

Professional Services,
Served with Profession.
Preferred by the Professional.



SERVICES

- » Corporation
- » LLC
- » LLP
- » PLLC
- » LLC Publishing
- » Sole Proprietorship
- » Partnerships
- » Trademarks
- » Patents
- » Copyrights
- » Corporate Kit
- » Etc.

Visit us at:
www.USACORPINC.com

Call us at:
718.362.4789

Toll Free:
866.67.USACORP
(678.7226)

Fax us:
718.408.2550

Contact us via Email:
service@usacorpinc.com

Rebbetzin Henny Machlis, a"h

REB. SHIFRA M. STONE

It is so difficult to grasp that our dear sister-in-law and aunt, Rebbetzin Henny Machlis, a"h, is no longer with us. She left this world this past Erev Shabbos to go to her Heavenly abode.

Ever since she joined the Machlis family 36 years ago, when she married our dear brother, ybl"c, Rabbi Mordechai Machlis, we considered her our "sister," not a sister-in-law. Her vibrant personality, her warm smile, her sagacious words, her deep Torah convictions, her love and devotion to all of *Klal Yisrael* made her a very special person indeed.

Thousands the world over were touched by her *chessed* and feel her loss. But, what can we say about the Henny Machlis that we knew so well?

Born and educated in Brooklyn, the daughter of Rabbi Moshe Chaim (Murray) Lustig, z"l, and, tbl"c, Mrs. Yita (Edith) Lustig-Feder, Henny was a devoted daughter to the end of her days. She tried very hard not to bring anguish or worry to her dear mother when she stayed at her home in Flatbush the last year and a half undergoing treatment.

Early in their married life, Rabbi Mordechai and Henny made *aliyah* — their common dream. However, in the months that they lived here in America, between their wedding on Rosh Chodesh Nisan and when they left for Israel, they established their home on pure *chessed*.

Newlyweds, they opened their hearts and home to the less fortunate, the homeless and those whom no one else wanted for Shabbos. Their small apartment on East 4th Street was small, but the room in their hearts was big!

After they arrived in Eretz Yisrael, their home in Maalot Dafna became famous for the wonderful Shabbos meals hosted by the Machlises. Henny would cook, peel and chop huge amounts of food, using their own funds to pay for it — which didn't last too long. They then had to borrow over their heads to accommodate the vast number of guests; the numbers grew and grew. People would line up outside to partake of Henny's food and bask in the warmth

and comfort of Shabbat — many for the first time in their lives.

Over the years, the numbers grew to about 100 Friday night and for Shabbos lunch, and a smaller number for *seudah shelishis*. Rebbetzin Henny would greet everybody with a huge smile and a hearty "Shalom." Of late, their modest apartment had wall-to-wall people.

Henny did everything with love and devotion. She said that even when she wasn't well she would stand and spice the food and *daven* to Hashem that the people would be elevated spiritually by her food.

A devoted *ezer k'negdo*, she encouraged Rabbi Machlis in his scholarly works, as a *maggid shiur* in yeshivah, and as a lecturer in Bar Ilan Judaic studies department. They ran Shabbos meals as a team: Rabbi Mordechai spoke and led the meal; Rebbetzin Henny would add her spice — a chassidic story, a parable or a *dvar Torah*.

And the people! Who came to Henny's house? Yeshivah students, seminary girls, widows, widowers, divorced people, distinguished members of the Yerushalayim community, soldiers ... as well as beggars, drunkards, homeless people — and tourists who walked home with Rabbi Mordechai from the Kosel on Shabbos morning.

It took a special *neshamah* to welcome all these people into her home. And, Henny greeted everyone with a warm smile! That was Henny the hostess!

But what about the personal Henny? A devoted wife, a loving mother to her 14 children, a caring mother-in-law, a doting *savta*, a beloved daughter, a wonderful sister, a cherished aunt and an adored sister-in-law — all wrapped up into one Rebbetzin Henny Machlis.

Her children will attest to the fact that she gave all her strength to raise them with the Torah ideals she held so dear. Although she gave and gave to the *klal*, her foremost concern was her children. Surprisingly, with all these strangers coming into the Machlis home and making themselves at home, the children appreciated and valued the *chessed* that Henny

Machlis did and they helped her in her noble work.

