Marvin Holland remembered

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MARVIN WAS "BIGGER than life," said Hershey Rosen. Holland was president of E. Rosen Company, Rosen's business, and worked in the company for 40 years. Marvin was, said Rosen, "a very bright man who looked at the totality of a situation, and took the long-range view of business challenges. He was a truly creative marketer."

Mel Alperin, who succeeded Holland as the Federation president, remembered him as an outstanding leader both in the Federation and with Israel Bonds. "He was a very bright man who quickly grasped the challenges with the community. He was an outstanding leader and one who was deeply devoted to Israel."

The youngest of seven children, Holland was inculcated with philanthropic deeds from his youngest days, according to accounts from *The Evening Bulletin*. In an article dated Nov. 2, 1977, Holland, who was interviewed about his role as the newly elected Federation board president, talked about the *pushke* that his mother kept in their home. If you had an extra nickel or extra dime, you put it in there [the *pushke*]," he was quoted as saying. Holland's father, too, was active in the Hebrew Free Shelter Association, which helped refugees, so "you got a feeling for taking care of your fellow man," he said.



Holland had served as a member of Temple Emanu-El's executive board, a trustee of the Jewish Home for the Aged, and as state chairman for the 1962-63 Israel Bonds Drive. First elected to the Federation's executive board in 1968, he served as its vice president from 1969 to 1975, and was elected president in 1977, a position he held for four years.

And, Holland's philanthropic reach extended beyond the Jewish community. He served in leadership roles with Women & Infants Hospital, the Task Force of the State Cancer Control Board, and, in 1976, he helped form the HEAT program that kept the heat on for needy individuals and families during cold winter months, even if they couldn't pay their utility bills.

Rabbi Wayne Franklin remembered Marvin as a commanding presence. "He had a knack for getting to the bottom of things. He was energetic, forceful and dedicated," said Franklin. "He loved visiting Israel and Jewish communities around the world which were in need of Federation assistance. He and Bobbi were wonderful partners in that work of rescuing Jews and helping them resettle and begin new lives in Israel or in America."

Relatives remember Marvin's generosity. Marvin preferred to give quietly, despite living in the public eye as a community leader. He was uncomfortable being thanked for his kindnesses.

Marvin was a very social person, Franklin added. "He was handsome and engaging. I think he was an effective, respected leader in the community. He was a loyal, dedicated member of Temple Emanu-El, and was supportive of our endeavors here."