

Nancy & David Wolf



HOLOCAUST
& HUMANITY
CENTER

ID PROFILE CARDS



Henry Meyer

Born 1923

Dresden, Germany

Henry was a child prodigy on the violin. He studied in Prague and was invited back to his hometown of Dresden to play a concert on Kristallnacht, November 9, 1938. He was arrested trying to protect his grandmother and sent to Buchenwald. His father, Harry tried to switch places with him but was refused, since he had been a veteran of WWI.

Henry joined the Judische Kulturbund in Berlin, which was a Jewish organization formed so that Jewish performers could continue composing and performing music. That organization was eventually prohibited in 1939, leaving Henry and other musicians unable to perform.

Henry's parents, Harry and Johanna, were deported from Dresden to Riga and murdered in 1942. One year later, Henry and his brother, Fritz were deported to Auschwitz, where Fritz died. After Henry recovered from an illness, he was sent to play in the Auschwitz band. Henry and other musicians would play music as prisoners were marched to and from work.

In fall of 1944, the Russians were approaching the camp, so the Nazis began forcing prisoners on death marches back to Germany in order to eliminate evidence of what they had done. First, Henry was transported by railcar to Ohrdruf concentration camp, then marched towards Buchenwald. During the march, Henry and three of his friends escaped from the group and waited for the American front to reach them. Two weeks later, Henry was free and in Paris where General Eisenhower's staff arranged for Henry to immigrate to the United States in 1948.

Arriving in New York, Henry began to rebuild his life through music, studying at Julliard. He would later be a founding member of the world-renowned LaSalle Quartet, which he played along with three other Holocaust survivors for 40 years. Henry taught music for 53 years at the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music. He died in 2006.



Heinz Blumenstein

Born September 22, 1935

Vienna, Austria

Heinz's father, Franz, made children's clothes, his mother Else, ran a drug store. Franz was arrested during Kristallnacht in November 1938. He was released when Else bribed a Nazi-official, and the promise he would leave Germany. Franz immigrated to Cuba to be with his sister.

In May 1939 Heinz, Else, and his grandmother Regina booked passage on the ST Louis to join Franz. After the passengers were denied entry to Cuba and the United States, they were forced to return to Europe where passengers were allowed entry to England, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Elsa, Heinz and Regina went to the Netherlands. Regina was arrested and deported to Theresienstadt, and then Auschwitz where she was murdered. Elsa placed Heinz in hiding with the Dykstra family in Oosterbierum. She also went into hiding but was discovered in 1943 deported to Auschwitz and murdered.

Heinz survived the war and was later reunited with his father when he immigrated to the United States in 1946.



Alfred Gottschalk
Born March 7, 1930
Koblenz, Germany

Alfred's father, Max Gottschalk, was a livestock farmer, and his mother, Erna, was a homemaker in Oberwesel, Germany. Alfred was raised in a traditional Jewish household and was close to his grandparents, Gustav Gerson and Henriette Trum Gerson and attended public school.

In 1938, Alfred was expelled from school when a member of the SA entered his classroom and declared that Jews were to be officially banished from school.

Local Catholic nuns were sympathetic to the family's plight and helped his parents enroll him in a Catholic school. Soon after, Alfred's father fled Germany via the Netherlands, after being tipped off that the Gestapo was planning to arrest him. After the Netherlands he made his way to the U.S. and in June 1939, Alfred and his mother joined him. During the war, the Gottschalks lived in New York.

Alfred Gottschalk was ordained as a Reform rabbi and became a pioneering Judaic scholar and educator. He became president and chancellor of the Hebrew Union College, cofounder of the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. and the Skirball Museum in Los Angeles and president of the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York. In 1972 he ordained the first female rabbi.



