



**A LEGACY'S  
JOURNEY**

**FEBRUARY 2020**

**By:**

**Dianna McDowell**

**Cindy Morrison**

Dear Friend,

Enclosed you will find a journal-like accounting from Cindy Morrison, Elisha Noy and Dianna McDowell who had the great privilege of travelling as your *ambassadors* to Israel for purposes of Bethel Biblical's donation to the Israeli soldiers. As with any story there is a beginning, a middle and an end. Sometimes, you know the ending before the story really develops. We have been blessed to know through countless persons of the Lord that the ending was going to be better than the beginning. Little did we know that even the middle and the end would far exceed anything our human minds could imagine. Little did we know that we would experience such miracles all the way to the very end, even during times of testing. Little did we know that our reference to "the end" would be challenged and redefined by General Yaacov Shabtay, Major General, Commander of the Border Guard. You will have to read this journal to find out more about this extraordinary event. We refer to Major General Yaacov Shabtay as "General" when speaking about him in a personal way throughout our journal.

In our early communications with the Border Patrol, we recognized the need for some type of document that would describe who was making this donation and why. We wanted to share the miracle of this donation. Dianna decided to prepare a short biography that would be given to everyone we worked with in the accomplishment of getting the donation to Israel. Pastor Bob and Cindy were involved in the process. Cindy prepared a photo album highlighting Israel event days (Highway to Zion), the Bethel Church building and other photographs that would be taken to Israel with us. We shared this Biography with our hosts and business contacts in New York City and Israel. Several excerpts are quoted in this journal. When we speak about the beginning of the story, it begins here...

*Robert Hooley is currently retired and living in Aurora, Colorado. He is 89 years old and has spent over fifty years in the ministry. His wife Carol served alongside him until she passed away in 2008. Robert and Carol, over the years, developed a sincere and personal love for Israel and the Jewish people. This love was not only heartfelt, but was demonstrated in saying and doing those things which blessed Israel and the Jewish people. Today, nothing brings more joy to Robert than sharing his personal love for the Nation of Israel and its people.*

*It was through many visits to Israel and meeting so many extraordinary people and military personnel who contributed to Robert's great love for studying the Bible with a specific emphasis on prophetic truths especially in connection with the latter-day events involving Israel and the Jewish people. Over the years, Robert has been instrumental in sharing a message of love and support for Israel and its people to many other churches. With no credit to himself, this message resonated with many other pastors and people.*

Cindy, Elisha and Dianna hope that you will enjoy reading our journal. Along with the details of our trip you will find notes in blue italic conveying additional thoughts and observations of interest.

[Excerpt from Biography]

*Upon entering their early retirement years, Robert and Carol quickly realized that they still possessed a strong desire, along with good health, to pastor a new work. Their prayer to the Lord, at that time, was that this new ministry would have a vision to bless the Jewish Nation Israel. When Bethel Biblical was organized in 1999-2000, it was a long-time goal of Robert and Carol and*

*the congregation to be able to bless Israel and the Jewish people with a significant financial donation sometime in the future.*

In the late spring and early summer of 2019, the Corporate Board of Bethel Biblical, after much prayer and review of the Church financials, attendance numbers and other data, made the decision to quickly close the church. The Corporate Board was asked to try and sell Bethel Biblical to a particular church. When this option failed, the Corporate Board listed the property with a real estate broker.

The closure of Bethel Biblical was a heart-wrenching decision. Bethel had been home to so many wonderful Christians; it was family. It was a tearful and sad time. The Lord, through the ministry of two other pastors, witnessed the Corporate Board's plan to close. We were encouraged to hold dear to our hearts the words, *the ending would be better than the beginning.* Little did we know at that time that this process would be punctuated with miracle after miracle.

The reality of the situation was that the Corporate Board could not continue to operate Bethel and maintain funds to hold us through the time it might take for the church to sell. Realtors, city projections and data, and other research all said it could take up to five years, if at all, for a church to sell. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, it would have been next to impossible to sell the church before funds ran out. Thankfully, the Lord already knew the outcome. To the surprise of our realtor and our attorney, we were approached with an offer from a church for full price within three months of listing. I can tell you on the evening of that notification, Cindy and I could hardly speak because of the tears of joy that God had answered our prayers and those of so many of you. We knew that the Lord had defined the timing of Bethel Biblical's closure. We had witnessed a miracle. You know, the Lord just sometimes wants to make a statement to His children, so He decided that we should not just have one offer, there would now be two offers at full price. We still get goosebumps just speaking about this. Due to some contract changes regarding required inspections, our realtor advised me that the closing date for Bethel would be moved to October 8<sup>th</sup>, which just happens to be our mother's birthday. When I called Cindy and Pastor Bob to update them on the change, I said, "Guess who is going to be at the closing"? My answer was "Mom."

As a result of the sale of Bethel Biblical, we can proclaim that this small, deeply committed group of people (Bethel), have been able to make a sizeable donation to the soldiers of the Israel Border Patrol. After several months of communications with the Israel Border Patrol, it was agreed that Bethel would be a donor for an Olympic indoor swimming pool for the soldiers on one of its bases. We were ecstatic that the donation would result in such a large and prominent project as a swimming pool. The pool would be used for the enjoyment and welfare of the soldiers as well as training. We had been taught from the Bible that God will bless them that bless Israel, and curse them which curse Israel (Genesis 12:3). This was an important truth and principle in the ministry of Bethel Biblical. Who would have ever imagined that a goal set back in 1999, often forgotten about, would be fulfilled? Three words tell the story: **God Did It!** What an amazing legacy for all of us to share.

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From the very beginning, we felt honored to be ambassadors for our father and mother and the congregation of Bethel Biblical and its many friends in this amazing final chapter. We say to each of you, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting us through this time.

After months of prayer and communication with the Border Patrol, the timing to travel to Israel seemed to fall into place but not without some consternation on the part of Cindy and me. We had been struggling with if we should go, when is the right time, how to ensure our father was taken care of and, of course, coordination with our respective family members and planned events. So many questions and issues to be resolved.

The decision to travel to Israel seemed to coincide with increased friction towards Israel with more missile attacks from Hamas. Also, President Trump had just instituted new stronger sanctions against Iran. As a result, Iran was very vocal of their displeasure and, of course, threatened to cut off relations with the US. Their usual evil message of “Death to the United States and Death to Israel” again made headlines around the world. These factors weighed heavily on our decision to travel to meet the Border Patrol. Despite all that I just mentioned, it just seemed that we should proceed with making plans. We selected the week of February 23 to be in Israel. Elisha had been in touch with the Border Patrol and they urged us to come so that we could meet with them. We purchased tickets with a cancellation policy in the event it was just too dangerous or other issues arose. Cindy and I were excited to know that Elisha would be travelling with us.

For those of you who had the privilege of taking a church sponsored Israel tour and having Elisha as your bus driver, you know what an amazing man he is. Elisha worked countless hours to help us with the final arrangements with the Border Patrol. He has been with Pastor Bob and Carol and our family since 1976. The most complimentary words we can think of to say are, *“He Is Family.”*

Dianna made arrangements to fly in from Portland three days prior to our international departure in the event Denver was slammed with one of its winter blizzards. We did not want to take any chances in missing the flight from Denver to Tel Aviv. Airline tickets and all arrangements were finalized. Messages from the Border Patrol through Elisha said they were very excited and had two special days planned for us. The trip was on. Pastor Bob relayed his confidence to us that the timing was directed by the Lord and that we would be protected.

From the time plans were made, many confirmations and words of encouragement were received from so many people. One of our major concerns had been who would stay with Pastor Bob. Tameria Stukes volunteered to stay with Pastor Bob which is an amazing act of love and friendship. Cindy and I could travel knowing that our father was in good hands. We know that the Lord will have a special blessing for Tami. She took a week of vacation to be with Pastor Bob. There are no words to really thank her for this gift that she gave us. Her personal sacrifice is one that we will never forget.

