CONGRATULATION!!!!!! to FLORA & HARRY SAMUELS

1st Place Winners Small Group Volunteer of the Year

Sponsored by Jewish Historical Society Make A Wish



Courtesy of Marcy Seidel, Volunteer Coordinator, Make A Wish Mid South

2013 Spirit of Giving Awards Volunteer Mid-South

Chris Thomas, Shelby County Commissioner, announced all the winners. Below is his speech when he announced the Samuels as 1st Place Winners:

Speech by Chris Thomas, Shelby County Commissioner as he announced the 1st Place winners:

Our Small Group Winners have given of themselves unselfishly in so many ways. This couple always participates side by side, and if one is involved, the other actively supports it. They are involved in every aspect of Make-A-Wish, from throwing surprise celebrations when wishes are granted to serving as volunteer pre-flight captains at the airport to make sure wish families get on their plane stress-free. They have helped the Memphis Jewish Historical Society preserve the Jewish histories and culture and gathered important artifacts for the Bagels and Bar-B-Que exhibit at the Pink Palace. They have given their time, their money and their hearts to ensure that there is a positive Jewish presence in all area colleges and universities. It was their vision to have a permanent site on the U of M campus, and now, the Morris S. Fogelman Jewish Student Center is in its 29th year. They have been active and faithful Blue Suede Volunteers at the Memphis International Airport, welcoming passengers and assisting them with directions, guidance and information. 30 days after their son died in 1988, they established Chai, a multi-faceted, social support system to provide assistance to families, treating each family holistically while recognizing the enormous strain on everyone involved. The list of organizations served by this couple goes on and on. 26

But since we do have a time limit, I'm happy to present the Small Group Volunteer of the Year Award to Flora and Harry Samuels.

[Pause while Mr. and Mrs. Samuels come to the stage.]

Just out of curiosity, if you are here in support of Mr. & Mrs. Samuels, would you please stand? *Wow, very impressive!!*