

OBITUARIES

Rabbi Natan Schlesinger

Rabbi Dr. Natan (George) Schlesinger died Thursday, June 27, at Baptist Memorial Hospital Memphis.

A resident of the Memphis Jewish Home and Rehab for seven years, Rabbi Schlesinger, who was 87 years old, was the husband of Shulamith Davidi Schlesinger to whom he was married for 63 years. He was a member of Baron Hirsch Congregation.



Rabbi Natan Schlesinger

Rabbi Schlesinger, who was born on November 7, 1925, in Budapest, Hungary, moved to Eretz Yisrael in 1939 with his parents, Samuel and Rivka Schlesinger, who settled in Bnei Brak.

Rabbi Natan Schlesinger studied at Yeshivat Kol Torah in Jerusalem and at the Chevron Yeshiva and received smicha from Rav Yehuda Tzvi Meltzer in 1948.

He was one of the first teachers in the first B'nei Akiva Yeshiva in Kfar HaRoeh, where he met his wife.

Less than a year after their marriage in 1950, Rabbi and Mrs. Schlesinger went to Manchester to work for the Jewish Agency, teaching Hebrew and Judaic studies to young people to prepare them for aliyah to a religious kibbutz.

Rabbi Schlesinger received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. from the University of London and his Ph.D. in 1959 from the University of Melbourne.

While pursuing his doctorate, Rabbi Schlesinger lectured in the Jewish community of Melbourne and was the director of its Orthodox Sunday schools program. From 1960-67 he was a lecturer, senior lecturer, then professor at the Australian

National University in Canberra. He also volunteered his services as a rabbi to the small Jewish community of Canberra.

In 1967, the Schlesingers moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where Rabbi Schlesinger was a philosophy professor until he retired in 1998.

During his career he wrote ten books and more than 300 articles on scientific method, time and logic, which appeared in many journals and anthologies. He lectured throughout the world and was a visiting professor at the University of Pittsburgh, University of Texas and Bar

Ilan University.

Besides his wife, Rabbi Schlesinger is survived by a son, David (Linda) Schlesinger of Memphis, and four grandchildren.

Services were held Friday, June 28, with burial in Baron Hirsch Cemetery. Canale Funeral Directors had charge.

The family requests that any memorials be sent to the Margolin Hebrew Academy/Feinstone Yeshiva of the South (earmark for the Kollel Torah MiTzion) or to the Memphis Jewish Home and Rehab (earmark for the Shabbos House).