

The Mayers Story

Legacy of a Father

Nathan Mayers and Rose Mayers came from two different worlds.

Nate was born in the Bronx, New York to a family who was Jewish in heart and soul, but did not practice their religion.

Rose on the other hand was born in a small shtetl in the Ukraine to an Orthodox family.

Rose came to New York from Covington, Kentucky looking for a Jewish husband. That happened on Yom Kippur night, 1936 when three Jewish girls had blind dates with three Jewish men. Nate took one look at the three and knew that Rose was the one for him. Eight months later they were married in Rabbi Eliezer Silver's study with a few of their family attending. Being 1937, their honeymoon consisted of a trip to Niagara Falls, accompanied by Nate's mother, sister, and niece.

Nate and Rose lived in New York for four years during which time their oldest child, Ellen, was born. It was hard making a living and Rose decided it was time to move back home. She wrote her brother-in-law, a carpenter/contractor if there was any work in Cincinnati for an electrician. Even though Nate was working as a cab driver, he had been trained to be an electrician in vocational school. Rose's brother-in-law replied, "Come home!"

Nate had no problem finding a job as an electrician. Wright Aeronautical needed many since World War II was raging.

Janet and then Howard were born. Their family was now complete, but Nate had a new job that required him to travel a lot. One time when Nate came back after being away for a week, he picked up Howard, and Howard started to cry. The next day Nate quit his job and decided to go into business for himself. He went from store to store in the neighborhood and asked if they needed an electrician. That was the beginning of Mayers Electric Co.

Howard knew from a very early age that he was going to work with his father in the business. He would work summers and vacations absorbing all that he could from his father. After graduating from college, he began full time work with his Dad. After his father's death in 1988, Howard took over the leadership of Mayers Electric Co.

Howard has continued the work his father started with many installations throughout the city including the Aronoff Center for the Arts, Yavneh Day School, Cincinnati Hebrew Day School, RITSS, and the new Cincinnati Reds Ballpark.

He has also continued his father's example of tzedakah with both Jewish and secular donations. He donated the lighting for the dome on Walnut Hills High School, and is the resident electrical contractor for Golf Manor Synagogue. The renovations for the chapel building, the new bulletin board, and the new front canopy are testimony to his generosity. Along with his work at Mayers Electric, Howard has been an active participant, serving on the boards of Yavneh Day School, the Jewish Community Center, Jewish National Fund, Jewish Welfare Fund, and Golf Manor Synagogue.