

Jessica Kalmowitz
40 Horizons Road
781-801-2621

I was born on September 11th, “the year after.” For my family, this date has marked a positive milestone, while for many others 9/11 holds a completely different meaning. When I was younger, I couldn’t grasp the frowns when I said my birthdate, or the moment of silence during morning announcements each year. Once I was old enough to understand, I became fixated on the heroes and those who lost their lives on the fateful day. I knew the spider web at Heights Elementary playground was built and dedicated to a man named Michael Rothberg who lost his life the year before I was born. I felt connected to the structure and spent every recess climbing with friends and laughing at the top.

I believe I knew early on that I was born to make a positive difference in our world. I’ve been a Girl Scout for 13 consecutive years, and have proudly created a children’s map of Sharon, coordinated a World Thinking Day with Girls Learn International, hosted an encampment, and am currently responsible for establishing a Kid’s Connection program addressing the emotional well-being of middle school students. I have served as a volunteer at my local synagogue, a Unity Shoppe in California serving low-income families, and the Gifts for Kids non-profit Organization. I have been fortunate to travel and meet culturally diverse people, all molding the person I am today.

I have committed to the University of Maryland and plan to immerse myself in academics, social activities, and community service. Just as Michael Rothberg left his living legacy, I hope to continue to seize every opportunity to excel and connect with others in a meaningful and positive way.