

76 NOYES STREET
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103

Return to

Eulogy
mo

Died 3/25/77
in Florida

Rabbi Chaim Yaffe & Cantor

Synagogue

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, MAINE
Permit No. 143

Morris Coy
Friday March 24, 1977

Martin Randson

Date of Death March 25, 1977

EULOGY-MORRIS COX
MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1977

During the month of /05 (Nissan) it is our custom not to eulogize the departed because the first 12 days of this month are days upon which no supplications are said, and then, comes the 8 days of Passover. The reason why these first 12 days are considered to be semi-holy days is that when the Jews left Egypt and built in the desert a (Mishkan) ^(Mishkan) a Tabernacle, a place of worship, the ^(Nasceim) p'keJ the princes of the tribes brought special gifts to Moses during the 12 days celebrating its consecration.

The Hebrew ^(Nasceim) p'keJ ~~is~~ translated means not only prince but also president. Morris in a way was also a leader and president among his people. He was active in a great many civic and communal organizations. Among the organizations with which he was

Eulogy-M. Cox

Page 2

connected were the Jewish Community Center, United Fund, Masons, Scottish Rites Bodies and the Kora Temple Shrine of Lewiston, Jewish welfare Board, Jewish Federation, Amvets and the Jewish War Veterans. He was a past president of and life member of Shaarey Tphiloh Synagogue. (Nesi)

To have been a 'keJ a prince, a head of a tribe

plasha p'keJ our teacher was told by G-d to choose men with special gifts of character. What were these special gifts in order to be a leader of Israel? A man had to hate corruption, love honesty, be wise and understanding. Maurice was a successful and respected President of the synagogue, for he had a goodly measure of these qualities. The gifts of ~~an~~ understanding, wisdom, a coupled with

patience made him especially suited for his work as president of the synagogue. He was able to find lasting solutions to problems. He was able to find and bring peace between factions in any organization

It was not only in the synagogue that he displayed these qualities of outstanding moral and ethical leadership, but in every facet of his life. He gave freely of himself to his family, people with whom he came into contact because of his work as clerk for the U.S. District Court and all the organizations in which he served.

The Rabbis in Pirkei Avot, the Ethics of our Fathers, tell us the most beautiful crown and the most difficult to acquire is

M. Cox

page 4
(Shem Tov)

216 pl

the crown of a good name. We are not born with a good name, We do not inherit a good reputation, nor can we buy it. There is one way and only one way to acquire a good name and that is through the way a man leads his life.

(Moshe Ben Yerahmiel HaCohen)

ידו ד' שנת / 216

life was one of total commitment to his family, friends, co-workers and the community. No matter where he was, he became involved with the community and his involvement was marked with great enthusiasm and dedication. The number of organizations and groups with which he worked is a tribute to his sense of community responsibility.

One of Morrie's most meaningful and beautiful relationships

was with the choir of the synagogue and especially with Cantor Zimelman. For 30 years these two men enjoyed a special and deep bond of love and friendship. Morrie for many years served as the choirmaster. During the time when the Holy Temple existed in Jerusalem, an integral part of the service was the singing and musical accompaniment of the tribe of Levi. The purpose of the Levites singing was to help elevate mankind from its preoccupation with materialistic and worldly worries and demands ~~and~~ into the spiritual world. Morris saw his participation in the choir as a form of spiritual leadership in the congregation. It was his bridge to cross over from the material world to the spiritual world.

We, the Jewish people, have found that our recollections of our history, past experiences and belief in G-d's words are the springs from which hope and light flow even in our darkest hours. To you, Anna, ~~or~~ Honey as we know you, his son James, and daughter Linda, Brothers Sam and Sidney and sister Rose Goldsmith (if they are in the sanctuary) his family, and those who knew Morrie, may the memory of ^(Morrie ben Yerahmial Hochan) /רבי מורי /ה'תשנ"ב, a man crowned eternally by the most precious crown of all, the crown of a good name, bring hope, comfort, and consolation to you and all Israel.

AMEN