Vera Hess Gutin

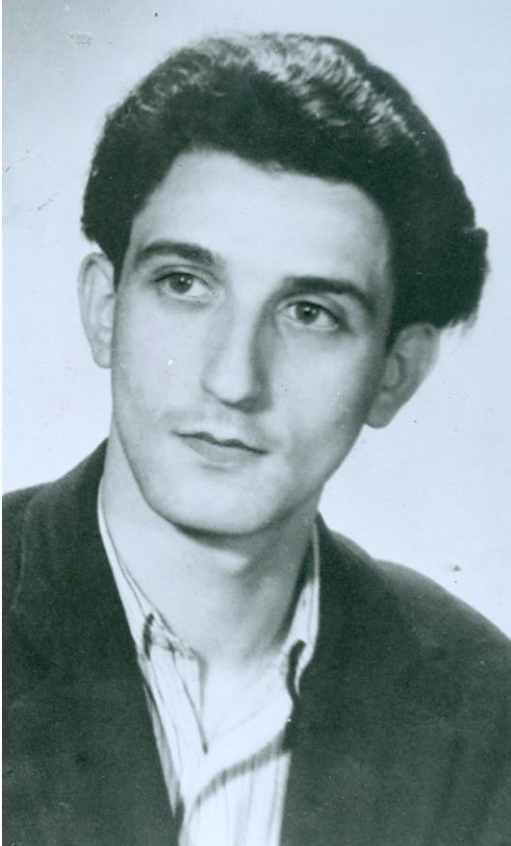
Born June 1, 1934

Trier, Germany

Vera's father, Wilhelm sold men's furnishings and notions, her mother Nani was a seamstress. After Kristallnacht the family decided to leave Germany. In December 1938 they made their way 41 miles west to Luxembourg where they lived with an Aunt & Uncle until May 10, 1940 when the German Army occupied the Low Countries.

The German's allowed people to leave, and the family took a train heading South to France. Once in France they took to the roads with many other refugees, they were rounded up and sent to Gurs, a camp that had been established prior to the war which was now being used to hold Jews who were enemy aliens. Conditions in the camp were extremely dire and many people died. After four months Vera and her mother were released. They went to Aix-en Provence. Her father was transferred to Les Milles in 1941. Vera and her mother could visit him and did so until August 3, 1942. On that day Vera was smuggled out from the camp. Her parents remained behind until they were deported to Auschwitz on August 17, 1942, where they were murdered.

Vera had been placed at a summer home and later a small farm in Dieulefit by the Children's Aid Society (OSE) where she hid in the open until 1945 when she was taken to her Aunt and Uncle who had survived. In 1947 she was sent to the United States.



Werner Coppel

Born February 22, 1925

Moers, Germany

At 13, Nazi legislation was enacted which prohibited him from attending public school. In 1940, he went to Berlin to join the Hachshara, a Zionist youth movement that prepared Jewish youth to settle in Palestine (Israel).

In late 1941, Werner returned home to visit his family; this was the last time he saw his parents and brother before they were deported to Riga, Lithuania in December.

In 1943, The Gestapo arrested everyone in the Hachshara group, and they were deported to Auschwitz on April 20, 1943. In 1945, Werner escaped the Auschwitz death march and was liberated by Soviet troops. A few days later, he met Trudy Silberman, a nurse who helped him regain his health.

In 1946, they were married in the first Jewish wedding in Berlin. Along with their son, Ron, Werner and Trudy immigrated to Cincinnati in 1949, where they had a second son, Steve. Werner was the first survivor in Cincinnati to share his story, and he devoted much of his life to Holocaust Education.



David Hochstein

Born July 7, 1923

Cologne, Germany

On October 28, 1938, the Nazis deported Polish Jews living in Germany to Poland. Refused entry by the Polish government, the Jews were stranded in the town of Zbaszyn.

In 1939 David's father, Samuel, arranged for David to go to London, England on a Kindertransport. While David was able to escape, he learned that his father and mother, Cilly, were both murdered.

Trained as a furrier in London, David immigrated to the United States in 1946 and moved to Dayton, Ohio, in 1947. He married Clara Berman on September 5, 1948. The couple had two children, Cheryl and Gary, and opened a successful furrier business in Dayton.



Sonja with her father Siegfried at his shop in Shanghai, China.

Sonja (Kaiser) Kirschner
Born March 1934
Schwazzenborn, Germany

Her father, Siegfried was a butcher, until the Nazi's made it difficult on him, and in 1936 he moved the family to Frankfurt. Again, he found it hard to be a butcher and became a chauffeur for a rich Jewish family, helping them to smuggle Jews to Switzerland.

