



Bulletin No. 147 A – June 2026
In memory of our fourth-generation descendant of Carpatorus, ה"ד

Captain Maoz Israel Recanati, son of Eliyahu and Ayelet Sara, 24, from Itamar, fell in battle in southern Lebanon.

Maoz, who served as a platoon commander in the 12th Battalion of the "Golani" Brigade, was killed by an explosive drone with an optical fiber. The incident occurred on Friday, May 15, 2026, at around 2:00 p.m. Photo: IDF Spokesperson after the drone exploded over the troops near the Litani River.

On Sunday, May 17, 2026, Maoz was laid to rest on Mount Herzl.

12N" / Inbar Toizer: "Maoz was supposed to marry his fiancée, Reni, in about a month.

Family members said that the wedding invitation had already been hung on the refrigerator, and preparations for the event were in full swing.



Maoz began his military career as a fighter in the Egoz patrol and later became an officer and transferred to the Golani Brigade.

He left behind parents, a fiancée and six siblings.

'How can you sum you up in words?', Reni eulogized him. 'The first time we met, the first thing I noticed were your kind and beautiful eyes, I dived into you every time. I wanted you to come to my bridal chair and smile at me. I wanted you to be a father, you could be a perfect father.' Reni recalled that only last

Thursday they were together at a joint wedding: 'You got up to dance, you're the shy and quiet one, you looked so happy'.

Tehila, Maoz's sister, eulogized him and told of his special bond with his nephews. 'My last message from you was 'Send me some pictures of them' and you wrote 'Burn them,' she said. 'An uncle of laughter and nonsense, spoiling them and making them laugh so much.' His sister told how, even when he was in the army, he was always helpful and interested: "You left Gaza, you called and said you were coming to visit and that you were picking up the children from kindergarten and that I wouldn't bother. We hung the invitation on the refrigerator right when you were picked up." She added and told of him as a child who had always been a quiet leader. "You were a child full of charm,



with a special grace," she said. "A quiet leader, who everyone followed, creative, funny, sweet as honey. You were always connected to the holy land, you loved to mess with the earth, always shining in the mud. I thought that G-d Almighty had enough angels from this war, but apparently G-d need another one." The head of the Samaria Regional Council, Yossi Dagan, paid tribute to the fallen officer: "He was one

of the best of our sons, a brave officer and a dedicated fighter who dedicated his life to the security of the people of Israel. A member of a pioneering and deeply rooted family in Itamar, who was raised on the values of love of the land and devotion to the state. My heart breaks for a young life that was cut short just before the construction of a new home. "In Israel."

Maoz was the grandson of Esther (Etu) Asa'el, née Greenwald, born in 1929, from Beregszasz. Esther was married to Zvi (Auslander), who was active in the underground Zionist youth movements in Budapest, along with his brother, David.

The sisters were born in Sucha Bronka and moved to Dolha [two villages in the Irshava district] - and from there - to Beregszasz.

The famous photograph was taken in 1992 by Vardi Kahana, daughter of Rivka (Rivchu).

Vardi's mother, Rivka Kahana (right), with her sisters, Leah and Esther (Etu).

On their forearms are burned consecutive numbers: A-7762

A-7761

A-7660

In this order they stood in line to be tattooed in Auschwitz.

Esther's son, Yaakov (Yaki) [died July 2025] married Zofit. They are the parents of Ayelet, Maoz's mother.

From Ynet from 22.07.2008:

"Yaakov (Yaki) Asa'el, a resident of the Susiya settlement in the southern Hebron Hills, is the hero of the day, having shot the terrorist, who carried out the ramming attack in Jerusalem at noon.

Shortly afterwards, the terrorist was eliminated by Border Police officers.

Asa'el, 53, is a company commander in the reserves, a father of nine and grandfather of six, who works as a teacher and farmer in the same yeshiva, where the young man who killed the terrorist in the previous attack studied.

Ayelet Recanati, Asael's daughter, told Ynet: "He has resourcefulness, he was a military man in officer positions in combat units - armor. He is a Bible teacher and a farmer, but he has studied judo all his life. He is a Jewish man from the Land of Israel - he combines Torah, work and the way of the land with great power. Yaakov picks up things quickly, he has a good eye for people and probably grasped the situation quickly".



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- An article about Vardi Kahana can be read on our website carpati.org.il: Gallery - Books - Our Stories [in Hebrew] and also an exhibition of her photographs: Gallery - Our Exhibitions
- The 3 Greenwald sisters were cousins of Sarah Rosenwasser, [see article in this newsletter] who recently celebrated her 100th birthday and also **lost a great-grandson in the last war...**

Sergeant Rotem Yanai, from Givat Ada, a noncommissioned officer in the Rotem Battalion (435), Givati Brigade, fell during an operational activity in the north of the country, aged 20 in a fall. Rotem was on her way to a protected area (Wednesday, 27.5.2026) at noon, when a drone exploded at the Shomera outpost. Rotem is the daughter of Tal and Hilit, the granddaughter of Tova and Haim Hoffman (Bobby) ז"ל, a dentist from Dubove (Tyachiv District). Haim's parents were Sara/Shura and Izhak-Srul Hoffman. Holocaust survivors.



