or 7. We were once again at home in Jerusalem. We had finished chasing each other around the apartment over none other than a delicious, over-sized chocolate éclair. In the final inning, I snatched the éclair from dad and ran out to that balcony. I tossed it as far as I could. Of course, gravity took over, and the terrace on the garden apartment 10 floors below looked rather different. If you knew dad’s love of chocolate, you knew dad.
3. His next great passion were his cats. From childhood, Knippy, then Chatulah, another Chatulah, then Honeybell, and now Arielle. Arielle was his favorite. To set the record straight, he has 5 children. If you knew dad’s love of cats, you knew dad.
4. And then there were the cars. Maybe it was his initials on the Shabbat mobile or driving to Main Street News after temple every Saturday, and reading car magazines. Or maybe it was after 40 years of owning Chryslers, that his first Toyota, one of the first Prius’ on the road, dad was convinced he single handedly reduced oil consumption from the Arabs. If you knew dad’s love of cars, you knew dad.
5. It was 1995, sitting on the end of runway 5L in Raleigh Durham, and for the very first time in his new plane he’d push forward the levers that spooled up 10,000HP. If you thought you’ve seen a big smile, this was bigger. If you knew dad’s love of flying, you knew dad.
6. And then of course there was his work – I was in third grade. We’re sitting at the breakfast table. I was eating my Honey Nut Cheerios. Dad was eating his all-bran, just as we would the other 364 days a year, and for what seemed like the eighth time was he tried to explain depreciation to me. Or maybe it was decades earlier, when he was in his 20’s, when instead of getting landscapers to mow the lawn of the homes he was developing, he took a sheep and tied a leash to the mailbox. When it came to his work, he had vision, integrity, determination, and was bold enough to move the rock up the hill to make it happen. [Add more quotes about business, being a visionary, etc]
7. But dad’s greatest passion, his greatest focus, his complete unwavering unlimited commitment, was to all of us, his family. In each one of our lives, whether you were his first child or his third cousin dad made a truly meaningful impact. It might have been as a role-model, or a business partner, or a friend. His commitment to family knew no bounds. As I told him at my wedding, to have the privilege of being the recipient of his unconditional love is the greatest gift of my life.

[Add more about his character, value. Or great quotes on life, etc.]

Dad was fond of saying: Life is not for window shopping. I know no one who got more and gave more. He left nothing on the table. He did what wanted and helped everyone he could. It was a profoundly fulfilling life. Dad, I love you.