

President's Message February 2021
Here Today Gone To Maui

Every day we wake up, and most days we have a good idea of what our day will be like.

Some days we wake up, and by the end of the day our world has changed.

Last Monday, my Dad woke up like every other day. His partner, who had a stroke three weeks ago, had a fainting spell and was taken to the hospital, although they suspected another stroke. When my dad got the news that he could come and pick her up, he raced to the hospital. With his mind thinking a hundred different thoughts, he missed ONE STEP, fell on his shoulder and damaged it severely. At the moment, he is able to do few of the things he was able to do the day before. He is trying hard to resume his normal life, but between the pain and the limited mobility, it is hard for him.

As a dutiful son, I flew out to help him. This meant leaving my family on the east coast to fend for themselves during the winter months, while I attend to my dad. Now my world has temporarily changed, as has Iris's. It also affects my local family, where I am not around to help them. Even though I am in a beautiful place, it is hard to enjoy.

My mind keeps thinking about what Mike Weiner said when he was battling brain cancer. To paraphrase Mike, he said: Each day I get up and I look for beauty, meaning and joy in the world. When I have a day when I can find that, it has been a good day.

Following Mike's advice, I have tried to do that ever since he uttered those words. These days I am thinking of his words more often.

I hope that all of you will look for beauty, meaning and joy in your lives as well.

Love and Shalom,

Howie