Community is at the core of Stan and Liz Tick’s philanthropy, and the foundation of their lives, both as individuals and as a couple. Liz’s father, Harold Minden, was a respected lawyer and community leader, who instilled in his children the importance of honesty, generosity and confidentiality. Stan was born into a family of modest means. His parents instilled in him the paramount importance of family and Jewish community, values that Stan took to heart. From a very young age, Stan understood that one far-off day, when his parents were no longer alive, it would be his role to ensure that his three older special needs siblings would continue to be well cared for and thrive.

“We didn’t have the easiest of times,” Stan says about his childhood, “but I saw the love that my folks gave to my three special needs siblings and how important community was to them and the importance of being thankful for all the things we had. It gave me perspective on what’s important.”

As a young person, Stan came to see the community leaders who frequented his father’s barber shop as role models for how to be a mensch and live generously. His father, Jack, however, would always remain the person he admired most. “My father Jack set an example of the importance of giving,” says Stan. “He didn’t have a lot to give but it was substantial in relation to what his income was.”

Like many young people of their generation, Stan and Liz left Hamilton to attend university, returning to their hometown as a young couple ready to establish themselves and raise a family. Despite the financial challenges of their early married years, the couple gave generously to the UJA Campaign and, following the example of their mentor Bill Morris, took on the added responsibility of becoming community leaders in their own right. In 1979, Stan chaired one of the most successful UJA Campaigns of the era. Liz chaired a number of UJA Campaign Women’s Division, and is still an active member of the UJA Campaign Cabinet to this day. Of all their philanthropic endeavours, none has had more impact nor is closer to the Ticks’ hearts than Beth Tikvah, a home for developmentally delayed adults that Stan founded in 1990.

“My dad had passed away. My mother was incapacitated and my responsibility was to look after my two brothers,” recalls Stan. “I tried to keep them in the family home, but that didn’t work … They ended up in a second level lodging home. They were unhappy.”

Stan took it upon himself to start a home for Jewish developmentally challenged adults in Hamilton. He used his own funds to purchase a house on Arkell Street that he named Beth Tikvah. Because of Stan’s vision, his brothers Bernie and Teddy lived out their lives in a loving and safe environment.

Stan and Liz’s vision is that more Jewish developmentally delayed adults will have opportunities to benefit from Beth Tikvah services and that the agency continues to grow. That’s why they established an endowment fund to support the agency in perpetuity.

“I care about this community carrying on,” said Stan. “I want to see that what we’ve started is still there in the years to come. That’s the legacy.”

Elizabeth Tick

Stan Tick

BOOK OF LIFE