

Rosalind and Richard Weintraub

Rich and I have known each other since we were 10 years old. Born in Detroit and raised in Brooklyn, Rich had been a city kid-- taking a bus and subway to attend Yeshiva and heading to Jewish camps every summer at the encouragement of his grandparents.

We met when he moved to my hometown of Glen Cove, a multi-ethnic community in Long Island with a small Jewish population. Both of our families kept kosher homes, and we belonged to the same conservative synagogue. Rich had his Bar Mitzvah there, and I participated along with a group of girls in the congregation's first Bat Mitzvah ceremony. When it came time to build a new synagogue, our parents were very involved; and they were always role models for us in their determination to make our Jewish community stronger and more vibrant.

During Rich's medical training, we lived in a number of places; but we never found our Jewish home until we moved to Greensboro in 1976. Rich found a good practice opportunity in cardiology and we were heartily welcomed by both the Jewish and medical communities. The majority of our new friends were Jewish, and we began to share holidays with those who had also moved away from family. Those friends became our new family.

We knew we wanted to live in an active Jewish community and we certainly found that in Greensboro. In those early years, I served on the Board of Directors of Beth David Synagogue and participated in the building of our beautiful new facility. With a background in teaching, I focused my efforts on its education committee. I was also involved in the monumental work of Jewish Family Services during the resettlement of Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union. Rich has been involved in the Maimonides Society of the Greensboro Jewish Federation and together we traveled to Israel on a Federation mission. Within the greater community, Rich served as President of the Greensboro Heart Association; and for 10 years I was a member of the Guilford County Board of the Drug Action Council. Our children, Laurie, Joanna and Eric, celebrated their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, as well as confirmations, at Beth David and participated in many Jewish community activities.

We were very fortunate to return to Israel in 2014 with all 17 of our immediate family members. We had our own mission, traveling throughout the country with a wonderful guide. A nine-day trip with nine grandchildren was the perfect opportunity for each one individually to have a special evening time with us to chronicle the day's highlights.

We have always felt that you have to take care of family first and then the things you are passionate about—always keeping the Jewish community in your heart. Don't wait for the rain--make your own rainbow!