Rebbetzin Henny had a staunch *emunah* in Hashem and even when undergoing difficult treatments, always believed that He would come to her aid. Once, when she was riding in my car, I heard her talking. I thought she had taken out her cell phone and placed a call. A glance in the rearview mirror told me that she was talking to Hashem like one talks to a father:

"Abba, nothing else but please ..."

She seemed to have a direct line to *Shamayim!* She believed with her whole heart that *Ein od milvado* — that Hashem had the power to erase all of her terrible illness and suffering. She spent many hours *davening* at the gravesites of Harav Usher Freund, zt"l, in Yerushalayim and the *ohel* of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, zt"l, in America.

Many people credit their *shidduchim*, their *shalom bayis*, their righteous paths to the advice and the expertise of Henny Machlis. When she was well, she lectured and taught.

At the end of her *levayah* Friday, an hour and a half before Shabbos and a few hours after her *petirah*, those present sang *Eishes Chayil* and *Kah Echsof*. I have never heard singing at a *levayah* before. Listening to the proceedings on a telephone hook-up, amid copious tears, I realized that every *passuk* of Shlomo Hamelech's *Eishes Chayil* indeed described our sister-in-law, *eishes chayil* par excellence.

So now all this is gone! What are we going to do? Who will greet us with that warm loving embrace when we get to the Machlis home in Maalot Dafna? "*V'hachai yitein el libo* — and the living shall take to heart." Her husband, Rabbi Mordechai, her children, her spiritual children who are walking around like orphans will, *iy"H*, follow her footsteps, keeping Torah, *tefillah* and *chessed* a priority in their lives. May she be a *melitzas yosher* for her mother, her husband, her children, her siblings, her extended family and all of *Klal Yisrael*.

May we merit the coming of Moshiach and "*hakitzu veranenu shochmei afar*" ... *Vehi besocham*.

ARTSCROLL UPDATE

Rabbi Yisroel Reisman Speaks About Rav Pam on the Haftaros, by Rabbi Sholom Smith

Before writing this column, I usually read the book and then describe it to our readers, using either my own words and ideas or those of the author.

In *Rav Pam on the Haftaros*, by Rabbi Sholom Smith, though, I found still another voice, one that beautifully captures the essence of Rav Pam and his comments on the haftaros. I will call upon Rabbi Yisroel Reisman *shlita*, who wrote the Foreword, to describe Rav Pam's connection to the words of the prophets.

Rabbi Reisman writes:

Sefer Yirmiyahu was especially beloved to [Rav Pam]. He once related that when he was 11 years old, his father left Lithuania for the United States. His family followed two years later. In the interim, Rav Pam discovered that his father had left behind a copy of the recently printed *Sefer Yirmiyahu* with the *Malbim's* commentary.

The young Avrohom Pam learned the *sefer* with great enthusiasm. As he would later tell us, each page of the *sefer* had the heading "*Liber Yirmiyahu*," which he understood to mean that Yirmiyahu's words of *mussar* were said with love. ("*Liber*" is related to the Yiddish expression for love.) Only later did he realize that *Liber* is Latin for "Book of" and that

every volume of the set had a similar heading (*Liber Yehoshua*, *Liber Shoftim*, etc.), but the impression had already been made.

The words of Yirmiyahu were said with the warm feeling of the prophet's love. Our *Rebbi* carried this intense love for *Nach* in general, and Yirmiyahu in particular, for the rest of his life.

Rabbi Reisman goes on to discuss the difficult task of capturing his *rebbe's* voice:

Our *rebbe* was very particular about the manner in which his words were written for publication. Many (myself included) tried, but could not get that right style and precision that *Rebbi* wanted. When Rabbi Sholom Smith put pen to paper and presented *Rebbi* with a written draft of his *shmuess*, *Rebbi* was overjoyed. At last, he had found a *talmid muvhak* who could properly transmit the oral *shmuess* to the written medium.

As long as I'm quoting others, I will let Rabbi Smith himself complete this column:

While there have been scores of commentaries in English on Chumash, very little is available on the haftaros. To fill this void, I labored for the better part of three years on this *sefer*. I hope it will inspire its readers to become more familiar with this neglected part of Torah.