

My mother and father first worked as headmaster and headmistress at a farm for delinquent boys in Walpole MA. It was called 'The Home for Little Wanderers.'

One of the boys inadvertently started a fire which took my parents away from that job. After trying to open a children's shop, they went to Mount Kisco, NY. It was the only place they could live in an apartment. It was a five floor walkup. My dad took a job at Hawthorne Cedar Knolls, a living facility for children who couldn't live at home. He was a typewriting and shorthand teacher.

After many years as a home maker, my mother began to teach children that weren't able to be in a regular school due to a type of disability – physical, emotional, or mental. I remember her first student had cerebral palsy and had to climb all of the steps to reach her apartment. Then my mother added mostly other neighborhood students, helping them pass state Regent exams or finals. Eventually, she decided to open up a school in Mount Kisco, in the basement of a doctor's office. She encouraged my dad to attend Columbia University to get his doctorate in education. He travelled for many years between work and college to be able to graduate and become the director of the Karafin School. He wrote well and thus wrote the description of the Karafin School (his last name) and created as director, he often took parents around the school, hired instructors and other personnel, while my mom taught and helped teens in the sixties to express their

fears, interests, and initiate a caring relationship to capture the teens' attention and interest. It was a work of love, devotion, and necessity. At that time there were no special education facilities and opportunity for students to get a small classroom ratio of student to teacher. Besides the children with disabilities, there were many celebrities who could afford their children coming and benefitting from the one teacher to 3-6 students ratio. And the best part was it was a safe place for all ages of children to be accepted and given a fresh start in learning in their special way in a small classroom setting. So it has been a work of love and on their grave I wrote the inscription 'Together, a loving lifelong partnership to fulfill their aspiration to do Hashem's will in this world.'

Both my parents created a way to have a legacy and help young people to blossom and soar to new heights with their guidance and love. The Karafin School was a foundation and way to reach the height of their prowess, love, and effort to make a difference.