We were so blessed to know that so many people, even many outside of Colorado, were keeping us in prayer and had expressed great joy and excitement in knowing that the vision of so many years ago for Bethel Biblical to give a large donation to the Israeli soldiers was going to happen. In the words of Pastor Bob, ***God Did It!***

We hope that as you read the journal, especially the days with the Border Patrol, that you will rejoice in your role in making this happen. We know that the Lord will bless those that bless Israel. Your sacrifices, your love and your commitment to bless Israel and the Jewish people was honored with great respect from General Shabtay and his staff of the Border Patrol.

## **Day One: Denver to Tel Aviv via Munich, Germany**

Cindy and I began the morning getting ready to leave, although most of our packing and organizing had been done several days in advance. Tami, who was going to stay with Pastor Bob, came over early to check on household appliances, get keys, etc. We would meet Elisha at the airport. Pastor Bob and Tami prayed over us and we loaded up the car with our luggage and backpacks. We decided to try and travel hands free, so we opted to take backpacks. You can believe us when we say, they were packed full to bulging.

Check-in at Lufthansa Airlines went smoothly and we arrived at the gate to wait for Elisha. The plane was projected to leave on time, connecting through Munich, Germany which meant we would arrive in Tel Aviv on February 28<sup>th</sup> sometime late morning. Elisha arrived shortly thereafter and we expressed our excitement and curiosity about what the Border Patrol was planning for us. Elisha said they would not even tell him; it was going to be a surprise.

The time was finally upon us, we were in our seats and on our way. Quietly, each of us pondered how the Lord had brought us to this ordained time, the miracles that had preceded the start of a legacy of support and love for the Jewish people by our parents. We were somewhat overwhelmed that the trip was really happening. The three of us high-fived each other knowing the significance of what we were about to witness.

Cindy and I sat in isle seats across from each other and Elisha was seated behind me. Everyone had their ear phones, blankets and pillows. Dinner arrived about two hours into the flight and then off went the lights and everyone went to sleep. Well, not everyone. Cindy and I both checked on Elisha and sure enough, he was sleeping. Cindy and I chose to watch a movie hoping that the movie would make us tired. Of course, movie number one did not tire us. Movie two, maybe found me dozing a few minutes here and there [I don't think so, but Cindy was sure I was sleeping]. Cindy, not so much. She tried movie number three and then gave up and just decided to close her eyes and rest. Several times throughout the flight we would reach over and tap each other and lament that only minimal hours had passed. Given that we weren't sleeping and likely not to, we decided to indulge in our stash of Twizzlers--the sugar probably ensuring we would never sleep. Elisha, sleeping soundly, missed out on this little treat.

After about nine and one-half hours (we had some nice winds giving us a push), we landed in Munich, Germany where we had to change planes. Another perk in having Elisha with us, is that due to a recent leg injury that made walking long distances difficult, we caught a ride in one of the airline's service carts to our next gate. It was so nice because we didn't have to try and figure out where we were supposed to be in an airport that didn't have much in the way of English directives.

When it became time to board, he was eligible for early boarding and, of course, his sisters (Cindy and Dianna) had to go with him. We laughed the whole way down the jetway to the plane. We took our seats for another projected four and one-half hours (oh yea) and off we went.

Early in our planning, Cindy and I decided that we would wear some of our mother's and father's jewelry -- symbolic of carrying them with us in our hearts as we completed this amazing journey. We knew in our hearts that our mother (Carol) was watching over us.

We finally heard those coveted words from the pilot, "*We are beginning our arrival into Tel Aviv.*" We were excited and tired. We were also nervous but our faith was strong. We knew that this was the Lord's

plan. It had been ten years since we were in Israel. The last time being the dedication of an outdoor workout facility on an Israeli Air Force base in honor of Carol, our mother, and Bethel Biblical. Bittersweet but we were focused on our ambassador duties.

### **Day Two: Arrival in Tel Aviv, Israel**

Finally, we exited the plane. As a resident of Israel, Elisha's process was much shorter so he waited on the other side of Customs and Immigration for us. Things went smoothly, the process is so much more reliant on technology now. However, with hundreds of people arriving in Israel it was much the same as previous trips: confusion and commotion. Thankfully, everyone's luggage arrived. We got a taxi and headed off to our hotel in Tel Aviv.

*[It was fun to observe people and how quickly those observations brought back memories as we saw Hasidic Jews and young soldiers with their AK 47's (more to read about AK 47's on day three of the journal), families with small children and youth who looked much like we see in the states and stylish young men and women who looked very European. We both commented on how many people we saw smoking outside the airport. This was something that we observed frequently throughout our time in Israel.]*

We got settled into a taxi and off we went. We were looking out the windows, fascinated by everything we were seeing. I am not sure what we expected, but it was not as reminiscent of our memories of the city from previous trips. Ben Gurion airport is no longer a small airport, it is huge with several large parking structures. There continues to be military checkpoints. The traffic was UNBELIEVABLE on the highway and we would soon learn that traffic is a major problem all across the country. As we entered the downtown area, we saw the old and the new. The old Israeli homes and storefronts had not changed, yet there was a different feel to what we saw. Tel Aviv is a modern city of high-rise buildings, new cars of all sizes, sports stadiums, new theatres, outdoor parks, etc. Our hotel was a small, quiet boutique hotel located a few blocks from the beach. It was very clean, not fancy, but a welcome sight. The hotel caters to very small groups of tourists and business travelers.

Elisha's son, Dori met us at the hotel. Dori was going to help Elisha pick up his car so that we could do some sightseeing the next day. We had a lovely visit with Dori and had some appetizers from the hotel's open happy hour. As Elisha and Dori went off to handle the transportation, Cindy and I headed to our room for some rest and preparation for the next few days. You would think that we would be able to use the card key to enter the room and turn on the lights with little to no difficulty. Not the case, the card key worked to open the door but as soon as we got inside and closed the door the hall light would go out leaving us in complete darkness. The light switch inside the room would not turn on the lights. This seemed strange, certainly we would be able to figure this out? After a few tries, we realized that one of the card keys had to be inserted and remain in a special holder on the wall. Finally, we were in our room. Next, I started working to get our phone chargers set up with the converter/adaptor that is required. Everything was working, we could relax now that we knew we could dry our hair and charge our phones. That may not seem like a big deal, but Cindy and I had reason to worry as on the last tour we took together, we literally blew out the electricity for an entire floor at a hotel. Apparently, we had used the wrong adapter. We managed to get a bit of sleep, thanks to Tylenol PM. Thank goodness we had come prepared to help minimize the time change (9 hours for Cindy and Elisha and 10 for Dianna).

### **Day Three: A Slow Day of Travel by Car to Ashkelon and Ashdod**

We met for breakfast at 8:30 am (although we were up far earlier). Breakfast was amazing. For those of you who remember how wonderful an Israeli breakfast is, you would not have been disappointed. The buffet selections of fresh vegetables and fruit were spectacular. Eggs, waffles, fish, were in abundance and, of course, Israeli bread. Right away, we knew the bread was going to be a problem – laughing but enjoying every bite. Cindy was not let down by her first cup of Israeli coffee.

Elisha began our day of sightseeing by taking us to an outdoor café that overlooked the city of Tel Aviv, the shipping port and the coastline. It was a quaint, little café. We enjoyed more coffee (which Cindy loved) and some chocolate cake that Elisha convinced us we had to have. This café was one of his favorite places to visit. We won't really draw attention to the fact that only ninety minutes earlier we had just eaten breakfast. "Oh well," as they say.

Elisha decided we would head toward Gaza by way of some back roads and check out some sights that are off the usual beaten path for tourists. Cindy sat in front with Elisha and seemed to go along with this plan to head towards Gaza. I, on the other hand, was not sure at all about the plan. I thought to myself, does anyone not read or listen to the news? Anyway, we ventured on and were turned away at several checkpoints by the Border Patrol soldiers. I cannot speak for those in the front seat of the car, but I was certainly breathing a bit easier in the back seat.

