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## COMMUNITY NEWS

THE VOICE OF TODAY'S JEWISH COMMUNITY

# Window's Dedicated at the West Point Jewish Chapel

■ LAURIE MELTZER BANDREMER

The West Point Jewish Chapel, a home away from home for Jewish Cadets, recently dedicated its stained glass windows on September 19, 2004.

"The Granik Windows," dedicated in memory of Robert Granik, Bertha & Harry Kantor, Lieutenant Sherwin L. Steinberg, Col Theodore W. Davis, Col. William R. Lehrfeld, and LTC Donald A. Fisch, will serve as a reminder of the service of Jewish soldiers to the United States of America.

As one of the founders of the West Point Jewish Chapel Fund, Robert Granik was instrumental in facilitating the building of the Jewish Chapel at West Point. He handled all of the legal work for the project.

Mr. Granik had promised himself early in his career as a West Point graduate that there would one day be a Jewish Chapel in West Point. There were other chapels, including an interfaith chapel, where Margie and Robert Granik were married. He wanted to make certain there would be a Jewish Chapel for those cadets who wanted to have a place to practice Judaism.

"This is a very emotional time for me," said Margie Granik. "My husband worked many years to have this chapel built, and it is something I'm glad he saw before he



Mrs. Margie Granik with her sons, Russell (L) and Gary (R).



The Granik Windows

passed away. He did see the construction."

The completion of the Jewish Chapel in 1984 culminated a twenty-year undertaking. The West Point Jewish Chapel Fund - a private, non-profit civilian organization - raised the funds to support this undertaking. This group raised more than \$7.5 million dollars to erect and furnish the facility. In 1986 the Jewish Chapel was deeded to the Academy. Led by a military chaplain, the congregation serves the needs of various branches of Judaism represented in the Armed Forces. In close connection with the Jewish Welfare Board, worship resources are designed to meet the broad spectrum of our

faith. The Chapel contains an extensive Judaica collection, a fine library, and special exhibits.

On this special day, Rabbi Carlos Huerta welcomed everyone to the Chapel, and spoke eloquently about what the Jewish Chapel means to the Jewish Cadets at West Point.

"We are to use the windows as a symbol," Rabbi Huerta explained. "A symbol that represents lives filled with selfless love and loyalty."

The windows, designed by Harriet Hyams, depict two of the great generals in Jewish history; David and Joshua.

The windows were fabricated and installed by Wilmark Studios of Pearl River, New York. Mark Liebowitz, President of Wilmark, was on hand for the dedication.

Col. Lewis L. Zickel (retired) concluded with some history of Jewish Cadets at West Point and the Jewish Chapel.

The West Point Jewish Chapel is a beautiful sight to behold. Currently a home away from home for over 50+ Jewish Cadets, it is a spiritual sanctuary that stands majestically on the West Point campus, and is available for visitation.