



# MAN OF THE YEAR & YOUTH OF THE YEAR EVENT



## **RALPH BROWN**

**CONGREGATIONS OF SHAARE SHAMAYIM, PHILADELPHIA, PA**

### **FAMILY MEMBERS**

Stacey Earls (significant other),  
Beverly Earls (significant other's mother),  
Ralph Jr., Anthony, Shaniece

### **HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE**

Lincoln High, Philadelphia

### **OCCUPATION**

Maintenance Man at the Congregations of Shaare Shamayim

### **HONORS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Help build synagogue Sukkah; Build the synagogue's clergy's Sukkah; Help with sisterhood events in setting up the room; Help with special events at the synagogue such as the Chanukah Menorah made from donuts; Help with setting up for special events for the Congregations of Shaare Shamayim pre-school.

### **HOBBIES/INTERESTS**

Philadelphia Sports fan with the exception of football. I've been a Dallas Cowboys fan since the age of 8 ever since I received a Dallas Cowboys jersey from my family in Texas; Love all types of music as long as it's good; Play video games with both my kids and grandkids.

### **OTHER COMMUNITY OR JEWISH ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES**

Help feed Families during the holidays; Involved with his community's kids.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH MEN'S CLUB**

Have helped with the setup of the following men's club events: Paid-up Dinner, Annual Blood Drive, biennial Meet the Candidates Forum, Men's Club Beef and Beer.

### **FAVORITE MEN'S CLUB PROGRAM**

Beef and Beer

### **WHAT MEN'S CLUB MEANS TO ME**

Being able to help out for a very senior men's club; Love listening to stories by other men's club members.

### **REASON FOR THIS AWARD**

Our Men's Club is honoring Ralph Brown, Congregations of Shaare Shamayim Maintenance Man, as our Man of the Year. He has been invaluable in assisting Men's Club in supporting special events in recent years given the fact that membership has steadily declined and is aging. Without him, we wouldn't have been able to build the congregational sukkah (as well as the former Rabbi's and current Cantor's), and set up for special events such as the Men's Club paid up dinner, the annual blood drive, the annual beef and beer, and the semi-annual meet the candidates forum. In addition, he supports other events at the synagogue such as those sponsored by Sisterhood, Pre-School and the synagogue in general; this included building the world's largest Chanukah menorah that was made out of jelly donuts. He did not miss a beat during COVID and was there when we needed him. He has been at the Congregations of Shaare Shamayim since September, 2012; his 3 grandchildren attended the Congregations of Shaare Shamayim preschool and two of them attend a Jewish elementary school.