The arrangement to have Cindy sit in front with Elisha worked out nicely because they both wanted the AC on. Let me elaborate a bit, they both wanted ice cycles growing off their eye lashes. Lucky for me that there was a nice size towel in the back seat that I placed over my legs and along with my coat, I was fairly warm.

We continued driving on little known roads. It was a beautiful day and the weather was perfect. Here are some of the highlights of that special day:

- Elisha pointed out some beautiful red and white flowers that were along all the roads and growing in open, beautiful large fields. Elisha told us that these flowers had not bloomed in many years and that hundreds of people from the cities would be driving to the country to see the flowers on the upcoming weekend. This reminded Cindy and I of the scripture about flowers blooming in the desert.
- We stopped to see an old war memorial, Hill 69 from the War of Independence in 1948. The memorial was located in a deserted park except for a few men who were the caretakers. It was peaceful and beautiful. We really enjoyed listening to Elisha share about the memorial. Please take a moment to read the inscription on the Memorial (see attached photograph).
- As we were driving, we were seeing how people in this more modern Israel lived. We stopped to have some coffee in a roadside petrol/café. Elisha shared stories from his childhood about the area with us. We watched a group of young teenagers come in for lunch. The girls wore yoga pants and other athletic wear, the young men wore sweat pants, jeans and hats – not much different than what we see in the States.
- The cities of Ashkelon and Ashdod looked nothing like we remembered from previous tours. Today, the cities are filled with high-rise buildings everywhere. Almost every direction you looked, you saw new construction. Some family living areas did look much the same as we saw them ten



to twenty years ago. However, in general our perception was that “Israel had grown up.” You will also remember your prophetic teachings from the Bible about the significance of these cities.

*[We noticed a new area that reminded us of a new housing development in just about any city in America. We were told that the new generation wants to raise their families in single family unit homes with more space. We asked Elisha about kibbutzim and if they remain popular to which he responded that the new generation is no longer interested in that way of life. Also, families, even in the large cities, want two cars which accounts for some of the traffic problems.]*

*[The population of Israel is slightly over 8,000,000 people. In Tel Aviv, we were told that the French were flocking to Israel to retire because of the temperate Mediterranean climate and the beach. Apparently, they are bringing a great deal of wealth with them. Many of the new high-rise condominiums and apartments are in response to this growing segment of their population.]*

- Elisha wanted to say hello and check-in on his good friend who had served in the military with him. His friend Dave lives in an older neighborhood with beautiful lemon and lime trees and gorgeous flowers. His friend recently lost his wife and was also going through some serious health issues. Cindy and I enjoyed their banter, as only old friends can share. His hobby was wood carving and his entire house was filled with his creations; it was beautiful work. As we sat outside in his backyard, he pointed out his bomb shelter to us. He said that once the announcement is made to evacuate, you have thirty seconds or less to get to your shelter. He told us that he spent a few hours in the bomb shelter several days earlier.

*[Many Jewish people choose to live in areas that are targets for missiles from Hamas, but you would often times never know it from speaking with them. That is because it is NORMAL; it is their way of life, and they have adjusted to this aspect of their living. Later on, that evening, we learned by telephone that Dave had to evacuate to his shelter sometime after we had departed. A rocket, which was not destroyed by the Dome Technology, had hit a preschool in the area. Thankfully, due to the recent escalation in attacks, school had been cancelled so no one was injured or killed.]*

- Continuing our drive, Elisha asked Cindy if she remembered a building situated on a hill which we were viewing. She said, “Yes, I think that’s one of the homes we funded through the Soldiers’ Association.” We decided to turn around and try to visit the facility. There were guards at the entrance but thanks to Elisha, he convinced the guard to call the General of the facility who gave permission for us to enter. How amazing is it that soldiers today continue to benefit from a donation many years ago?

*[Since we are speaking about soldiers, I’ll mention that General Shabtay told us that there is discussion at very high levels about shortening the service component from three years to two and three-quarters years.]*

*[One of the other senior officers that was with us told us that fewer men and women are opting for military careers now. He said it’s a very interesting shift in the military that they have been experiencing.]*

We decided that it was time to return to the hotel and get ready for our first day with the Border Patrol. Cindy and I very much had enjoyed the day with Elisha. We were expecting to be picked up at about 8:00 in the morning and driven to the Border Patrol Training Facility.

## Day Four: Border Patrol

Elisha, Cindy and I met for an early breakfast in preparation to meet General Shabtay, Major General, Commander of the Border Guard. We were picked up in a car driven by a young soldier who had his AK47 in the passenger seat which was later placed in the trunk since Elisha sat up front with him. We headed out of Tel Aviv and, again, were surprised at the amount of traffic. Cars, bumper to bumper, were slowly coming into the city of Tel Aviv as we were leaving.

We arrived at the Border Patrol Training Facility which is a new, sprawling structure. Several hundred soldiers, both men and women, were in the courtyard area. We were quickly escorted to General Shabtay and his right-hand person, Baruch. Right away, there was an immediate connection with the General and Baruch. Baruch escorted us inside the building to have some refreshments.

We found out that we were attending a gathering of about 400-500 Border Patrol soldiers for General Shabtay's annual state of the Border Guard address. We were escorted to *reserved* seating where we would watch the event. Unfortunately, the event was in Hebrew; however, we had Elisha and Chana to translate for us as necessary. The large screen power point presentation contained a lot of pictures which was helpful to understanding the content of General Shabtay's presentation.

We were all instructed to stand for the entrance of the high-ranking officers who were in full dress with arms including General Shabtay. The national anthem was played. It was a very moving experience for us and we knew that we were in for a special treat. The greatest of respect and honor was directed toward General Shabtay.

As I said, we were seated in reserved seating right behind the row of retired and active officers of the Border Patrol. There were three photographers (soldiers) constantly moving around the auditorium to take pictures. Naturally, they took a *gazillion* pictures of the officers. Being seated right behind them meant we were going to be photographed along with them. I am pretty sure all of us tried to keep a pleasant look on our face and not make any weird faces or yawn. We enjoyed hearing a young music group of soldiers sing a few songs. They reminded us of the original International Singers group which Pastor Bob and Carol formed.

One of the most memorable moments of the presentation came when General Shabtay showed a picture on the large screen of a swimming pool. Baruch, who was sitting in front of me, leaned back and said that this is the pool that Bethel is funding. As the General spoke, he announced that Cindy, Dianna and their Abba (father) were the donors for this pool. As General Shabtay pointed to us from the stage area in the auditorium, the audience was very gracious in recognizing the generosity of the donation. There are no words that describe how we all felt at that moment. Elisha, having been with our parents since 1976 was so moved by this recognition for his friend, Pastor Bob. Cindy and I were overcome with tears and happiness. The General went out of his way to extend his thanks as well as his appreciation for the donation. During a short break, a retired officer from the Border Patrol came up to us and said that what we were doing was truly extraordinary. He was gracious and genuinely touched by the donation from Bethel Biblical.

*[Later we would learn that one of the photographers was General Shabtay's daughter who had just begun her required military service. She was with us on the base as you will read about in the next day's entry. I jokingly offered her money to stop taking photographs of us. From that point on, it became a bit of a joke*

*that when she would walk by us, she would always start to take a photograph. Cindy and I both fell in love with her.]*

Following the ceremony, we enjoyed lunch in the student cafeteria with the General and his staff. It was very interesting to speak with some of his high-ranking officers about their lives, families and travels to the United States, most often New York and California. Now it was off to an escorted afternoon in Jerusalem.

