

Steven D. Reece

From: Jo Ann Siegienski <jsiegienski@matzevah.org>
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2018 10:32
To: Steven Reece
Subject: Re: Thank you!!!!!!

Haim may feel that his English is too limited to express himself well, but his message has me weeping. Though I understand the importance of our work on some level, there is a level that touches the souls of people like Haim that I know I'll never fully comprehend. The works of our Lord never cease to amaze me.

On Thu, Apr 5, 2018 at 3:04 PM, Steven D. Reece <sdreece@matzevah.org> wrote:

Dear Haim,

Thank you for sharing your heartfelt words. I understand your language limitations as a non-native speaker of English. I appreciate greatly your appreciation and words of encouragement. I will share your note with our board very soon.

I am glad to serve you and I look forward to our next meeting in PL. Thank you for your hospitality and paying for my stay in Chrzanów! Please keep me posted and let me know what you learn from the lawyer.

I have spent the past two day taking some time off and I am returning to work today. I am glad to be home with my family but I look forward to what lies ahead.

Grace and Peace to you and your family!

Blessings,

Steven

From: Haim Horowitz <Haim.Horowitz@dspg.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 5, 2018 07:13
To: sdreece@matzevah.org
Subject: Thank you!!!!!!

Dear Steven,

I'll start with apologies for not being able to fully express my gratitude to you. I'll do my best with the limitation of my "poor" English.

One of my luckiest days , throughout my 70 years on earth, was the day I met you, Caroline and Joann at the Jewish Cemetery in Oswiecim.

You gave me a precious gift (to my soul) by asking me, to take you and your whole team to my family's house in Oswiecim,

and to tell you there, about the tragic fate of my family. The chance you gave me to "revive" my family was priceless and I'll cherish it

as long as I'll be capable of thinking and feeling...

Few months ago, I became aware of the fact that the memorial in Chrzanow, commemorating 7 Jews (3 of them my close family members),

who were hanged by the Nazis on 29 April 1942, is in danger of being dismantled (or relocated) from where it stands. You visited with me

the site that is located under the trees on which the victims were hanged. Reason was that the memorial stands (since 1962!) on a privately

owned property. It was very depressing news for my family and myself and of course I needed friends to support me and assist me in my

journey for trying to find ways for saving the memorial, without the need to confiscate the piece of land on which it stands.

Well, the first person whom I felt, will be able to escort me along this emotionally heavy journey, was you dear Steven.

Your reaction was quick and you tied yourself to this "mission" immediately and without hesitations. This is not self-evident. This is very

special and encouraging. For people like you, I use the Yiddish term "Mentch" (מענטש). This word embeds in it so many "superlatives" that

are rightly yours but, I lack the ability to spell them out in English. With people like you, the world will definitely be a better place to live on!

Thanks to you, the meeting we had in Chrzanow Poland on 29 March 2018, with the Mayor of the town and two of his staff members

was, besides being extremely emotional for me, very successful and I'm now much more optimistic regarding the fate of the memorial

that for me (and my family) is a Grave Stone. The Nazis refused to let Jews in Chrzanow, who were forced to attend the notorious hanging,

to bury the 7 victims and rather, sent the bodies to the crematorium in Auschwitz.

As the meeting progressed (it was about 2 hours long!) I realized that you are much more than a friend. You are part of my family....

You helped me to define my obsession in handling the cases of the house in Oswiecim and the memorial in Chrzanow. It is all condensed

into three precious words: **Remembering**, **Restoring** and **Reconciling**!

When I tried to thank you with my dull language (but from the bottom of my heart...) you kept telling me that it is the other way round.

You thanked me for the opportunity I gave you, to do things that are the essence of your existence. You are a special and unique person.

As I dared telling you, the reflection of your merits clarified to me what real Judaism should be!

You told me a lot about "The Matzevah Foundation" and about the dear people who are so dedicated for the three "R" commandments.

These commandments are now added to the ten I learned about from the Bible, since I was 6 years old.

Please thank, on my behalf, your colleagues at TMF for what TMF is representing and doing for the Jews and the world.

I hope to meet with you soon!

Good Luck, and enjoy the short Timeout you have, with your family.

Yours, Haim

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