Walla from 28.5.2026: "The funeral procession began at the family home and many residents stood on the side of the road to the cemetery, carrying Israeli flags. Minister Nir Barkat was the government's representative at the funeral. Hundreds came to pay their last respects to her. **"The heart of the unit,"** called her Lt. Col. Shmuel Batit, commander of the Givati Infantry Regiment.

"The sunshine of my life," her mother, **Hilit**, mourned her with bitter tears, "You were so beautiful inside and outside. The joy of life around you were contagious. Everything you wanted to achieve - you achieved, without compromise, so was being a noncommissioned officer. You were outstanding. Your love of people and your ability for empathy, giving. You asked me to cook for the soldiers and you cooked gourmet meals for your soldiers".

Father Tal Yanai mourned in tears: "Where are you? A golden girl, kind-hearted, smiling, sociable, helping everyone. You loved serving so much. How happy you were when you were assigned to battalions at the end of the course. You helped and assisted lone soldiers. You took care of special payments for soldiers with difficulties. You are all heart and giving. I love you so much and say goodbye to you here. Your whole life was ahead of you and I am sorry that I was unable to take care of you. I love you endlessly, yours."

Brother Dor spoke in tears about the deep bond he had with his sister. "You made everyone around you feel loved," he said, "Your memory will remain with us everywhere. I am sorry that I was unable to take care of you. May your memory be blessed."

Commander of the Givati Infantry Regiment, Lt. Col. Shmuel Batit, mourned her: "You enlisted for significant service as a noncommissioned officer in the Rotem Battalion, and you performed your role with dedication, responsibility and a big heart. Throughout your service, you faced professional and personal challenges with a true sense of mission, and you proved time and time again to your commanders and comrades, that you could be relied on in every mission and at every moment. You were a valued soldier, significant and prominent in your presence. You always chose to see first the soldiers around you, your comrades, to listen, help, strengthen and give of yourself without limit. But beyond your role and uniform, you were a true friend, funny, loved, full of joy and light. Your comrades say that you were the heart of the platoon, the one that everyone knew and loved, the one who always took care of everyone in her own way, lifted the atmosphere and managed to connect people," Batit continued. "In your role as the platoon sergeant, you were an anchor for them, you knew how to be there even in difficult moments, to strengthen when needed and to put energy, a smile and "poison" in your eyes, which are so identified with the battalion. Your commanders say that you loved life, you loved to have fun, laugh, enjoy every moment and live truly. "In just a few

months, you were supposed to be freed, go out into the big world, fulfill dreams, build a future and a whole life that was still ahead of you," he added.

Ynet from 28.5.2026: "The Binyamina Givat Ada local council, which was informed last night about her fall, said that she studied theater at Kramim High School and was active in the Geffen branch of the Scout movement. "In her special way, she left a mark on her friends and everyone who had the privilege of knowing her. She will be remembered as having a sense of humor, self-confidence, a big heart and endless giving, as someone who acted with care and sensitivity for those around her," the council said.

She is survived by her parents Hilit and Tal, and her brothers Dor and Aviad.

Her aunt, Meital Ansbacher, said that Rotem's brother was injured on October 7, 2023. "We thought the worst had already happened, and yesterday the worst happened: Rotem was killed by the drone," she said. "She was a radiant girl, full of smiles, surrounded by many friends, she left a positive mark. She really wanted to be a noncommissioned officer and loved the role very much. At the end of the course, she received the ribbon from her commander".

She described Rotem as "a girl with a heart of gold, smiling, full of caring and love for others. She didn't just find her way in the Givati fighting battalion. When the soldiers would return from Lebanon, she would prepare pots of hot food for them, pamper them, take care of everyone." According to her, "She was simply a girl, whose whole essence was giving. Always surrounded by lots of love. Loved so much. There are no words to describe." Rotem's smile never left her, even in the most difficult moments. "Despite the drones, and despite the situation at the base, and despite the fact that she had been closed for 50 days, she radiated that everything was fine. But beyond that, she really cared for everyone and gave everything she had," her aunt added. "In her short time here with us, she devoured life." The last time they met was on the night of the last Seder, after Rotem had been closed for 49 days at the base. "She didn't complain about that either," Meital said. "She understood so much that what she was doing was important and had meaning, that nothing bothered her. It was very important that she be remembered. It was simply important to me that she be remembered".

Reut Schwartzman, another of Rotem's aunts, also spoke about a girl with a huge heart and endless giving. "Yesterday she talked to her parents, she was supposed to go out on Shabbat and was delayed because she wanted to go to a friend's ceremony," she shared. "Rotem didn't worry at all and always radiated confidence - 'So there are drones, mom, don't worry,' she would say. She was full of life. A month ago, on her mother's birthday, she wrote to her, 'I wish I could be a mother like you.' That won't happen again."

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How is it that grandparents bury their grandson and granddaughter?

May their memory be blessed forever!