*[Another very interesting observation was how the military personnel interacted with Elisha. The General and his senior staff were very respectful of Elisha's service record. Cindy and I both commented how touched we were that Elisha, who is 81 years old, was honored and admired. Israel owes a debt to the many men and women like Elisha who fought and paid for the freedom of Israel.]*

*[We all remember such names as Brigadier General Natke Nir, Brigadier General Avigador Kahalani and others who were military heroes in their time. Today, the youth of Israel do not want to discuss war, they do not even recognize the names of these military heroes. We see this same trend in the United States where our youth do not know our country's history.]*

The day was rainy, overcast and rather chilly so we weren't sure if we would be doing a lot of walking or if we would just be driving through the Old City. There is nothing like entering the City of Jerusalem. It touches your heart in a special place and you feel in awe of this majestic city with its historic and religious sites built out of Jerusalem stone. You feel as though you have literally stepped back in time.

Our first stop was the United States Embassy in Jerusalem. The new Embassy houses the Ambassador and a small fifty member staff. Cindy and I got out of the car and did go view the plaque. The Embassy is open by appointment only so we did not get to go in. We noticed a lot of construction activity.

From the Embassy we found our way to the Western Wall or Wailing Wall, a place of prayer and pilgrimage sacred to the Jewish people. I think we were all speaking at the same time, trying to point out places of interest as our escort was driving. The views were stunning. As we drove on the street alongside the Wall, we weren't sure where the driver was going to let us off but to our surprise, he pulled into an area sealed off for the Border Patrol and parked the car. Oh my gosh, we could not believe that General Shabtay had arranged this visit for us. We were less than 150 yards from the Wall. We literally, got out of the car and were at the Wall within a few steps. Knowing that our trip to Israel would be very short, we had hoped that we would be able to visit the Wall. You never forget seeing the Wall; you never forget praying at the Wall; you never forget touching the Wall and seeing crevices filled with requests written on tiny pieces of paper. What a powerful and reverent setting.

Little did we know that there was one more special event for us as two of the Border Patrol soldiers asked us to follow them for a short walk on a paved street and then up a set of stairs to a rooftop view of the City which was closed to the general public. We gazed upon the City of Jerusalem with awe and wonder. Jerusalem is like nowhere else. One of the soldiers took Cindy and I to a closed room as we headed back to the car. He wanted us to see the Temple Mount through the windows of this ancient room. Although metal bars covered the windows, the view was very unique. Cindy took a photograph of the scene but really, it was the kindness and the pride with which the soldier showed us the special room and view that made it so special to us. We profusely thanked him for this special kindness. Visiting the Wall is an unbelievable experience, but today, it was an event that we will forever hold dear in our hearts. We later

learned that President Trump and Vice President Pence had recently been at the Wall via this same process. Again, the graciousness and kindness of General Shabtay went far beyond anything we could have ever asked for.

#### **Day Five: Border Patrol Base (Between Jerusalem and Jericho)**

Our last day with the Border Patrol could not be described any other way than remarkable, a day that we will never forget. The amount of time and resources that went into making the day so special for us was very impressive. Cindy had the chance to visit with Baruch about the two days we spent with the Border Patrol and he told her that the General, himself, planned every aspect of the itinerary.

Elisha, who served in the military and who has been the go-between for Pastor Bob and Carol and tour groups, special trips for Pastor Bob, and the original International Singers commented that he has never witnessed such hospitality and generosity. The General only excused himself once to attend to business, otherwise, he was with us the entire day and directed all of the activities. As your ambassadors, Cindy, Elisha and myself were stunned by the hospitality that we received. There is only one response, the Lord opened their hearts to the *miracle of the donation* from Bethel Biblical. I can assure you from speaking with our contact in the New York City Office of the IDF and other special units that Bethel's donation garnered a lot of attention. They receive donations that exceed millions of dollars from a single donor; yet, this donation from Bethel Biblical was special. You ask why? Because, **God Did It!**

General Shabtay said that from the very beginning he felt a strong connection with us. We are thankful to the Lord for preparing the hearts of these men of war before we arrived. We also owe this in part to the outstanding effort that Elisha did on our behalf before we ever arrived. The three of us could not have been more proud of Pastor Bob and Carol, the members of Bethel Biblical and other friends who have supported the Jewish people and the Land of Israel alongside us. The Lord will bless each of you for your commitment and contributions of time, labor and money. Here is another excerpt from the Biography that was sent along with the earliest of notifications of our donation.

*[In order to really understand the miracle or significance of this donation, a little bit of history about Bethel Biblical and its members is important to know. The congregation was made up of about 300 people at one time. The majority of its members were involved in the establishment of Bethel Biblical. They were hardworking people, kind and generous, and dedicated to their faith. They had been taught from the Bible that God will bless them that bless Israel, and curse them which curse Israel (Genesis 12:3). This was an important truth and principle in the ministry of Bethel Biblical.]*

*The members of Bethel Biblical were from all walks of life spanning the very young to those who were retired from their life's vocation. These people lived and worked in suburbs of the greater Denver, Colorado area. By all accounts, just regular hard-working people. Yet, today because of their financial support to Bethel Biblical and strong leadership over the years, Bethel Biblical is able to bless the land of Israel and the Jewish people with this donation to the soldiers of the Israel Border Patrol. Who would have ever imagined that a goal set back in 1999, often forgotten about, would be fulfilled? Three words tell the story: **God Did It!**]*

## Highlights from Our Final Day with the Border Patrol

We left the hotel at about 6:30 am as we had quite a drive to the base which was located between Jerusalem and Jericho. We saw beautiful areas built and inhabited by the Israelis. Our escort pointed out other areas including areas that had been officially given to the Palestinians. Those developments seemed to lack the beauty and lushness of so many of the areas built by the Jewish people. We saw many Bedouin tribes with their tents in fields with grass for their sheep and goats as we made our way to the base.

As we pulled up in the car at the base, the General and his staff greeted us outside. We were ushered into a building that housed a small conference room. They had prepared a wonderful breakfast feast for us. As soon as we had finished eating, the General provided us with a very informative power point presentation about the Border Patrol. This time it was in English. Next, General Shabtay wanted us to see a small building that he has designated as a place of prayer for the soldiers. There were two sections: one for Jews and one for other religions. The space was beautiful and you felt a reverent silence.

It is important to understand that General Shabtay has transformed the Border Patrol from one of the lesser choices of youth beginning their military service to one of elite status. Today, the Border Patrol is the most popular and requested unit by new recruits. The Board Patrol accepts only 1000 new recruits on a yearly basis and it is a very competitive process.

*[Just how do students get placed in their military service units: I was told by one of the senior officers that the process begins with students in high school filling out a form and listing their choices such as Border Patrol, Army, Air Force, etc. The form also requests information about their specific interests such as technology, desire to fly a helicopter or plane, etc. All students are required to take some tests (much like our standardized testing) that a Review Board will evaluate, along with their personal requests, to determine ultimately where they will be assigned for their service component.*

*The Captain went on to discuss how the “cord” is cut between the recruits and their parents as they begin their service to their country. They must learn to be responsible for themselves and adapt to the many rigors of military life. Cindy and I commented that so many of the youth we observed seemed far more mature than those that we often see here in the United States. We were told that many of the recruits go on to higher education goals after their service. It appears that these students are much more settled and ready for the rigors of studying compared to students who go to college right out of high school as most do in the United States. It was a very interesting discussion.]*

IT’S OFFICIAL -- we are honorary members of the Border Patrol. We were gifted with official Border Patrol ball caps which you will see us wearing in many of the pictures. Now that we looked like Border Patrol, we loaded up in a military type vehicle driven by the General and headed out into the center of the base. One of the first sights that we saw was the area designated for the swimming pool. Wow, there was a big hole! General Shabtay had used some of his soldiers and equipment to dig the hole in order to save money. General Shabtay wants to have the pool completed within 6-9 months.

