RUTH - IN MEMORY

by Philip Sokol

I first met Ruth twenty years ago in the lobby of my building. My wife, Rose, and I were considering buying an apartment in the building, and I wanted to check the condition of the building with an existing tenant. In the lobby, I met a graceful, friendly, and lovely woman, Ruth, who, immediately introduced herself and invited me up to her apartment to chat. As she filled me in on the details concerning the building, we launched a friendship that would last for the remainder of her life. Our relationship began with an unselfish and trusting offer to help me, a total stranger to her at that time. I was struck by how unusual this was for a New Yorker. Having come to New York from the Midwest, I had already become accustomed to the certain edge of paranoia that characterizes most New Yorkers. Ruth reminded me of the warm and open friendliness that one experiences in the Midwest, but, only rarely in New York City. Her openess was my first clue as to Ruth's unique personality, always open and friendly to people of all backgrounds and ages.

Ruth was a frequent visitor in our home and watched our son Sam grow from infancy into a mature nineteen year old. She always took a special interest in Sam, tracking his progress through elementary school, high school, and his year in Israel. Curiously, she was able to relate to him as well as she related to her own contemporaries.

Although Ruth identified as a Jew, she was not very knowledgeable about her heritage nor did she seem to be very interested. Over the years, however, we shared many holiday and Shabbat meals together. I watched with amazement as Ruth became involved in the Beginners Service, Lincoln Square Synagogue, NJOP, and various Jewish programs on the Upper West Side. I have always been somewhat startled at the transformation that took her from a completely secular Jew to a committed Jew who pursued learning at every opportunity. She would often speak of Rabbi Buchwald with a mixture of awe and love.

Over the years, Ruth developed an incredible attachment to Yiddishkeit. Nothing excited her more that preparing a *D'var Torah* for the Beginners Service. I remember when Ruth brought her proposed *D'var Torah* down to our apartment for scrutiny. She wanted to make certain that her thoughts were appropriate and consistent with Torah values. She also needed to make certain that she would effectively share her joy at being able to address her comrades in the Beginners Service. The thought of the student becoming the teacher left her elated.

Each year, at Shavuot, it was my job to accompany Ruth to the all-night Beginners' learning so that I could walk her home afterward. Truthfully, I would often begin to nod off and wish that I were in bed. Yet, I stayed until the end because Ruth needed my assistance to get home.

When Ruth became seriously ill, I found myself even more impressed by her. Ruth's cheerful demeanor and grace in the face of a devastating illness was a continuous source of inspiration to Rose and myself. From her sickbed, she was still connecting with people of all ages, and even found time to arrange for a contractor to help us out in our apartment. When Ruth found a music therapist from the hospice that particularly touched her, she organized a party in her bedroom for about 25 of her close friends.

During her illness, we had the opportunity to become very friendly with Gail, Ruth's daughter from Bar Harbor, Maine. We were able to witness a coming to terms between mother and daughter during a most difficult time. During this period, Gail became as much a part of our family as her mother. Although Gail approaches the world from a different perspective, she has impressed us with her deep spirituality and caring. Rose and I have felt privileged to know both Ruth and Gail.

Much of the joy in Ruth's life over the past several years has come from her association with Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald. The special bond that the two of them shared led to a more fulfilled life for Ruth and I am quite sure that it enriched Rabbi Buchwald's life as well. I witnessed Rabbi Buchwald's nightly phone calls to Ruth's sick bed, his frequent visits to the hospital and to her home, and his sincere support of a good friend in crisis.

Ruth may not have been young in years when she began her journey into Yiddeshkeit, but she was young in spirit, and that spirit inspired us all. Her caring and love will be sorely missed by all of us.

