



ARTHUR "REB ABBA" ROSENTHOL

Hakaras Hatov Award

Arthur was born and raised in Philadelphia. After graduating

from the University of Pennsylvania with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, he went to work in the aircraft industry. He worked for three companies in three states in six years before deciding to change industries. A chemical engineering design firm in Manhattan took a chance on him, and after four years he and his bashert Sandie married and decided Manhattan was no place to raise a family.

Sandie did not want to go back to her home town of Wilkes Barre, PA and Arthur was happy to return to Philadelphia, so they applied for jobs there. They lived in Mt Airy for a year, davening at Rabbi Isaacson's Beth Solomon, then at Ohev Zedek, before buying a house in Bala Cynwyd in 1970, where they still live.

They raised three children who all graduated from Torah Academy. Arthur joined the TA Board when their first child started school, and was a on the Board for 30 years, serving as House Chairman for several years and Treasurer for one year. He and Rabbi Uri Mandelbaum made up the search committee who looked at 125 possible sites before finding the Wynnewood Road School in 1980. He was also ad journal chairman for seven years, a record that still stands. Sandie was Dinner Chair for several years, and she was the first woman elected to the board.

Since coming to the Kollel shortly after it was founded, Reb Abba as he became known, has assumed the position of "shamash," making sure the sifrei Torah are rolled and the proper Haftarah is marked in the Tanach for Shabbos and Yom Tov readings. He is a devoted member of Rabbi Biberfeld's Daf Yomi shiur, first Bavli and then Yerushalmi, and a regular at several other shiurim throughout the week. Reb Abba's consistency and reliability epitomize what a true servant of Hashem should be, and the Kollel is privileged to honor him with the Hakaras Hatov Award.