On November 10, 1938, during Kristallnacht, her father was arrested, and imprisoned for three months in Dachau, but was released on the condition that he would leave Germany in thirty days. While in Dachau he learned of Jews who were escaping to Shanghai, China. Sonja's mother Ruth was not thrilled by the idea, as her family had been in Germany for a long time and China was so completely foreign. In March of 1939, the family went to Shanghai, where they lived a difficult but relatively safe life. After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, life in Shanghai became more difficult and by 1943 most of the Jewish population was living in a segregated part of the city, where they lived under Japanese rule.

At the end of the war, Sonja and her family decided that they would not remain in Shanghai and they eventually immigrated to the United States on March 20, 1947, landing in San Francisco, where they stayed for 2 weeks before heading to Chicago, where her father worked in a meat packing plant. In 1951 the family moved to Cincinnati, her father made sausage, and later the family opened a restaurant.



Anneliese (Leopold) Yosafat

Born February 14, 1937

Leipzig, Germany

After receiving a deportation notice on September 18, 1942, her family went into hiding. Only able to take a few personal items so as not to look suspicious as they traveled, Anneliese took her favorite doll and her mother's baby spoon with her. Over the course of the war, the family would hide with 13 different families in various locations. They took on false identities and had false papers; Anneliese's name was now Annie Frieher (Freeman).

When one of their hiding places was bombed, Anneliese was so frightened, she bit the fingers off one of the hands of her doll. Following the bombing, the family fled to Bludenz, Austria and began passing themselves off as Christians, hiding in plain sight. Anneliese's father Walter, using the false name Kurt, invented a story that they were Christians from Mannheim who had lost all their identification papers in a recent bombing. Because of their false identification papers, Walter got a job with the local government from September 1944 through the end of the war.

In 1946, the family revealed their Jewish identities. The town was not pleased that they had been fooled and local clergy urged them to leave. The family came to the United States in 1950.



Alice Mary (Diamant) Price
Born June 22, 1910
Vienna Austria

On March 13, 1936, the date of the Anschluss, she remembered that the force of the massive crowds on the streets welcoming the Nazis was so powerful it shook the house and caused the mirror on the wall to crash to the floor. She married Harold (Pries) Price on March 15, 1936. The Anschluss took a great toll on the Jews in Vienna, Harold's Uncle Gabor Engelsman an editor of a newspaper took his life by jumping out a window after getting word that the German's were coming for him.

Fearing the worst, Harold and Alice began the process of leaving Vienna for the U.S. in April of 1938. They had received an affidavit from one Harold's American uncle living in Oklahoma. They also tried to get sponsorship for Alice's mother, Hilda and father, Josef, but because her father was from Czechoslovakia his quota number was higher, and the possibility of him being able to leave was slim, and although her mother was able to leave, she decided to stay with her father. Both were murdered.

In September 1938 Alice gave birth to her son Monroe. As many Jewish doctors had been forced to stop practicing medicine, she took a taxi to the *Amersperg* Sanitarium to give birth. Recovering in her room she recalls hearing the marching and singing of Hitler Youth, who were singing "From the point of the knife Jewish blood should be spurt."

The Prices received their passports on February 9, 1939 and finally left Vienna for New York on the Queen Mary. They first settled in Long Island, leaving to live in Macon Georgia in hopes of finding more career opportunities for Harold. They eventually left Macon and came to Cincinnati, where Alice opened the Gloria Shoppe, a baby, infants and children's wear store on 731 E. McMillan Street in 1945.



Susan (Kahn) Freudenthal

Born August 17, 1920

Nuremberg, Germany

Susan was born to Gustav and Beatrice Kahn. She had a younger brother Robert who was born in 1923. Living in Nuremberg was not easy after the Nazis came to power in 1933. There was SA activity and antisemitism, so much so the family relocated to Leipzig.

In Leipzig, they had a housekeeper and chauffeur whose daughter had Down Syndrome and was in an institution and killed by the Nazis. Life in Leipzig became increasingly difficult and Susan's family tried to leave. Applying for visas, her parents decided it might be better to get her and Robert out first and they would follow. Susan, sponsored by her Uncle Joe was able to leave in May 1938 to meet him in the U.S.

Her father and mother had a mix up at the consulate in Berlin and were left with high quota numbers and little chance of leaving Germany. On November 9, 1938 Susan's father was arrested on Kristallnacht and sent to Buchenwald. Susan and her Uncle were able to get him out with a Peruvian visa that would not get him to Peru but would get him out of Buchenwald.