Philip Sokol is a resident of the Upper West Side and an admirer of Rabbi Buchwald.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Karen Persily and Gary Glanz
Monica Singer
and Dr. Jonathan Gordon
Shoshana Batya Weinberg
and Shlomo Greenwald
Mazal Tov to parents
Debby Brenner and Rabbi Simcha Weinberg

WEDDINGS

Nancy Cate and Douglas Rose
Jordana Levine and Glenn Ross
Amy Lewis and Robert Schacter
Elena Rodionova and Joseph Ohayon

BIRTHS

Karine and Michael Bloch,
on the birth of a boy, Eitan Arie
Donna and Bernard Broome,
on the birth of a girl, Jordana Sydney
Shira and Rabbi Shlomo Einhorn,
on the birth of a boy, Yisroel Yoseph
Mazal Tov to grandmother Monica Singer
Janice Lieberman and Steven Gerber,
on the birth of a boy, David Frederick
Eliana and Vladimir Gutin,
on the birth of a girl, Alexandra Sarah
Meredith and David Horowitz,
on the birth of a girl, Ruby Lauren
Nika Erastov and David Klinghoffer,
on the birth of a girl, Batsheva Malka
Mazal Tov to grandmother Nina Perlin
Leslie and Dr. William Kolbrener,
on the birth of a boy, Shmuel
Sally and Dr. William Levin,
on the birth of a girl, Julia Jaye
Mazal Tov to grandparents
Doris and Morton Levin
Anna and Michael Morgenstern,
on the birth of a boy, Ari Benjamin (2/15/02)
Miriam and Ephraim Osgood,
on the birth of a boy, Bentzion Simcha
Mazal Tov to grandparents
Marilyn and Armin Osgood
Lisa and Arthur Perl, on the birth of a boy,
Benjamin
Beth and Joshua Schwartz,
on the birth of a girl, Temimah (6/8/02)
Helene and Jeffrey Strumeyer,
on the birth of a girl, Rina Basia
Jill and Rabbi Mark Wildes, on the birth of a boy,
Yehuda Boaz

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Nachum Menachem Frederick
Mazal Tov to parents
Debby and Dr. Allan Frederick
Baruch Tzvi Goldberg
Mazal Tov to parents
Shelley and Morton Goldberg
Eitan Shabtai Ickovits
Mazal Tov to parents Karen and Alain Ickovits
Alyssa Esther Moore
Mazal Tov to parents Lynn and Eli Moore
Samuel Zakay
Mazal Tov to parents
Ann Crane and Victor Zakay

CONDOLENCES

Alyce Mayo Bernstone
on the loss of her mother, Sylvia Mayo
Dr. Stuart Blaustein
on the loss of his father, Joseph Blaustein
Rivka Cohen and Karen Burnham,
on the loss of their grandfather, Joseph Blaustein
To the family of Doris G. Bronson
Peter Farkas
on the loss of his father, Ervin Farkas
David Gale
on the loss of his mother, Pearl Gale
To the family of Esther Judy Manischewitz
Jack Raisner
on the loss of his father, Arnold Raisner

CONGRATULATIONS

Robin Gordon Apple and Stephen Apple,
honored at the NJOP Dinner
Alyce Mayo Bernstone, for her photo exhibit at
the Photo District Gallery
Dr. and Mrs. Henry Borenson, honored at the
Dinner of Yeshivas Bircas HaTorah
Yvette and Eric Edidin, honored at the
Manhattan Jewish Experience Dinner
Drs. Dawne and Matthew Eichen, honored at
the Dinner of the Delaware Valley Torah
Institute Mesivta Beis Dovid of Cherry Hill, NJ
Michael (Mickey) Gottlieb, honored by the
Jewish Family Service of Central New Jersey
Maureen Kushner, whose internationally
acclaimed children's art project, "Peace
Through Humor," was exhibited at the
Manhattan JCC
Renee Manger, honored as "Woman of Valor"
by the Gateways Organization

Thank You

Enid Langbert, for writing and directing the
Beginners Purim Schpiel, Petezie Sack, for
the wonderful costumes, and to all the
amazing Purim schpielers, for their
entertaining performances.

