THE JEWISH ADVOCATE, I[illegible] DECEMBER 2-8, 1994

LINSEY, Joseph

Joseph M. Linsey

Joseph M. Linsey, 95, well-known businessman and philanthropist, of Palm Beach, Fla., and formerly of Newton, died Tuesday, Nov. 29 at the Faulkner Hospital, Boston, of heart failure.

Born in Russia, he emigrated from Russia to the United States with his family at the age of one in 1900.

Residing in Malden, he suspended his education while in grammar school due to his father's sudden death and worked with his mother in the family's grocery store to help support his younger brother and sisters.

He entered the wholesale liquor business in the 1930s and soon thereafter founded and became president of Whitehall Liquors, a major distributor in New England. He continued as head of the company until his retirement in 1975. He was a past president of the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Mass.

He entered greyhound racing in 1940 by purchasing his first racetrack in Taunton. Throughout the years he increased his holdings in racing by acquiring five additional greyhound tracks and one horse track.

In 1955, he became a Trustee of Brandeis University in Waltham. He was awarded a L.H.D. degree from Brandeis in 1976. He served as former Chairman of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies in Boston, Director of the New England Region Anti-Defamation League, and



Joseph M. Linsey

Director of the American Friends of Hebrew University. He served as a past president of Jewish Memorial Hospital, a Trustee of Beth Israel Hospital, and LRF Investment, Inc. He was inducted into the Brandeis Athletic Hall of Fame last April.

He is survived by his wife, Thelma (Ray) of Palm Beach, Fla., sister Ruth Sterman of Beverly, and numerous nieces, nephews, grand and great-grand nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Congregation Mishkan Tefila in Chestnut Hill on Dec. 1. Interment was at Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon. Arrangements were by Stanetsky Memorial Chapels, Brookline.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1994 THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL-BULLETIN

Joseph Linsey dies at 95; track owner, philanthropist



Joseph M. Linsey, 95, of Palm Beach, Fla., a former owner of the Lincoln Greyhound Park, died Tuesday at Faulkner Hospital in Boston. He was the husband of Thelma (Ray) Linsey.

Mr. Linsey was a New England bootlegger with gangland ties during Prohibition, and when it was repealed became a legitimate liquor wholesaler and businessman. After he grew wealthy, he became a philanthropist and gave millions to various institutions in New England and Israel.

At different times his business interests included six horse or dog racing tracks, and an assortment of real estate ventures.

He bought his first racing venture, the Taunton Dog Track, in the 1940s. He sold his last, the Lincoln Greyhound Track, in 1990.

In 1927, he and eight associates were arrested on bootlegging charges after a shooting incident at his farmhouse in North Dartmouth, Mass., during which his cook was shot by hijackers. He was fined $500 and sentenced to a year in prison.

When Prohibition was repealed, he established the Whitehall Co. in Boston, one of the first liquor wholesalers in New England.

He later established the Joseph M. Linsey Foundation, through which he made philanthropic bequests. He particularly favored Brandeis University, of which he was a trustee, and where the sports center was named in his honor; and Ben Gurion University in Israel, of which he was a founder.

His past came back to haunt him the early 1960s. FBI agents reported that they heard his name mentioned during a wiretap of the offices of Raymond L.S. Patriarca, then the boss of the New England mob.

He was also linked to mobster Meyer Lansky, who was then living in Israel.

Asked about that by a Boston Globe reporter in 1971, Mr. Linsey replied, "I know him. Same as I knew Jack Kennedy, the presidents of colleges and a lot of other people. I'm pround I can talk with people in every walk of life."

He was born in Russia, and was a year old when his family immigrated to the United States.

He was in grammar school when his father died, and he quit school to help support the family.

He was a member of the boards of many institutions, including the Massachusetts Eye & Ear Hospital, Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, the American Friends of Hebrew University, the New England Region Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish Memorial Hospital in Boston, and was a member of the President's Council of Boston University, the Board of Governors of State of Israel Bonds, and a member of the Cabinet of United Jewish Appeal in New York.