In 1939 Her parents also managed to send her brother, Robert, on a Kindertransport (children's transport) to London. Susan spent the rest of the war trying to help her parents escape but was unsuccessful, and they did not survive.



Werner Weinberg

Born May 30, 1915

Rheda (in Westphalia, Germany)

Because universities were closed to new Jewish students when Weinberg graduated from high school in 1934, he attended the orthodox *Israelitische Lehrerbildungsanstalt* in Wuerzberg, Germany and obtained certificates to teach public school elementary and religious school. He taught first in Rheda, then in Hannover, also acting as the unofficial cantor and rabbi for the rural community.

In 1939, the Weinberg's emigrated to Holland, where he worked part-time as a teacher and a gardener. Following the German occupation of Holland in May 1940, the Weinberg's sometimes lived in hiding, and at other times in the open. Members of the "Haksharah," (A group that prepared individuals for agricultural life in Palestine) they were among the last to be deported.

He and his wife, had two daughters, Hannah born in 1940 and Susan born in 1941. Worried for their children under German Occupation they hid Susan with friends. Sadly, Hannah had already died of Meningitis. Werner and Lisl Weinberg were finally sent to the Dutch transit camp of Westerbork in 1943. In January, they were moved to Bergen Belsen. Surviving a bout with typhus, following liberation, the Weinberg's survived to reclaim their daughter and emigrated to the United States in 1948. This was a defining experience for Werner Weinberg and was a recurring theme in several of his later nonfiction and fiction writings.



Al Miller

Born November 20, 1922
Berlin, Germany

Albert was born to Alfred and Charlotte Mueller. Miller's family ran a very successful textile business, Mueller & Sussman, which they had owned for more than 50 years. Experiencing repercussions from the Nuremberg Laws, Al's family arranged for him and his brother Bruno to leave Germany. Al went to attend school in Switzerland and Bruno was sent to England in 1937.

Al's parents escaped Germany after Kristallnacht, his mother worked tirelessly going from consulate to consulate until she finally managed to get into the Belgium consulate, where she was finally able to obtain passports and the necessary paperwork. Once in Belgium they reunited with Al and then they managed their way to London in December 1938. Al's father managed to secure American visas for the family amidst the threat of internment by the British government, who were identifying Germans (regardless of their religious affiliation) to be enemy aliens. They were able to immigrate to the United States in August 1940.

Al Miller joined the United States Army during WWII training at Camp Ritchie in Maryland. Al's training prepared him to interrogate German Prisoners in preparation for the trials in the aftermath of the war.



Stephanie (Flakowicz) Marks

Born June 4, 1925

Konin, Poland

At the age of five, she and her father Perec (Paul), and mother, Pessa (Pola) moved to Brussels, Belgium. In 1939, while visiting family in Poland, she and her family were trapped by the Nazi invasion. After trying to flee to Warsaw they ended up in Lodz. Trying to get back to Belgium, Stephanie and her mother visited the Gestapo headquarters. Pola showed Johannes Schafer, a Nazi SS officer, their Belgian ID cards and asked him to help them get back to Brussels, He signed their passports and arranged for safe transport from Poland to Belgium.

Back in Belgium, they knew they should try and leave, but stayed and in May 1940 the German army occupied the country and Stephanie and her family were once again trapped by war.

Eventually, they escaped to Portugal, and in June 1941, they settled in Cincinnati, Ohio. After graduating from Cincinnati's Hughes High School in 1943, Stephanie went on to work in real estate for more than 30 years. Stephanie has two children and is committed to Holocaust education.



Philip, Alex, Morris, Henry & Herbert Frieder
Cincinnati/Manila
Cigar Makers

As conditions deteriorated for Jews in Germany, some began to seek refuge but were met with several challenges hampering immigration to the United States, Britain, and Palestine. Desperate to get out, many turned toward any place that might take them. In the Philippines, the Frieder brothers, cigar makers from Cincinnati; Paul McNutt, former governor of Indiana and acting high commissioner of the Philippines; and Manuel Quezon, president of the Philippines, worked together to bring German and Austrian Jews to Manila.

The Frieder brothers took turns running the business in the Philippines. While there, they had three responsibilities: act as president of the synagogue, run the business, and bring in as many Jewish refugees as they could to Manila. Between 1938 and 1941, they rescued more than 1,200 Jews.



