

On August 13, 2004, Michael Winepol, the son of Rhoda and Jay Winepol and the brother of Ray, died tragically at the age of twenty-seven years old in an automobile accident.

From Michael's Eulogy:

*"One of the most meaningful years of his life occurred when he attended the Young Judaea Year Course in Israel. It was at that time that he solidified his love of Israel and of being Jewish. Many of the friends that he made during that year have remained his friends until this day and are here at this service."*

While Michael was in Israel he had a chance to meet cousins of Rhoda's who came from Russia. He was thrilled with this experience. When Michael returned from Israel he asked his parents to start having Shabbat dinners and he became more observant, both culturally and religiously.

With the encouragement of his parents, his brother, Ray and his many friends, Temple Emanuel established the ***Michael Winepol Israel Experience Endowment Fund***.

Temple Emanuel established this fund in May, 2005 with just over \$20,000 and it has since grown to over \$60,000. On a yearly basis, the fund allocates 5% of its assets for scholarships to help young people from Temple Emanuel attend the Young Judaea Year Course in Israel program. If no young person is attending Year Course in a given year, this scholarship will be made available to Temple Emanuel students, fifteen and older, who would like to attend other Israel programs.

A plaque is on display at Temple Emanuel with the names of the recipients of these scholarships.