Teddy Vardi (Rosenfeld RIP)
Volunteer from the USA on many Aliya Bet ships
Died at the age of 69 in Jerusalem
Written by: Avi Livney

This is the Way it Was

Teddy was born in Satu Mare, Romania on July 4, 1923 and brought to the USA when he was six months old. He was educated in elementary school and secondary school in The Bronx, New York. He was a member of Hashomer Hatzair as a youth. He served in the US Army during WW II and fought on the Anzio Beachhead in Italy. He then landed in Normandy on D-Day with the US 4th Infantry Division. He was among the first of the Allied troops to enter Germany. He helped liberate the inmates of the Nordhausen concentration camp. In one battle, he was trapped in a farmhouse with seven other soldiers and was the sole survivor.

Teddy joined the Mosad for Aliya Bet in March 1947. He served on the “Exodus 1947”, on the Pan Crescent ("Atsmaout"), the Pan York ("Kibbutz Galuyot"), and the “Mishmar Ha’emek”. He was caught by the British on two trips entering Cyprus, and was sentenced to four months imprisonment following the second entry. He joined the American training group at Shaar Hagolan and went with its members to found Kibbutz Sasa on the Lebanese border, in January 1949.

He was a driver in the Upper Galilee Trucking Cooperative (Galil Elyon), and for Egged, the bus cooperative. For many years he sailed as purser on passenger ships of the Zim lines and of the American Export Lines. He lived for many years in Jerusalem and worked as a tourist guide, and died there at the age of 69.