

## The Kustanowitz Kronikle

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# GIL AVIAD KUSTANOWITZ JOINS KRONIKLE KREW

## New Juvenile Bureau Chief Arrives With Strong Credentials

Special to the Kustanowitz Kronikle



**Gil Aviad Kustanowitz, newly appointed Juvenile Bureau Chief for the Kustanowitz Kronikle, relishes the prospect of submitting his first column for a future issue.**

SILVER SPRING, MD, June 9 — The entire staff and a select group of subscribers to the Kustanowitz Kronikle rejoiced today when they heard that Gil Aviad Kustanowitz has been appointed head of the Kronikle's new Juvenile Bureau.

The announcement was made at a packed press conference here immediately following Gil's Brit Milah, his initiation into the Covenant of his forefather Abraham.

Having just arrived on the scene a week ago, Gil gurgled with delight at the news of his appointment. Although he hasn't yet announced his plans for the bureau, he seems to have a formula for success in his new post. We anticipate many changes once he gets organized and settles into a regular routine.

With Washington, D. C. in his backyard, Gil expects the local politicians and media to probe into his background before he gets up to speed, but whatever they are able to pin on him is unlikely to hold much water. With his 8 lb. 4 oz. frame and 20.5

inch height, he will certainly not be a pushover for anyone who tries to take him on.

Gil comes to the job with very strong credentials. His father, Jack, just completed his studies for a Master's Degree in Computer Science at the University of Maryland, and plans to apply his knowledge in the computer industry, beginning this summer. Jack has been a contributor to the Kronikle for many years.

Gil's mother, Penina, has been a Kronikle supporter since she joined the Krew in 2002. She is on leave from a position in conflict resolution and expects to spend the coming months training Gil to assume his editorial responsibilities.

The editors of the Kronikle expressed great satisfaction on filling the open position with a candidate of such promise. Editor-in-Chief Al Kustanowitz and Managing Editor Shuly Kustanowitz said they are looking forward to Gil playing a crucial role in pacifying juvenile readers who have been critical of the lack of coverage on issues of interest to them.



**Jack and Penina introduce Gil at a packed press conference in Silver Spring, MD.**

## What's in a Name?

### *Fond Memories, Great Hopes*

SILVER SPRING, MD, June 9 — Jack and Penina chose to name their son Gil in loving memory of Grandma Gladys Kustanowitz and Aviad in hopes for peace in Israel.

Here is the complete text of their remarks at the naming ceremony:

**JACK:** We chose to name our son Gil, Hebrew for "Joy" or "Gladness," in loving memory of my Grandma Gladys Kustanowitz. Her life spanned a time of enormous change, watching Europe go through two world wars, an Iron Curtain, and reunification. She, like many of her

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**Grandma shares a smile with 11-month-old Jack in July 1975.**

# 8-Day-Old Gil Aviad Meets His Family



Savta Shuly



First Bracha from Saba Al



Savta Rena & Saba Steve



Dodah Esther



Tanta Lani & Uncle Simmy



Uncle Zvi



Aunt Ziyona

Auntie Dee (Davida) is on assignment in Israel and was not available for a photo for this issue of the Kronikle.

## What's in a Name?

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generation, found it hard to believe that man really landed on the moon. Our dear son Gil, we are sure that you will also watch the world change in astounding ways, and we hope that you manage to bring the joy of life with you throughout, as you are first influenced and shaped by the world, and then go on to influence and shape it yourself.

I myself am named for Grandma Gladys' husband, my grandfather *zichrono livracha*, whom I sadly never had the privilege of meeting. The one thing I was always told about him, though, was that he loved to see babies smile. My Grandma also loved to see us smile, and rejoiced with us through all of our achievements and milestones. Always proud, always beaming with joy – she was always *smeicha bechelka* – happy with her portion.

I remember many Shabbat afternoons spent with my Grandma. We used to play Rummikub and various card games, but mostly I remember Monopoly. Inevitably, within an hour or so, Esther, Simmy, and I owed her a hopeless amount of money, and yet the game went on for hours, with the three of us simply “borrowing” cash from Grandma who seemed to always be ahead. I learned from her at a young age that a long, shared game is always more important than who wins. Not too many years later I passed a major milestone as I grew taller than her, a major achievement for a kid always trying to pass for an adult. She moved to Fair Lawn, and we enjoyed many visits after shul on our way home on Shabbat. The smell of her meatballs, the taste of her Grandma cookies, the sight of the Bronx from the balcony of her 18th floor apartment, and the sound of Kazatchok playing on her record player, form the backdrop for many fond memories of my childhood. My Aba's frequent visits to see her in the nursing home and ever-attentive care for her taught me by example how to care for those I love in my own life.

**PENINA:** The State of Israel has always played a central role in both our lives. Jack and I met and fell in love in Israel, and although we returned to the States two years ago, we both share the sincere desire of all Jews to see peace and stability take root in the land that is both so beautiful and yet so complex.

Gil, we gave you the middle name “Aviad,” meaning Father of Eternity. In the 9th chapter of Yishayahu, the prophet announces that a child will be born, and he will be called “Aviad Sar Shalom,” or “Father of Eternity, Emissary of Peace.” This has been interpreted as an allusion to King Hizkiyahu, some 120 years before the first Temple was destroyed. The symbolic naming of a child was seen by the Prophets as a way of demonstrating hope, of looking toward the future. Hizkiyahu earned the title of Aviad by following in the ways of God, instead of bowing to the social norm of idolatry. By taking a stand against his people and the prevailing winds, he was able to bring the Jewish people back to their traditions and prevent disaster from striking in his days.

By giving you the name Aviad, we express our hope that you will be an ‘Emissary of Peace’ and will grow into the kind of person who seeks and nurtures peace wherever you go. In giving you this name we also express our hope that leaders will emerge who will make brave decisions consonant with Jewish values and bring peace to Israel, as Hizkiyahu did two and a half millenia ago. Despite all we have seen in Israel since its founding and even in the recent past, *od lo avda tikvatenu*. Gil Aviad—no pressure—but perhaps one day, you will be one of those leaders who we are praying for.

Gil Aviad, you carry with you a name from the past as well as a name for the future. You have the love of family and friends, who joined us today to officially welcome you to the Jewish People. Together, we pray that you will have a life of both joy and peace, remembering your family's history and looking toward our people's future. We love you very much!