



Herb Kaplan '91

Herb Kaplan retired twenty years ago, and began a new career - in public service.

After studying sociology, psychology and literature at Yale, Herb attended Harvard Business School and then worked in the jewelry business. He sold his businesses in 1987 and has since devoted himself to the non-profit world, serving on over thirty boards: Family Service of RI, The Gordon School, Meeting Street, Providence Public Library, Trinity Repertory Company, Common Cause of RI, Poverty Institute, Youth In Action, and others. He also founded the New England Amateur Skating Foundation.

For Herb, serving and giving to others makes life enjoyable. "It's a bad day if I haven't helped someone," he says. Herb remembers that his father was a giving person as well, and that is where the tradition started. It was also an important part of the Jewish faith. Herb's special way of giving back has often been as a mentor, helping non-profit and development professionals to serve their organizations effectively.

Herb is a Lambda Class graduate of LRI and was named Rhode Island's Philanthropic Citizen of the Year in 2001. Today, he is a consultant with Executive Service Corps and continues to mentor individuals.

Herb lives in Providence with his wife, Christine Townsend. They have two daughters.

