

George Weinstein: A Man of Vision

Born in 1924, George Weinstein spent his early years on the east coast in New York. He attended the University of Illinois and earned his Bachelor's of Science in Management in 1944. He returned to New York and received his MBA from New York University in 1946.

George married Shirley Greenberg, in 1945. In 1947 he earned his CPA license passing the test on the first try. He worked in his father's CPA firm introducing all kinds of innovative ideas to the firm and its clients. George specialized in mergers, acquisitions, corporate finance and taxation. He was instrumental in expanding the firm and ultimately merging it, with what is now PriceWaterhouse Coopers. Among his diverse activities, included being responsible for writing the parimutuel betting laws in the State of Pennsylvania. When the State of Israel was forming, he was asked to head their tax authority, but declined because he could not make the move at that time. This was a decision that both he and Shirley regretted all of the years that they remained in the States.

George represented Countess Alexandra dePulaksi and had occasion to visit Milwaukee many times where she had investments. In the early 1970's he became a court appointed trustee of the Plankinton Trust. In that capacity, he was instrumental in working with the local redevelopment authority in renovating the Plankinton Mall. He was also asked by the local banks to assist them in salvaging their bad loans. During this time frame he began running Wisconsin Real Estate Investment Trust, headquartered in Milwaukee. In this capacity, he began representing various domestic and international companies in the real estate business throughout the United States.

As involved as George was in business, he was very involved in numerous Jewish and other philanthropic causes, giving both of himself and his finances. In the 1950's he was one of the original founders and was the first president of the Great Neck Synagogue and North Shore Hebrew Academy - the first orthodox shul and day school in Great Neck, NY.

After moving to Milwaukee, he helped start Lake Park Synagogue and was its chairman of the board. George was also involved in other philanthropic causes such as Federation/UJA, HIAS, Yeshiva University and University of Illinois. He generously gave Tzedakah, strongly encouraged others to follow his lead, looking to improve the quality of life for all. He always held true Torah values dear to his heart.

In 1995, he and his wife Shirley, made their life-long dream come true when they made Aliyah to Israel leaving behind their children and grandchildren. While living in Israel, George continued his involvement both financially and with his time and talents in many organizations such as shuls, children's homes, schools, universities, the deaf, rabbinical seminaries.

He never accepted "NO" as an answer for anything he wanted to accomplish and he always found the way to make things work. He truly was a man with vision who made things happen – a dreamer who turned dreams into realities. George Weinstein passed away in November 2000 leaving a wonderful legacy.

His dreams and good work continue to be carried out by his wife (of over 55 years), his 3 children, 2 daughters-in-law and 7 grandchildren. Besides his wife Shirley, 1 child, 3 grandchildren (2 of whom are married) and 2 great grandchildren live in Israel.