

## Spotlight on Stanley Levy

by Jerry Berger



Stanley has lived in Mission Viejo for the past 29 years. He is originally from the Bronx; Fordham Rd. and Grand Concourse for those that are familiar with the Bronx. He worked in the famous Loew's Paradise Theatre as an usher at age 16, and then lived in Brooklyn after getting married to Leah in 1954. Stan was introduced to Leah when he came back from the "conflict" in Korea. Stan went to De Witt Clinton High School and then went on to graduate from The City College of New York. Stan worked for New York City as a Welfare Fraud Investigator. He also served as first vice-president for the Jewish Employees Association. He then went on to finish his career with N.Y.C. as Director of Transportation. The transportation that serviced the Welfare Centers and Churches that took care of over 10,000 homeless people daily. Stan retired, as did Leah, in 1987. Leah taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for over 25 years, and then went on to become a reading specialist.

Stan and Leah moved from N.Y.C. to California in 1987. After shopping for a refrigerator, and other household items, they went shopping for a Temple where they would be happy. After meeting and speaking with Rabbi Alan Krause, they joined Temple Beth-El in 1988. They found the Temple members to be warm, friendly, welcoming and very accepting. As a member of the Temple's Caring Committee, Leah volunteered at the Spiritual Care Dep't. at Mission Hospital. For 14 years, up to the time of her death, Leah visited Jewish patients in Mission Hospital. Leah was also a member of the Temple Choir. While Leah was singing in the choir, Stan volunteered as an usher during the High Holy Days. Leah, along with Rabbi Krause started the Tisha B'Av Healing Service at Temple. Leah took an active part in the yearly service and her imprint will be seen and felt for years to come.

Stan spent his time in retirement by playing tennis, paddle tennis, square dancing, and learning wood carving, and stone sculpting. Stan and Leah were also active in ARMDI and in Jewish Marriage Encounter. They also became members of Chabad of Mission Viejo. Since his back surgery, he has had to give up the tennis, paddle tennis and square dancing. Stan now takes classes through the Emeritus program at Saddleback College and is continuing his wood carving and stone sculpting. Rather than sell his finished work, Stan has given his art work to all of the members of his family,( daughter, son grandchildren, sister, nephew, nieces, great nephews and nieces and old friends). This is the legacy that he wants to leave with his family. They can enjoy the art now and be able to tell their children about the artist.

The Levy's have two children, Bonnie and Brad. They share the same birthday, a year apart.

Bonnie, the older daughter is a Physician's Assistant. She has 3 children. Her husband is Mark Rosen, an M.D. and they live in Los Alamitos. The Rosen's oldest is Beth. She works for the World Bank in Washington, D.C. Son, Sasha is currently attending Loyola Med School, in Chicago, and is studying to be an M.D. The youngest daughter is Mira Chaya. She just graduated from the University of Maryland and is now looking to continue her education and become a Physician's Assistant.

Brad, the Levy's son lives in Gresham, Oregon and he is the Operations Manager for a firm that makes computer controls. He is married to Kaye who is a Nurse Supervisor At Mt. Hood Hospital. Their oldest, Michael is a computer program analyst in Portland. Their youngest daughter, Casey is a R.N. at a hospital in Portland.

Stan is very proud of his Jewish heritage, and of his family.