Rabbi Julian Morgenstern
President, Hebrew Union College
Cincinnati

Hebrew Union College had a long relationship with Germany. Members of its faculty studied at German universities and had been ordained at Berlin's Liberal Jewish Seminary.

As scholars and their rabbinical students at the seminary became more endangered under the Nazi regime, HUC sprang into action. Its president, Dr. Julian Morgenstern, invited no less than 11 scholars, including the prominent Jewish theologian and social justice activist, Abraham Joshua Heschel, to join the faculty. He also brought over five rabbinical students to join the HUC student body, offering these refugees a haven and a scholarship. Many of these students would later play vital roles in American Judaism.

Most importantly, the invitation to Cincinnati saved the lives of the scholars and the students who otherwise would likely have been murdered in the Holocaust. It was a life-saving deed, what is called in Hebrew, a "mitzvah."

Paul lived with his father, Charles, his mother Else and sister Lotte in the middle of a park in Munich. Paul's father worked in the textile business at Weishoptel Incorporated. The family saw themselves as German and Charles was proud to be Jewish, but felt his religion was to care for others no matter the denomination.

In 1933 Paul recounted that half of his friends were Jewish and not Jewish, however by 1936 the situation had changed, and he was forbidden by teachers and authorities from associating with his non-Jewish friends. At the same time teachers became very cruel to Jewish students and kids would attack as on our walks to and from school. It was also at this time the family decided to sell their house on the advice of a friend, as at the time the Nazis were using it as a training ground. The family moved and Paul went to a makeshift Jewish school at a synagogue, which he had to commute to by bicycle.

On Kristallnacht, Paul arrived at school to find the synagogue burning, a Gestapo agent told him, "he was a lucky Jew, No more school for you!" Paul saw the ransacking, looting and burning of Jewish businesses on his ride home. By the time he got there his father had been warned by phone that the Gestapo was on the way, but they were unable to leave as the Gestapo arrived quickly and arrested Charles taking him to Dachau.

After spending thirty days in Dachau, a non-Jewish friend was able to help Charles get out and leave with the family to Switzerland. Later they went to France and then England where they had to remain because of the outbreak of WWII. Now stateless, with no money, they found lodging and worked to get visas to wherever they could. There was a cousin in Cincinnati, and the family was able to finally come to the U.S. in April 1940.

Charles and the family would go on to open Standard Textile, which helped to employ many other refugees over the years.



Paul Heiman

Born September 26, 1926

Munich, Germany



Edith (Knopfmacher) Carter
Born December 17, 1914
Deutschhause, Czechoslovakia

One of the few Jewish families in town, the family moved to the city of Olmutz after experiencing antisemitism. In Olmutz, the Knopfmacher family was part of a large Jewish community; Edith attended school and worked in her father's distillery before marrying Ernst Karter in 1937.

Edith and Ernst were sent to the Theresienstadt Ghetto in 1942. Prior to a visit from the International Red Cross, they, along with many others were deported to Auschwitz. Edith was then transported to the overcrowded labor camp of Stutthof, then to Praust. During a death march from Praust, Edith escaped with five other women and was liberated by Russian soldiers.

Edith returned to her family home in Olmutz to wait for her husband, but soon learned that he did not survive. After corresponding with Ernst's cousin, Gustav Karter, following the end of the war, Edith immigrated to the United States in 1947 to live with him and his two daughters, Janine and Ruth, in Cincinnati. Edith and Gustav eventually married and had a daughter, Deborah.



Marguerite (Levy) Feibelman

Born October 26, 1924

Manheim, Germany

In 1934, Marguerite, her father Albert, her mother Martha and her older sister Ghislaine moved to Paris, France. After the German Army Occupied France in 1940, Marguerite and her family spent many months trying to stay ahead of the army's advance. While hiding in Roanne, France, Marguerite forged a false name on the identification cards for her family.

The new identities enabled them to escape to Bionnay, France, in 1943. In 1944, she joined the French resistance movement. After liberation, Marguerite graduated from Sorbonne and Columbia University.

She moved to Cincinnati in 1950, where she owned and operated her own business, and married Leonard Feibelman, with whom she had three children.