Next, we walked around outdoor exhibits of equipment, vehicles, weapons and camouflage. The amount of work done on our behalf was astounding. At least 18 soldiers were involved in demonstrations of equipment and specific training exercises in special designed structures to show how they protect people and/or capture terrorists or other individuals:

- Military Vehicles and Technology: We were able to look at two of their vehicles which were customized to carry the latest technology allowing them to see and record a mission. On display were several drones from small to exceptionally large.
- Military Camouflage: There were two displays of camo that the soldiers utilize. Cindy, decided she would jokingly say that she really wanted one of those 'dresses' so to speak. Little did we know that we would be dressing up in camo, (*Thanks Cindy*), holding Glocks and hiding amongst trees and shrubbery demonstrating how to capture the terrorists without them knowing we were present. Of course, our new wardrobes elicited some laughter and several photographs (you will see one). I think we were supposed to look mean but we just didn't pull that off. Elisha and Chana also participated in the exercise. This exercise was performed in a greenhouse that looked like the desert with trees, shrubbery, sand, boulders – very realistic.

*[You might wonder why a greenhouse as we also wondered. General Shabtay explained that he needed to be able to train the soldiers during the hot summer months. He came up with the idea to have the Border Patrol build a greenhouse and then design it to support training missions.]*

*[The concept of a greenhouse was so successful that two more greenhouse structures are under construction. This allows the soldiers to train even at night because special lighting and air conditioning is also built into the structures.]*

#### **Watched Three Training Scenarios:**

- The first was an exercise set up to show how with intel, the soldiers would slip into an area early and hide until the time of the actual mission. It was an incredible show of skill and talent. The stage was a side of a mountain that we could easily see and yet the soldiers who were wearing camouflage were undetectable by us. A drone was used to track the arrival of the *bad guys* while in another area, soldiers seated in their vehicle were watching the mission play out on video feed. All of a sudden you heard guns and explosions and saw vehicles and soldiers on the move as well as a canine dog. It was over in seconds; they had apprehended the *bad guys* and were back in their vehicles leaving the area with their prisoners.

*[Canine Unit: We saw how the canine unit works with the soldiers and participates in dangerous missions. It was really impressive to watch. As we all expressed our thanks to the soldier it was easy to see the loving relationship that he had with his dog.]*

- The second was a training exercise to extract a terrorist from an outdoor market. One team was undercover, dressed in typical clothing you would see at an outdoor market. The other team was out of site in a vehicle ready to enter and pick up the terrorist. Once the terrorist was identified, before you even knew what happened, the terrorist was captured, shoved into the Border Patrol vehicle and the vehicle was driving away. No guns or disruption to the market place had occurred.
- The third mission was to capture a terrorist from a house built to exact specifications representing the kinds of houses typical for the area. This demonstration took about 12 different people to stage. The house is fully furnished for these practice training sessions. We were standing on a platform that allowed us to look down on the house (there was no roof) and watch these well-trained soldiers perform. We were wearing ear protection. Once the word was given, there was all kinds of noise from screaming soldiers giving instructions as they were entering the house, other soldiers pretending to be innocent bystanders who were scared and screaming, guns and a

canine unit. This arrest was accomplished in a matter of seconds. It is really amazing how they train for these real-life scenarios.

### **Obstacle Course:**

- The course is made up of boxing bags simulating people. They are hung from a roof four deep and four across. Cindy and I were outfitted with AK47's (unloaded of course) and showed how to properly carry them through the course. The object of the course is to not kill anyone (the hanging bags) on your way out to capture the *bad guys*. To make this exercise more realistic, soldiers are standing on the sides of the course pushing the bags so that it simulates running through a crowd of people who may be running as well. Now, I really don't want to have to say anything negative about my sister (you all know how much I love her) but I don't think she played by the rules. She was constantly shoving those bags into me which slowed me down. Anyway, Cindy made it to the end of the course first and I emerged seconds later feeling compelled to remind all the spectators that she was pushing the bags into me. It was fun and generated a lot of good will and laughter. Honestly, Cindy and I later conferred that were both just praying that we could make it through the course without injury or embarrassment. Summing up the obstacle course...*we did you proud!*

### **Shooting Range:**

- The early instruction on the AK47 at the obstacle course turned out to be quite valuable as our next stop was the shooting range. My thoughts ranged from I hope they don't expect us to shoot those AK's to I hope that they are just going to demonstrate them. That was a totally WRONG assumption. Yes, we were going to shoot.
- We were instructed on shooting Glocks and then the AK47. I had more fun with the Glock and did ok – meaning I hit the target a couple of times (whew, I thought to myself, I pulled through for the team especially after my second place run on the obstacle course). Cindy did equally well with the Glock but then the General brought out the AK's. The General was Cindy's coach and I had one of the other officers. I will tell you that the guns are HEAVY and the recoil is enough to knock you off your stance.
- So, folks, confidentially, I wouldn't necessarily take this as a warning but I urge none of you to upset Cindy when she has an AK47. She was superb. The General kept challenging her to go faster and faster which she did. She also thought she might have to visit a dentist when she got home due to the recoil of the AK47 as she was shooting. What a time this was. Two sixty-year-old grandmothers out shooting Glocks and AK's. That's the stuff of Hollywood. Elisha went on to shoot and was fabulous. The General then put on a demonstration which was very impressive. He received tremendous applause from us.

### **Final Demonstration:**

Our final demonstration was set up to take place in a mock-market (modeled after the markets in the Old City of Jerusalem). Wow, this was unbelievable. The structure has winding paths made out of the exact stone in the Old City, soldiers acting as vendors just like you would find in the Old City including a café, a pizza and bread shop, clothing shop and much more. From a platform looking down on the market, along with the General, we watched the soldiers demonstrate how they would enter the area and apprehend someone. "Unbelievable" is the only way to describe this training exercise.

The General told us that it is very important that the structure exactly resemble the market in how it is built, how it smells, how it looks including the clothing as well as the constant chatter of people speaking in Arabic and Hebrew. It was in some respects very chaotic, as there was so much to look at and take in. It was very interesting that one of the soldiers (dressed as a vendor) actually cooks pizza and bread so that the smells are representative of what the soldiers would smell in the Old City. That way, when they smell something different, it is a check to them that something may be off.

*[The General decided that we had not yet had enough to eat, that we needed to sample the pizza and bread. I am not talking little tiny slices of bread or pizza. The pizza slice was Costco size which is about one-quarter of a pizza. We thought we would be okay in passing up this treat, but no, the General made sure we all had pizza and bread. It was very good and very authentic. The spices used were different than what we would normally have on pizza in the US.]*

### **Graduation Ceremony for Border Patrol Soldiers:**

The day at the base had ended and we were now going to drive about ninety minutes to the Border Patrol Graduation Ceremony for some of the soldiers. The facility was an outdoor theater with seating for guests and a stage for presenters as well as a large area for other soldiers to perform marches and call to arms.

As guests of the General, we were seated on the ground level with a front row view of the military ceremony. Families of the graduates were packed into the outdoor seating and military dignitaries and officers were on the stage. The formality of the ceremony was impressive and dramatic. Once again, General Shabtay took the opportunity to tell the soldiers (probably about 250) and the guests about the donation from Bethel Biblical to build a swimming pool for the soldiers.

Baruch included us in on a surprise event that would happen during the ceremony. The Border Patrol had flown in one of the graduate's father from Russia to see his son receive honors. The son had always dreamed of being in the Border Patrol and had moved to Israel to join. The soldier told his friends and officers he wished, with all of his heart, that his family could be with him on this momentous day. Unfortunately, his family did not have the funds to travel to Israel so the Border Patrol stepped in and flew the father to Israel to watch the graduation. The soldier was ordered to step forward out of line, saluting his officer. It was at that time that the General made an announcement that his father was present to watch him receive honors. It was a very emotional and moving moment in the ceremony as father and son were reunited.

### **Border Patrol Museum**

The General arranged for us to next visit the Border Patrol Museum which is really in its infancy of development. Honestly, we were all slowing down a bit after our morning military exercises and then the grandeur of the graduation ceremony.