TZEITCHEM L'SHALOM/FAREWELL (To live and/or study in Israel)

Robert Hill (He's back already!)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Wed April 16, 2003 - 14th of Nisan
TA'ANIT BECHOROT EREV PESACH
Morning Services ....6:30 & 7:30 AM
Latest Time To Eat Chametz....10:04 AM
Latest Time To Burn Chametz....11:19 AM
REMEMBER TO MAKE AN ERUV TAVSHILIN
Candle Lighting....7:18 PM
Mincha ....7:25 PM
Begin Seder After ....8:07 PM

Thu April 17, 2003 - 15th of Nisan PESACH
Morning Services....9:00 AM
Daf Yomi ....6:30 PM
Mincha ....7:15 PM
Yom Tov Candles After....8:18 PM
Maariv ....8:18 PM
Begin Seder After ....8:18 PM

Fri April 18, 2003 - 16th of Nisan PESACH
Morning Services....9:00 AM
Daf Yomi ....6:30 PM
Mincha ....7:15 PM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:13 PM
Shabbat Candles Before ....7:20 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 7:25 PM

Sat April 19, 2003 - 17th of Nisan PESACH (CHOL HAMOED)
Daf Yomi ....7:00 AM
Bible Class....8:30 AM
Morning Services ....8:00 & 9:00 AM
Daf Yomi ....5:40 PM
Mincha ....6:25 PM
Shabbat Ends....8:20 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:25 PM

Sun April 20, 2003 - 18th of Nisan PESACH (CHOL HAMOED)
Morning Services....7:00 & 8:30 AM

Mon April 21, 2003 - 19th of Nisan PESACH (CHOL HAMOED)
Morning Services....7:00, 7:30 & 8:30 AM

Tue April 22, 2003 - 20th of Nisan PESACH (CHOL HAMOED)
Morning Services....7:00, 7:30 & 8:30 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:17 PM
Candle Lighting....7:24 PM
Mincha ....6:45 & 7:30 PM

Wed April 23, 2003 - 21st of Nisan PESACH
Daf Yomi ....7:15 AM
Morning Services ....8:00 & 9:00 AM
Talmud Class ....6:35 PM
Mincha ....7:20 PM
Yom Tov Candles After....8:24 PM
Maariv ....8:24 PM

Thu April 24, 2003 - 22nd of Nisan PESACH
Daf Yomi ....7:15 AM
Morning Services....8:00 & 9:00 AM
Talmud Class ....6:35 PM
Mincha ....7:20 PM
Maariv ....8:24 PM
Yom Tov ends ....8:24 PM

Fri April 25, 2003 - 23rd of Nisan
Morning Services....7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:21 PM
Candle Lighting....7:28 PM
Mincha ....6:45 & 7:35 PM

Sat April 26, 2003 - 24th of Nisan *Achrei Mot*
Daf Yomi ....7:00 AM
Bible Class....8:30 AM
Morning Services....7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ....6:25 PM
Mincha ....7:25 PM
Shabbat Ends....8:28 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:35 PM

Tue April 29, 2003 - 27th of Nisan
YOM HASHOAH
Morning Services ....7:10 & 7:50 AM

Fri May 2, 2003 - 30th of Nisan ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ....7:00 & 7:40 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:23 PM
Candle Lighting....7:35 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 7:40 PM

Sat May 3, 2003 - 1st of Iyar *Kedoshim*
ROSH CHODESH
Daf Yomi ....7:00 AM
Bible Class....8:30 AM
Morning Services....7:40, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ....6:30 PM
Mincha ....7:30 PM
Shabbat Ends....8:35 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:40 PM

Tue May 6, 2003 - 4th of Iyar YOM HAZIKARON
Morning Services ....7:10 & 7:50 AM

Wed May 7, 2003 - 5th of Iyar
YOM HA'ATZMA'UT
Morning Services ....7:00 & 7:50 AM

Fri May 9, 2003 - 7th of Iyar
Morning Services ....7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:30 PM
Candle Lighting....7:42 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 7:45 PM

