



MEMORY LANE # 90 (EDITED)
FROM THE BULLETIN OF THE YOUNG ISRAEL OF CHOMEDEY
APRIL 1999 EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM FRED RUDY, BULLETIN EDITOR:

I STARTED A NEW YAHRZEIT LIST WHEN I TOOK OVER PREPARING THE BULLETIN FOR THE SHUL BECAUSE I FELT THAT EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE A NAME. THE YAHRZEIT NOTICE CARD THAT USED TO BE SENT OUT BY THE SHUL OFFICE TO THE FAMILY WAS ALWAYS THE SAME, "YOUR BELOVED MOTHER OR FATHER" ETC. WHAT I WANTED TO DO WAS TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE ON THAT CARD GOT A NAME!

LITTLE DID I REALIZE THAT IT WOULD CONSUME ALL OF LILLIAN'S AND MY FREE TIME FOR AT LEAST THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF. THE SHUL HAD ONLY BEEN KEEPING THE WOMAN'S MARRIED NAME, NOT THEIR MAIDEN NAMES, ON FILE, AND ALSO THE NOTICE CARD WAS ONLY ADDRESSED TO THE MALE RELATIVE WHO WAS USUALLY THE ONE SAYING KADDISH, NOT TO THE PERSON, USUALLY THE WIFE, WHO HAD LOST A LOVED ONE. ONE EXAMPLE WAS WHEN LILLIAN HAD LOST HER MOTHER, THE CARD CAME ADDRESSED TO ME, FRED RUDY FOR "YOUR BELOVED MOTHER IN LAW", WHEN I FELT THAT THE CARD SHOULD HAVE BEEN SENT TO LILLIAN RUDY PERSONALLY FOR HER "BELOVED MOTHER RACHEL GREENBERG" INSTEAD.

WELL, BEING STUBBORN, WE STARTED TO PHONE EVERY SHUL MEMBER IN ORDER TO GET THE NAMES THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PREPARE AN UPDATED YAHRZEIT LIST WITH THE MAIDEN NAMES OF THE DECEASED WOMEN, AND ALSO WOULD INCLUDE THE NAMES OF SIBLINGS SO THAT EVERYONE WOULD BE INCLUDED. AS IT TURNED OUT AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR OF WORKING ON THE LIST, MANY PEOPLE WERE ANGERED IF I OMITTED OR MISSPELLED A NAME. THERE WERE MANY TIMES THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO REACH PEOPLE IN ORDER TO GET THE NAMES SO WE HAD TO LEAVE EMPTY SPACES. WE MADE PHONE CALLS AT SUPPER TIME SINCE THAT WAS THE BEST TIME TO FIND PEOPLE AT HOME. THAT WAS A BIG MISTAKE, BECAUSE MANY PEOPLE WERE ANNOYED. BELIEVE ME THAT WE HAD NO INTENTIONS OF OFFENDING ANYONE, OR ANNOYING THEM WITH THE MANY PHONE CALLS.

I FEEL THAT IT'S TIME TO RETIRE THE IDEA OF THE NEW LIST AND GIVE IT BACK TO THE SHUL OFFICE TO CONTINUE SENDING THE CARDS AS IT HAS BEEN DOING FOR IN THE PAST, AND I CAN ONLY OFFER MY SINCERE APOLOGIES TO ANY OF YOU WHO WERE OFFENDED OR ANNOYED BY ME.

TO THOSE OF YOU WHO APPRECIATED MY EFFORTS, AND TOOK THE TIME TO RETURN OUR CALLS, I THANK YOU ALL.

FRED RUDY, BULLETIN EDITOR

(Yashor Koach to Fred Rudy for providing us all with these memorable historical moments, which some of us may still remember!)