## UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA

hereby presents

The President's Award of Merit

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## Alexander W. Renshaw

in appreciation of his exemplifying the mitzva of hachnassat orchim toward members of the faculty who stay briefly in a foreign land to conduct research, and in token of his warm friendship toward the University of Haifa.

15 Sivan 5758 / June 9, 1998

Prof. Yehuda Hayuth

President

## Alexander W. Renshaw

Born in Leipzig (1924), he left Germany for England together with his younger brother in July 1939. His mother and two sisters arrived

shortly afterwards; but his father, who was left behind, did not survive the Holocaust. In England, the young Alexander Renshaw worked in a clothing factory to support the family. In 1943, he joined the British Army and saw service in Belgium, Germany, and Austria. Remaining in the army until 1948, he reached the rank of Sergeant Major.

On his return home, he started a small clothing factory. He married in December 1949, and he and his wife Betty have three children: Jonathan, a dentist; Stephen, who now manages the family business; and Cheryl, a dental hygienist. The clothing factory expanded over the next two decades, and in 1970 Alexander Renshaw retired from the textile business and switched to real estate.

Together with his son Stephen, he then built up a short-term accommodation business. Firmly believing in the mitzva of hachnassat orchim (welcoming guests), he began devoting much of his time to providing a second home for visiting academics from all over the world, but especially from Israel. Mr. Renshaw gives preference in accommodations to faculty members from the University of Haifa and other Israeli institutions who come to London for short periods to conduct research.

Alexander and Betty Renshaw made aliyah in February 1998 and now live in Tel Aviv.