Sat May 10, 2003 - 8th of Iyar *Emor*
Daf Yomi ....7:00 AM
Bible Class....8:30 AM
Morning Services....7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ....6:35 PM
Mincha ....7:35 PM
Shabbat Ends....8:42 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:50 PM

Fri May 16, 2003 - 14th of Iyar
Morning Services ....7:10 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:37 PM
Candle Lighting....7:49 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 7:55 PM

Sat May 17, 2003 - 15th of Iyar *Behar*
Daf Yomi ....7:00 AM
Bible Class....8:30 AM
Morning Services....7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ....6:45 PM
Mincha ....7:45 PM
Shabbat Ends....8:49 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:55 PM

Tue May 20, 2003 - 18th of Iyar LAG BA'OMER
Morning Services ....7:10 & 7:50 AM

Fri May 23, 2003 - 21st of Iyar
Morning Services ....7:10 & 7:50 A
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:39 P.
Candle Lighting....7:56 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 8:00 PM

Sat May 24, 2003 - 22nd of Iyar *Bechukotai*
Daf Yomi ....7:00 AM
Bible Class....8:30 AM
Morning Services....7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ....6:50 PM
Mincha ....7:50 PM
Shabbat Ends....8:56 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:00 PM

Mon May 26, 2003 - 24th of Iyar
MEMORIAL DAY
Morning Services ....7:05 & 8:30 AM

Fri May 30, 2003 - 28th of Iyar
YOM YERUSHALAYIM
Morning Services ....7:00 & 7:50 AM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:44 PM
Candle Lighting....8:01 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 8:05 PM

Sat May 31, 2003 - 29th of Iyar *Bamidbar*
Daf Yomi ....7:00 AM
Bible Class....8:30 AM
Morning Services....7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
Talmud & Bible Class ....6:55 PM
Mincha ....7:55 PM
Shabbat Ends....9:01 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:10 PM

Sun June 1, 2003 - 1st of Sivan
ROSH CHODESH
Morning Services ....7:00 & 8:30 A

Thu June 5, 2003 - 5th of Sivan
EREV SHAVUOT
Morning Services ....7:10 & 7:50 AM
REMEMBER TO MAKE AN ERUV TAVSHILIN
Candle Lighting....8:06 PM
Mincha ....8:10 PM
Maariv ....8:55 PM

Fri June 6, 2003 - 6th of Sivan SHAVUOT
Morning Services ....4:55 & 9:00 AM
Bible Class....7:00 PM
Daf Yomi ....7:15 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 8:00 PM
Earliest Candle Lighting....6:49 PM
Shabbat Candles Before ....8:06 PM

Sat June 7, 2003 - 7th of Sivan SHAVUOT
Daf Yomi ....7:15 AM
Morning Services ....8:00 & 9:00 AM
Bible Class....7:00 PM
Talmud Class ....7:15 PM
Mincha....6:45 & 8:00 PM
Maariv ....9:06 PM
Yom Tov Ends....9:06 PM
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:15 PM

Doris G. Bronson

Doris was a worldly woman with a lively personality and an inquisitive mind. Whenever she asked a question, you knew that it would be a well thought out query. Her comments as well, were always wise and insightful. Doris's warm smile and pleasant personality will be deeply missed.

SAVE THE DATE

Model Seder
$5 in advance, $10 at the door
Thurs,April 10, 7:00 PM
Beginners Shabbat Luncheons
Saturdays 12:30 PM- $15
May 3, June 14
Beginners Schmooze- Mon, 8:15 pm - Free
June 2
All Night Shavuot Learn-In
Thurs, June 5, 11:30 PM - 6:45 AM

Esther Judith Manischewitz

Judy M., the real Mrs. Manischewitz (Matzah Queen), was a fiercely determined individual. Despite her Orthodox upbringing, she began attending the Beginners Service because sh wanted to learn more. Possessor of a brilliat mind, and perfect recall, her thirst for knowledge was extraordinary -- until her last breath at age 89. Her special friendship, her wisdom and her broad generosity will be sorely missed.