Besides his wife he survived by a sister, Ruth Sterman of Beverly, Mass.

The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. today in Congregation Mishkon Tfiloh in Chestnut Hill, Mass.

Joseph M. Linsey

The Brandeis University community mourns the passing of a cherished friend. A longtime Trustee, he was a dedicated participant in the life of the University from its very beginnings. In appreciation of the faith he showed in the early dreams of Brandeis, the University proudly bestowed on him the Brandeis Medal for Distinguished Service to Higher Education in 1965 and an honorary doctorate in 1976. This spring, he was inducted into the Friends of Brandeis Athletics Hall of Fame.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Thelma, and to his entire family. Joe will be deeply missed. The Joseph M. Linsey Sports Center and the Joseph M. Linsey Athletic Fellowship endowment stand as lasting testaments to his spirit and generosity.

Jehuda Reinharz, President
Louis Perlmutter, Chairman, Board of Trustees

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JOSEPH M. LINSEY

The officers and staff of State of Israel Bonds note with deep sadness the passing of Joseph M. Linsey, one of our most important and ardent supporters. He was a founding member of the Greater Boston Prime Minister's Club, one of the most prestigious divisions of Israel Bonds. He also served as member of the Board of Governors, Honorary Chairman of Trustees and was honored as Israel Bonds Man of the Year in 1976. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to his family and friends.

Nathan Sharony (Major General Ret.)
President and CEO

Susan Weikers-Volchok
National Campaign Chairman

Ralph Kaplan
New England Campaign Chairman

Mervin Gray
Greater Boston Campaign Chairman

Malcolm Flash
1995 Campaign Chairman

Mel Ross
National Campaign Cabinet Member

Nathan Lubofsky
Executive Director, Greater Boston Israel Bonds

JOSEPH LINSEY

A Founder and Pioneer of the Negev

The American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev mourns the passing of Joseph Linsey, a dear friend, New England Region Board member and community leader. With his wife, Thelma, he established the Joseph M. and Thelma Linsey Award for Outstanding Sportsmanship at Ben-Gurion University.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Thelma and the family.

Jeremiah Sundell
Chairman, New England Region

Philip Krupp
President, New England Region

Judi Gillman
Coordinator, New England Region

IN MEMORIAM

The Board of Directors of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies mourns the death of Joseph Maurice Linsey, businessman, civic leader, philanthropist and friend of the Jewish community.

A past CJP Trustee, a Vice President, member of the Executive Committee, and Chair of the Beverage Team, Mr. Linsey also chaired CJP's '58 and '59 Annual Campaigns. Active throughout his life, he held leadership positions and served on the boards of many institutions and organizations, including Brandeis University, Boston University, Beth Israel Hospital, Jewish Memorial Hospital, Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for Aged, United Jewish Appeal, World Jewish Congress and Israel Bonds. He was a steadfast supporter of the State of Israel and was honored several times for his support of the Jewish homeland.

"Giving is the one thing that we, as Jews, do for our community, regardless of race, color or creed," he told a reporter. This sentiment was expressed in Mr. Linsey's involvement in the Massachusetts Committee of Catholics, Protestants and Jews; the National Conference of Christians and Jews and B'nai B'rith. He was also a member of Temple Israel in Boston and both Kehillath Israel and Ohabei Shalom in Brookline.

Joseph Linsey will long be remembered for his tireless devotion to helping others, his distinguished leadership and his generous spirit. To his wife, Thelma, and his sister, Ruth Sterman, we extend our sincere condolences. We hope that the knowledge of all who mourn with them will be of some comfort.

Michael J. Bohnen
Chair, Board of Directors

Barry Shrage
President

Combined Jewish Philanthropies

Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for Aged
In Memoriam

The Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for Aged, its officers, board members and staff records with profound sorrow the passing of

Joseph M. Linsey
Honorary Trustee for Life

whose commitment to the many causes within the Jewish community was unstinting. The support and generosity he accorded the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center for Aged and his personal commitment were much admired and deeply appreciated. We extend our heartfelt condolences to members of his family.

Maurice I. May
President

Alfred A. Slifka
Chairman