After touring the outdoor and indoor displays with the General of the museum, he escorted us to their theater where he was going to show us some of his short videos that document the bravery and courage of the Border Patrol soldiers. These videos also demonstrate the Border Patrol's immense respect for the families of their soldiers both active and fallen.

The General explained that today's modern soldier is attached to his smart phone, just like everyone else today. The General determined that the best way to reach this new generation, is through their smart



phones. The videos are geared to 60-90 seconds, although some are longer. It was very heartwarming to see how supportive and inclusive they are of the soldiers' families.

After the videos the General thanked us for our attention and compliments about his video project. Cindy said that she was going to go outside and take some pictures of the flowers around the museum. The General offered to escort us outside and talk about the plants and trees. I still laugh at this because the next time Cindy saw Elisha, Chana and myself, she frowned at us. You see, one by one, Elisha, Chana and I dropped out of the outside tour which left Cindy on her own with the General. Honestly, when she found us sitting in the lobby by ourselves, I had to laugh because her face said it all; something like "thanks guys-really nice of you" to which we all laughed. We had hit the wall (which is a totally acceptable military phrase...I think). Cindy did get some really nice photos and some great lessons in botany that afternoon.

### **The Final Event: Dinner with General Shabtay and His Staff:**

We travelled about another forty-five minutes to an outdoor shopping center area, modern and very much like the area out by the old Stapleton Airport with new modern housing. The restaurant we went to would remind you of a Chili's Restaurant. We had a private room and everyone was feeling really happy as a result of the past two days.

The relaxed atmosphere and casual conversations were those of friends who had known each other for years. We all talked about families, children, work and their travels to the United States. Most everyone had burgers and fries. Several desserts were ordered and cautiously, the topic of President Trump came up. Of course, the majority of Israelis love President Trump because of his support. They are very hopeful that President Trump will be reelected.

Cindy and I knew that they were curious about our ages but didn't want to come out and ask specifically so they asked the ages of our children. General Shabtay's administrative assistant, commented to Cindy that she must have been ten years old when she had kids. The General said that when he first saw us on the first day, he thought we looked young and healthy so that we would be able to participate in all the military exercises he planned. We were flattered and ever so thankful that we had been able to perform.

### **Closing Comments:**

After eating and visiting, I thanked General Shabtay and his staff for these past two days which were outstanding. Throughout the two days, they were always kind, gracious and so respectful in their words about the donation, Pastor Bob and the congregation of Bethel Biblical. I shared that these two days with the Border Patrol will be some of the best memories we will have in our entire lives. I shared that their hospitality went well beyond anything we could ever have imagined and closed with words that said, "we will forever carry you in our hearts as we return home." Cindy went on to talk about how she hoped that every person who went swimming in the pool would be renewed with a refreshing and *chazak*. She said, "that she couldn't wait to share the events of the past two days with our father and how happy he was going to be."

Elisha commented that in all his days of association with senior military personnel, he had never witnessed the generous reception that we had received. He was astounded by the effort that went into honoring and recognizing this one donation. Again, **God Did It!** Baruch then presented us with some books on the Border Patrol and some photographs that were taken throughout the two days. Elisha asked Cindy to try and get Pastor Bob on the telephone. With tears in our eyes, General Shabtay was able to convey to

Pastor Bob his personal gratitude and thanks for the donation. It was such a moment of joy for us because our father (Pastor Bob) was unable to make the long trip but he got to hear personally from the General just how much the donation meant to the Border Patrol.

I will share this one last story with you.... after Cindy, Elisha and I spoke, General Shabtay said to us “that the legacy of Pastor Bob and Carol is not over.” We were all kind of stunned to hear the General say this. In front of his Chief of Staff, Senior Officers and Administrative Assistant sitting around a dinner table with us, he said every time a soldier swims in that pool or reads the commemorative plaque, *the legacy lives on*. In that moment we were overcome with emotion to hear this military General, who commands the entire Border Guard, tell us that the legacy will live on. The words we had heard so many times prior to our departure, “*the end will be better than the beginning*” now carried even more meaning for us.

We were both kind of quiet as we returned to our hotel that evening and got ready for bed. Although we were tired as the day had begun at 6:15 a.m., I think we were both just so overcome with thanksgiving; our hearts filled to overflowing with joy and peace.

The plaque for the swimming pool will read:

This Swimming Pool is Dedicated to the Soldiers of the  
Border Patrol Police, commonly known as *Magav, the Border Guard*  
from  
Pastor Robert and Carol Hooley  
and the  
Bethel Biblical Congregation, Lakewood, Colorado USA

In thanks to El Elyon, the Most High God, we respect His divine purpose  
in choosing Israel to be a light to the nations. Just as the Lord spoke to Abraham  
in Isaiah 42:6, we proclaim this scripture:

***I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations.***

May you continue to be mighty watchmen over the Land of Israel.

***I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night:  
ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence.***

**Isaiah 62:6**

Forever, Friends of Israel

2020

No two daughters, could be more proud of their parents for this legacy, for being open to the Holy Spirit and His guidance for over fifty years, and for encouraging so many people around them to love and support the Jewish people and the Land of Israel.

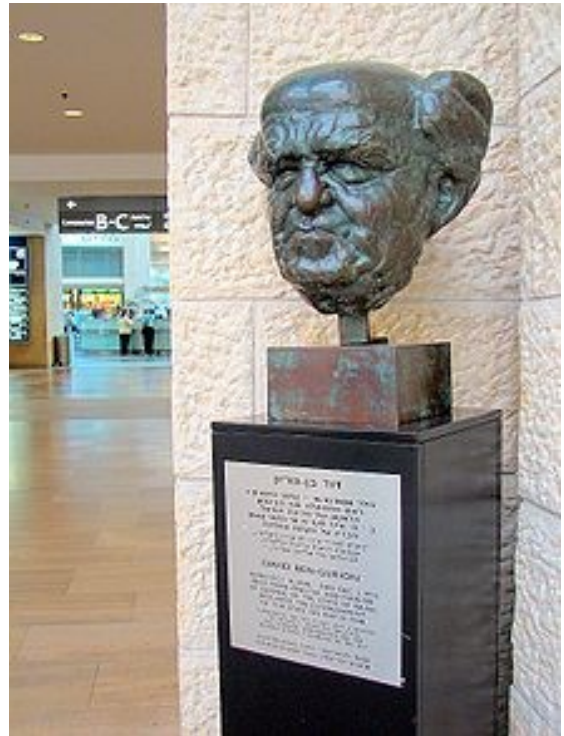
### **Day Six: Final Day in Israel**

Our final day before flying home was a walk on the beach with Elisha and coffee at an outdoor café overlooking the Tel Aviv shoreline. We did visit a market that is primarily for Israelis, not for tourists. At the market we stopped at one vendor's table to look at some silver jewelry. Elisha, speaking in Hebrew to him told him about the donation. He offered us a discount and wanted a picture with us and said, *"thank you for all that you do for me and my country."* These were not unusual words that we heard. One taxi driver, who had served in the military with Elisha, thanked us for our support and love. Another taxi driver who served under the late Brigadier General Natke Nir shared a heartfelt thank you with us for the donation and said how much he appreciates the United States standing with Israel.

In closing we hope that you have enjoyed reading about our trip to Israel. We want to thank you again for the opportunity to be your ambassadors. We can report back to you that the Lord was with us. There is no question in our minds that the timing of this trip was divinely established and set by the Lord. Thank you for your prayers that we were kept safe and healthy.

**A COLLECTION OF  
PHOTOGRAPHS**

נמל התעופה בן גוריון  
BEN GURION AIRPORT مطار بن غوريون



It helps to have a "brother" who needs assistance



**Skyscrapers everywhere in Tel Aviv.**

**Traffic, traffic and more traffic!**

---

**The current population of Israel in 2020 is 8,655,535, a 1.6% increase from 2019. The population of Israel in 2019 was 8,519,377, a 1.64% increase from 2018. The population of Israel in 2018 was 8,381,516, a 1.67% increase from 2017.**

***Jeremiah 31:8***

***Behold, I will bring them for the north country and gather them from the coasts of the earth...***

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Our home base in Tel Aviv.

