

I was a college senior at North Carolina Central College when I joined Temple Emanuel. My wedding in the Temple sanctuary on Greene Street was an occasion I will always remember with joy. My husband John and I were married in the evening on August 25, 1956. Rabbi Fred Rypins officiated the wedding ceremony.

I can recall fondly the friendly people John and I met such as Julius and Fannie Love, Harold and Ruth Needle, David and Isabel Helberg and Jack and Leah Tannenbaum. The Temple environment has always been warm and welcoming for me and my family. There are now too many friendly people to mention by name.

The Rabbis have been great spiritual leaders from Fred Rypins, Joseph Asher, Arnold Task, Richard Harkavy, Selig Salkowitz and now Rabbis Fred Guttman and Andy Koren.

Our children grew up receiving their religious education at the Temple and participated in those rites of passage such as baby namings, bat mitzvahs, confirmations and weddings. The Temple has always been the place where we celebrate family milestones and study Judaism.

While my children attended Religious School, I spent twenty-two years as the Temple librarian, and John taught Religious School for several years. I will always look back with pride in the fact that I could contribute my skills to help enhance Temple Emanuel's library as well as help nurture the lives of young people by exposing them to materials by Jewish authors and books on Jewish history and culture.

It has now been fifty-one years since my wedding, and Temple Emanuel continues to be a serene house of worship for me and my family, and for that I am truly grateful. I will always be thankful for and love my Temple family and friends throughout the years. It has simply been wonderful and may the future be even more fruitful.

Sincerely,
C. Vickie Kilimanjaro