

HAMODIA

Letter to the Editor, The Hamodia, March 16, 2005, page 7

Memories of Harav Shimon Schwab

To the Editor:

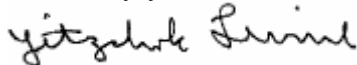
I found the article "A Son Remembers, The Tenth Yahrzeit of Hagaon Harav Shimon Schwab, זצ"ל" by Rabbi Myer J. Schwab that appeared in the February 18, 2005 issue of the Hamodia Magazine informative, inspiring and moving. Indeed, as I read it I could not help but recall my own personal recollections of this great man.

I met Rav Schwab not long after I moved to Elizabeth, NJ in 1968. From time to time he would come to Elizabeth to visit with his son, Reb Yosef, and his family. Once, when I happened to stop by Reb Yosef's home, Rav Schwab was there. I was immediately impressed with the specialness of this man. He was friendly, warm, and open, and at the same time dignified. I sensed that I was in the presence of greatness, and my instincts were, of course, not wrong.

From time to time I would call Rav Schwab with various halachic questions. He always listened patiently and seemed to know instinctively when to ask for more information. He would then clearly and carefully explain his answer. If I had questions about his reply, he would expand upon it, again with patience and clarity. In short, he knew how to deal with Ba'alei Batim and how to phrase things in a format that was both meaningful and to the point. There were a few times when he did not have a ready answer for me. He would then say, "Please call back tomorrow." When I did, there was always a ready and clear answer.

Rav Schwab did not flinch from standing by his principles. He was committed to *emes* and did not deviate from what he considered the correct path. So is the way of a true Godol. May his life and teachings continue to inspire us!

Sincerely yours,



Professor

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