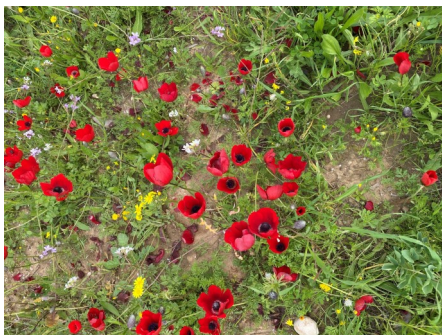


# A DAY WITH OUR TOUR GUIDE ELISHA

Where we would go, we did not know!



Calanit (the anemone) crowned as Israel's national flower was in full bloom this year.



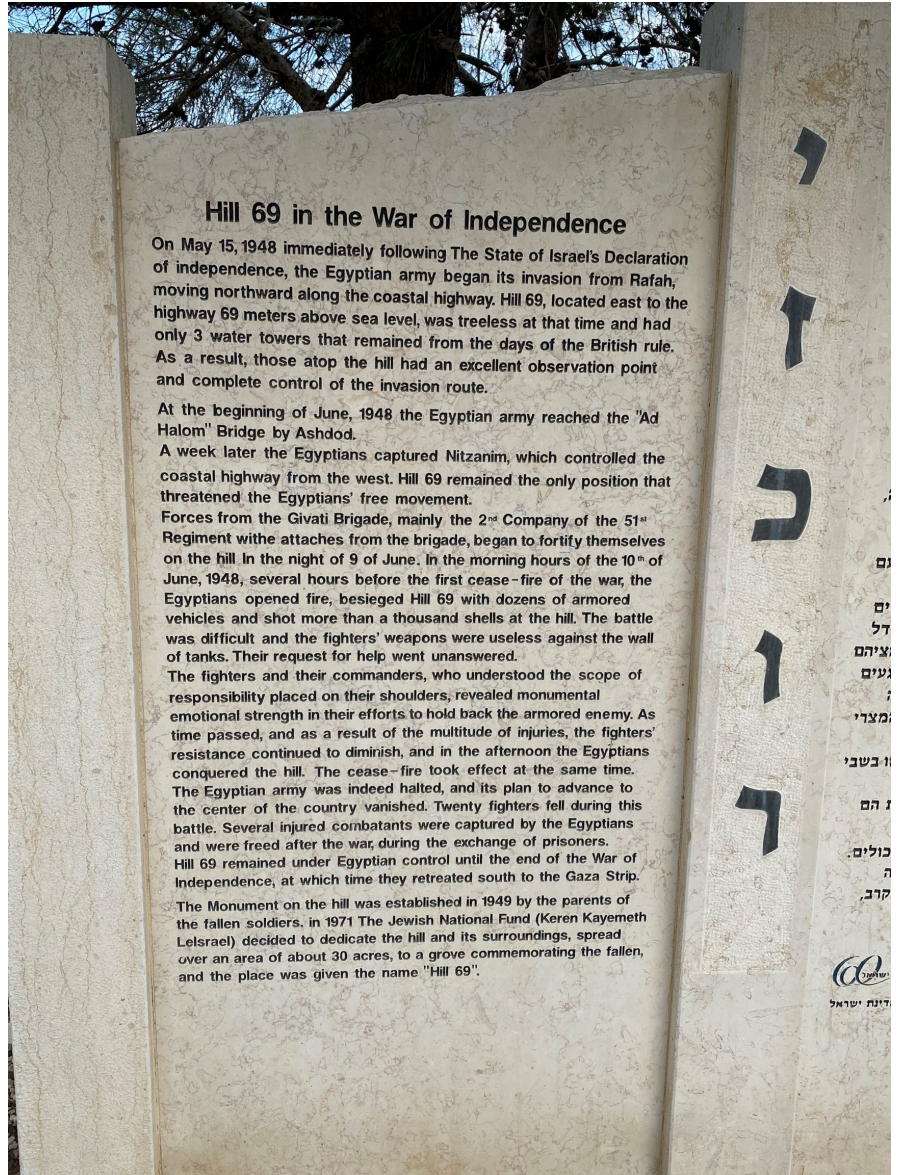
*Isaiah 35: 2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing. Everyone will see the Lord's splendor, see His greatness and His power.*





WHERE ARE WE ELISHA?

He said, " he thought this was the right road."



### Hill 69 in the War of Independence

On May 15, 1948 immediately following The State of Israel's Declaration of independence, the Egyptian army began its invasion from Rafah, moving northward along the coastal highway. Hill 69, located east to the highway 69 meters above sea level, was treeless at that time and had only 3 water towers that remained from the days of the British rule. As a result, those atop the hill had an excellent observation point and complete control of the invasion route.

At the beginning of June, 1948 the Egyptian army reached the "Ad Halom" Bridge by Ashdod.

A week later the Egyptians captured Nitzanim, which controlled the coastal highway from the west. Hill 69 remained the only position that threatened the Egyptians' free movement.

Forces from the Givati Brigade, mainly the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company of the 51<sup>st</sup> Regiment with attaches from the brigade, began to fortify themselves on the hill in the night of 9 of June. In the morning hours of the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, 1948, several hours before the first cease-fire of the war, the Egyptians opened fire, besieged Hill 69 with dozens of armored vehicles and shot more than a thousand shells at the hill. The battle was difficult and the fighters' weapons were useless against the wall of tanks. Their request for help went unanswered.

The fighters and their commanders, who understood the scope of responsibility placed on their shoulders, revealed monumental emotional strength in their efforts to hold back the armored enemy. As time passed, and as a result of the multitude of injuries, the fighters' resistance continued to diminish, and in the afternoon the Egyptians conquered the hill. The cease-fire took effect at the same time. The Egyptian army was indeed halted, and its plan to advance to the center of the country vanished. Twenty fighters fell during this battle. Several injured combatants were captured by the Egyptians and were freed after the war, during the exchange of prisoners.

Hill 69 remained under Egyptian control until the end of the War of Independence, at which time they retreated south to the Gaza Strip.

The Monument on the hill was established in 1949 by the parents of the fallen soldiers. In 1971 The Jewish National Fund (Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael) decided to dedicate the hill and its surroundings, spread over an area of about 30 acres, to a grove commemorating the fallen, and the place was given the name "Hill 69".

The Battle of Nitzanim- June 7, 1948



## Ashkelon Rest and Recreation Center

Will they let us in? YES!! Leave it to Elisha!

One of the first homes we funded through the Welfare of Soldiers was built here.

This area is used for soldiers to come rest and recover after they have been in training or on a mission.

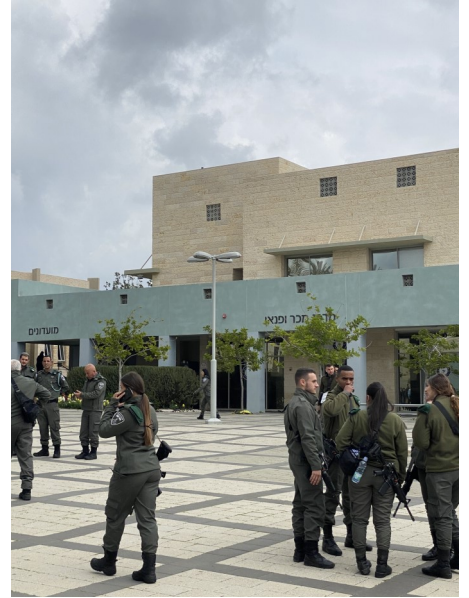




The Commander was more than happy to come out and share with us.