Ruth (Stern) Kropveld

Born June 27, 1921

Herzfeld, Germany

Ruth's father was a tailor and her mother owned a millinery shop. In 1934 the SA would position themselves in front of their store with signs "don't buy in a Jewish store." At the same time. Ruth's non-Jewish friends no longer would associate with her, and she also remembered being in school, when a Jewish teacher was called out of class and beaten.

As things became worse, Ruth's parents sold the store and they moved to Berlin. Ruth was sent to relatives in Wuerzburg for a year before joining her parents, after they had established themselves, and opened a millinery shop.

Her mother thought it would be better if Ruth learned a profession and she became a millinery apprentice. On Kristallnacht she came home to find that her parents store windows were smeared, and they were warned by non-Jewish friends not to remain in their home (which was located behind the store). They hid with friends for five days, and saw the devastation left by the violence.

Ruth and her boyfriend and a friend decided to go to Holland with the hopes that her parents would meet them. They took a train and got off before the border, not knowing where it was, and finally they were met by Dutch officers. Ruth was able to remain in Holland through the war. She spent most of the time in hiding.

Her parents had made it out of Berlin in 1941 and went to Lisbon. They remained in Lisbon for a month waiting for Ruth. After they realized she would not be coming, they left for the U.S. After the war, Ruth married her husband, she had met in Holland. In 1947 they made their way to be with her parents, who were living in Cincinnati.



Fannie (Hofmann) Warren

Born August 10, 1916

Zwolen, Poland

Fannie married Chaim Weintraub just before the start of World War II. In late 1942, following the Nazi invasion of Poland in September 1939, Fannie and Chaim were sent to the Policzna agriculture camp and munitions plant at Skarzysko-Kamienna. There, sometime in early 1944, Fannie witnessed the violent death of her husband at the hands of Nazi guards. In the winter of 1944-45, Fannie was forced to march to Bergen Belsen, where she was ultimately liberated on April 15, 1945.

Fannie and her brother, Chaim, were the only members of her family to survive. Fannie remarried in 1947 to Max Warren, and they immigrated to the United States in 1949 and had two sons, Ruben and Raphael.

John's mother died in the influenza epidemic a few months after giving birth to John. In 1931 John and his father immigrated to the U.S. and moved to Akron, Ohio. He changed his name to John Ernest when he became a US citizen in 1941.

John graduated from Miami University in 1942 and went to work for Proctor and Gamble as an industrial engineer before he was drafted into the army on November 13, 1942. Reporting for duty at Fort Thomas in Kentucky, he volunteered that he could speak both French and German but was assigned to learn how to become a tank driver at Fort Knox. After completing officer's training, John's experiences and language skills got him assigned to Camp Ritchie in Maryland where he became an IPW, Interrogator of Prisoners of War.

He arrived at Dachau concentration camp on April 30, two days after the liberation of the camp. His job was to look for high ranking Nazi officials in disguise. From there, he was assigned to the Central Continental Prisoner of War Enclosure No. 32 at the Place Hotel Mondorf, where 51 high ranking Nazis including Hermann Goering (Hitler's designated successor), Julius Streicher (publisher of *Dur Sturmer*, an antisemitic newspaper), and many others awaited trial. John served as an interrogator, aiding prosecutors in building their cases for the Nuremberg Trials. He also acted as an interpreter for the prison psychiatrist.

In 1946 John returned to the United States and his job at Proctor and Gamble. In 1947, left his job at P&G and returned to Miami University as their first full time alumni secretary and later become the Director of Alumni Affairs and Development. In 1981 he was named Vice President for University Relations, which he remained until he was appointed the United States Ambassador to Luxembourg by President Ronald Reagan. Ambassador Dolibois proudly served from 1981-1985. In honor of his years of service, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution naming the American Embassy residence in Luxembourg, the Dolibois House.



Jean (John)Ernst Dolibois
Born December 4, 1918
Luxembourg



Harold Trout

Born December 12, 1924

Warren, Indiana

Harold Trout was, graduated from Warren High School in 1942, and was drafted into the U.S. Army on March 9, 1943 and placed on active duty almost immediately. He served as a Staff Sergeant with the 71st Infantry Division 3rd Army, under General Patton, in Central Europe. He was with the division when they liberated the Gunskirchen Lager, a concentration camp in Austria, on May 5, 1945.

Gunskirchen was a sub-camp of Mauthausen, located in a dense patch of pine trees. At the time of liberation, the camp totaled 15,000 of which 400 were political prisoners, but the majority were Hungarian Jews who had been on a death march from Hungary to Austria. The intent was to use the Hungarian prisoners as forced labor.

