

## Yom HaShoah Observance Holocaust Remembrance Day Tuesday May 3rd @ 7 PM

Memorial Prayers by Hazzan Toby Lou Hayman

## Descendants of Rajgrod - Learning To Forgive Author & International Speaker: Karen L. Kaplan



Growing up as a child of a Holocaust survivor is extremely difficult. As Karen reflected on her abusive childhood, she tried to make some sense her past. In the process, what she discovered is a powerful lesson that could be helpful for anyone living with anger, bitterness and sadness.

Karen Kaplan tells the story of her father, Arie Kaplan, who after surviving the Holocaust in the forests of Eastern Europe, limped through the rest of his

life by lying, cheating, abusing his family and never letting go of his rage. Many years later, her father is on his deathbed and Karen is an unhappy single mother who realizes that she is consumed with a similar feeling of rage. She begins keeping a journal, and in the course of writing about her father, starts to understand that she has inherited his 'survivor mentality' and is at risk of losing sight of ever being content. In sharing her story, Karen Kaplan struggles to do the most challenging thing she's ever done; forgive her father, and let go of the legacy of bitterness and fear that has hovered over the Jewish community following centuries of anti- Semitism.

Central Synagogue @ 122 S. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1449

Across the Street from The Art Institute

Free and open to the community

WWW.CentralChicago.org 312-787-0450