

# Charles Saul Fein

September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1927 – August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

## CHILDREN OF THE UNIVERSE

**LET US LIGHT A CANDLE TONIGHT** in loving memory of all our beloved family and dear friends who have left this brief life too soon. We shall always hold you in our hearts with love and devotion and treasure that precious time we had together. It is our deepest hope and desire that your body and soul and spirit and life force return to the universe ever so gently, always nurtured and sustained by the love and affection we send with you. May all dearly departed ease your journey towards infinity, guide you to eternal peace and surround you with love and beauty forever.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

Let us surely honor and respect those generations that preceded us for 5,500 years in the Hebrew faith and tradition of the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and the unimaginable suffering our people endured.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

Let us honor and respect those countless multitudes struggling since the dawn of civilization 12,000 years ago in the crucible of nature that shaped cultures and nations.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

Let us honor and respect the family of man, emerging from the forest primeval eight million years ago, fighting fiercely to survive, launching human destiny.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

Let us honor and respect all of our biological ancestors as well, evolving miraculously from that fateful moment when life began on our planet from dust four billion years ago.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

Let us honor and respect the Sun and Mother Earth formed five billion years ago in cosmic fire and fury, then nurtured and sustained in an unbroken chain the fragile life we treasure today.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

And surely we must honor and respect the universe itself with all its mysteries, created fourteen billion years ago out of the void, at the beginning of time and space and still unfolding.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

And at last, we will honor and respect our present family and friends and those yet to be born, whose destiny will carry our hopes and dreams and aspirations along with their own through future generations on their inexorable march to eternity.

**AND THERE IS MORE TO BEHOLD:**

For truly we are Children of the Universe, minds yearning for wisdom and spirits striving for enlightenment, made of elements forged in the very stars; heirs to the sustaining teachings and traditions of family, faith and civilization, blessed with freedom and eternally grateful for the love and devotion so generously bestowed upon us with the gift of life itself.

**DEDICATED THIS DAY  
FOR ALL THAT HAS PAST  
AND THAT WHICH IS YET TO COME.**

*Written by Charles S. Fein, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991  
at Amaravati Buddhist Monastery*