We were escorted to General Shabtay's annual state of the Border Patrol address at the Border Patrol Training Facility. The room was packed with military dignitaries. Baruch, the General's right-hand man was there to translate for us along with Chana and Elisha. It is here that he made the first announcement of the donation that Bethel was making. Many thankful responses would come during the break.



A beautiful facility used for classes and training.

Many high-ranking dignitaries were in attendance.

This is where we were seated.





Slide from General Shabtay's presentation showing the design of the swimming pool facility on Border Patrol base.

*Happy, happy, happy!*

# JERUSALEM, JERUSALEM





It was a rainy day, but we made it to the United States Embassy in Jerusalem. We are so proud that our President made this happen. God bless him!



Not sure where Elisha got the Macy's bag?  
Dianna thought she missed out on a day of shopping.



We didn't need to walk far to the Western Wall. The Border Patrol parked very close to the Wall.





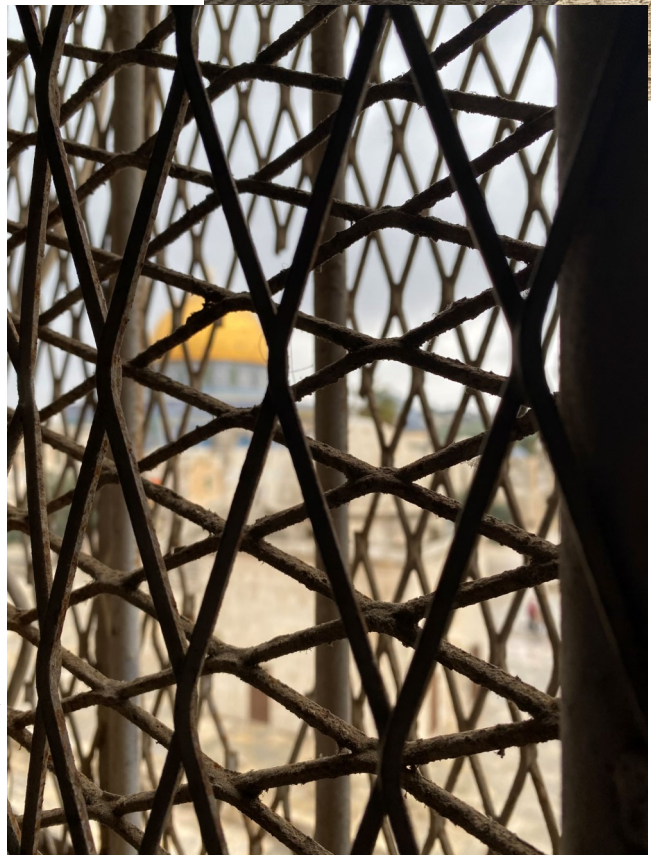
This is where we parked.



JERUSALEM is the most visited city with 3.5 million tourists annually.



Taken from an ancient room looking across to the Temple Mount.



# MEETING THE BORDER PATROL AT THE BASE



**FOOD, FOOD AND MORE FOOD!** The welcome was truly far more than we expected.





## BORDER PATROL

Known by the Hebrew abbreviation Magav, meaning  
Border Guard:

Border Guard is often used as the official name of the Israel  
Border Police. While its main task is securing Israel's  
borders, it has also been deployed along with the IDF for  
counter-terrorism and law enforcement operations in the  
West Bank as well as in Jerusalem.

**Yaacov Shabtay, Major General**

**Commander of the Border Guard**





**These two were never far away. Always taking pictures!**

**The one on the right is the Commander's daughter who recently joined the Border Patrol.**

**Not easy to see in this photo, but this is where the pool is being built.**

**The Commander already had the tractor out to start digging!**

**Actually seeing this made us cry tears of joy...God is not a God that He should lie.....HE DID IT!**



A LITTLE EDUCATION ON THE BASE ON WEAPONS AND TACTICS USED TO FIGHT TERRORISM.





So many different drones. An amazing tool for use in the Border Patrol. Some of these drones are so powerful they can read a cell phone message from miles away.



So much to learn!

Training on how to enter a hostile house of terrorists.



Training to remove terrorists from a bus.





**'Well, aren't these just the cutest outfits,' Cindy says!**





A bit on the itchy side. Definitely  
NOT Macy's finest.



**THANKS** a lot, Cindy...you just had to say something!

This is the **ONLY** time you will ever see Dianna in camouflage print!

**Elisha and Chana** got into the action as well.





OHHHH dear, this is NOT looking good!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME!

The obstacle course.

How old do you think we are? And it was hot outside! But we got it done!

He was pushing the bags to make it more real... "really"?



The challenge continues on the shooting range



Chana



Dianna



Elisha observing. He would shoot later and show his skills.



Cindy and the General.



Now for the **BIG** guns!!

Cindy made it into the Border Patrol by her shooting skills. Her target.

Who knew? **BEWARE...**





In training they go as far as to create the same smells as found in the Old City. Pizza and breads of all kinds. Yes, we ate again!



Observing a terrorist attack as if it were happening in the Old City.

We visited the Border Patrol Museum for a beautiful celebration.



General of the Museum.



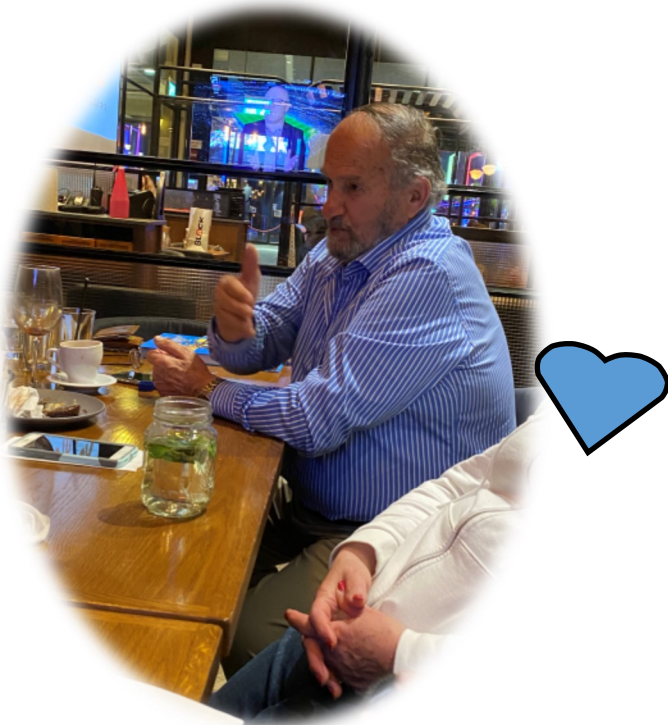
Graduation ceremony,  
father and son reunited.



General Shabtay about to  
speak regarding Bethel's  
donation.



# THE FINAL EVENT...DINNER



**A SPECIAL GOOD-BYE DINNER WITH NEW FRIENDS...FOREVER**

**The General and Pastor Bob had a wonderful conversation on the phone. The General expressed to Pastor Bob that the legacy will live on.**





*Hebrews 12:1 And let us run with patience the race that is set before us.*



God is not a man, that He should lie, neither the son of man, that He should repent:  
hath He said, and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it  
good? Numbers 23:19

**WE REJOICE...GOD DID IT!**

The plaque for the swimming pool will read:

This Swimming Pool is Dedicated to the Soldiers of the Border Patrol  
Police, commonly known as *Magav*, the Border Guard  
from Pastor Robert and Carol Hooley and the Bethel Biblical  
Congregation,  
Lakewood, Colorado USA

In thanks to El Elyon, the Most High God, we respect His divine purpose in  
choosing Israel to be a light to the nations. Just as the Lord spoke to  
Abraham in Isaiah 42:6, we proclaim this scripture:

I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the  
hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people,  
a light for the nations.

May you continue to be mighty watchmen over the Land of Israel.  
I have set watchmen upon thy walls O Jerusalem, which shall never hold  
their peace day nor night:

Ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence.

Isaiah 62:6

Forever, Friends of Israel

2020