A comparison of his life with that of the great Rabbi Akiva would have been humbly dismissed by Reb Mordechai Tobin, in his self-effacing humorous way. But the inevitable mini-parallel was drawn at the close of his life by the Rosh Hayeshiva, Rav Mendel Weinbach shlita, in a eulogy delivered at Mr. Tobin’s funeral in Efrat. Mordechai Tobin passed away on 26 Menachem Av at the age of 86.

Rabbi Akiva was 40 years old when he began his Torah studies and at the end of 24 years studying in the yeshiva he returned home, the teacher of 24,000 students. Reb Mordechai began his learning at age 68 at Ohr Somayach and his example had a powerful impact on thousands of students young and old, who studied together with him or heard about his dramatic return to his heritage.

On Monday, the 4th of Elul (August 16th), Ohr Somayach paid tribute to the memory of its beloved, eternally young old-timer with a special address before the entire yeshiva by the Rosh Hayeshiva, Rav Nota Schiller shlita. Joining the students and staff were members of his family, including Reb Mordechai’s son alumnus Dr. Michael Tobin whose unforgettable return to the tradition of his forefathers was the catalyst for the same return by his father.

Rav Schiller called attention to the multifaceted talents of Reb Mordechai which eventually found expression in his passionate dedication to learning Torah. After making a breakthrough in his Talmudic skills he set himself a goal of completing the entire Talmud. He completed tractate after tractate and was two-thirds of the way to the realization of his goal when he passed away, surrounded by his devoted widow, Hinda, his son Michael and his wife Deborah and his grandchildren who will always remember – like all the students of Ohr Somayach – the lessons of life and learning they learned from Reb Mordechai.

Reb Mordechai Tobin with his granddaughter Elisheva.
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Rabbi Moshe Newman
Associate Editor:
Raphael S. Leban
Web & Production Advisor:
Rabbi Robin Lauffer
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Mazel Tov to...

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ON HIS ENGAGEMENT

MAURICE JURRIST
ON HIS ENGAGEMENT

EPHRAIM WHITE
ON HIS ENGAGEMENT

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ON THEIR MARRIAGE

MR. AND MRS. ZELIG WOLF
ON THEIR MARRIAGE

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