Conditions in the camp were deplorable and though Harold was only there for a few hours, what he saw and experienced would stay with him for the rest of his life. Reflecting on that day, he said, “I saw a lot of dead people in the war before that, American and German soldiers. I thought I got hardened to it. But this...just for being a Jew or a political prisoner. It was beyond your belief how humans can treat other human beings this way.”

Harold was awarded the Good Conduct and Victory medals, as well as the American Theater Ribbon, and EAME Theater Ribbon with 2 bronze stars. He was honorably discharged from the service in 1946, returning home to Warren, Indiana where he worked as a dairy farmer. He married Jo Ann Paul in May 1948, and they later had two sons, Steve and Stanley.

Roma was the youngest daughter of Oskar and Perla Nowak, she had three brothers Heniek, Shymon, and Yehuda, and an older sister Rozalia. Her father was in the textile business with her grandfather, and they lived well. Oskar died when Roma was a baby after an operation he had in Berlin.

The German army occupied Lodz on September 1, 1939 and things changed very rapidly for Roma and her family. The German people living in their building and neighborhood began hanging Nazi flags, and she could no longer go to school. They were forced to wear yellow arm bands and do degrading work.

In February of 1940, the ghetto was established, and Roma and her family were forced to leave their home, which was in a building owned by her grandfather and move to the southern side of the city. Roma's mother died soon after they arrived in the ghetto leaving Roma, her three brothers and her sister on their own.

The ghetto was a horrible place where disease and hunger were constant. In order to eat the inhabitants of the ghetto had to have a job. Roma had several, including working in an old person's home, until it was emptied out during a deportation.

Roma met her future husband, Sam, in the ghetto, where they traded books with one another, gathered with other young people in a courtyard. In August of 1944, Roma and Rozalia were deported from Lodz and sent to Auschwitz. In Auschwitz they avoided being tattooed by constantly going to the end of the line. They also saved their friend Danka from throwing herself on the barbed wire, who they knew from the ghetto and took her in as a sister, remaining together until the end of the war. After a short time, they were sent on to Stutthof concentration camp. Escaping a Nazi death march towards Puck, Poland, Roma and her sister found refuge in a nearby hospital.

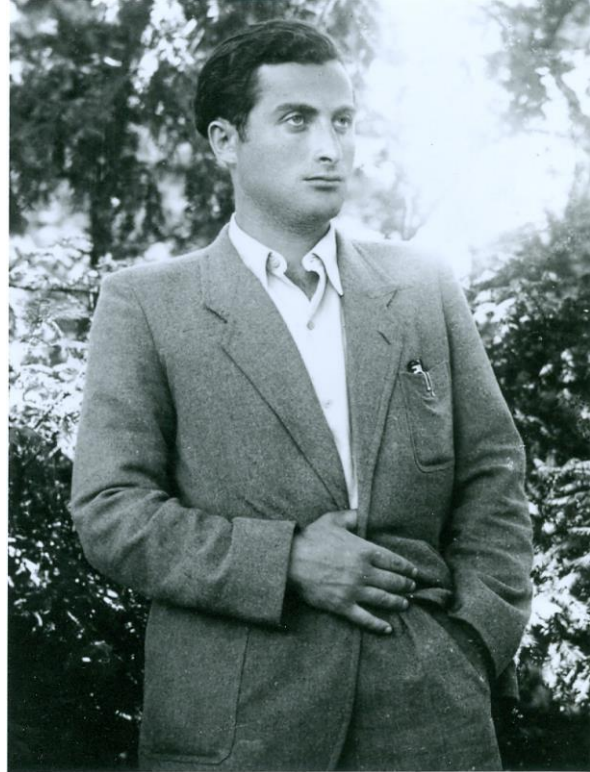
After liberation, Roma returned to Lodz, but left for England to work with her sister. Sam eventually found her, and they were married in Germany. They immigrated to the United States in 1949, eventually settling in Cincinnati. They had two children and were committed to Holocaust education and remembrance.



Roma (Nowak) Kaltman

Born May 4, 1926

Lodz, Poland



Sam Kaltman

Born May 27, 1921

Lodz, Poland

Sam was the eldest son of Herschel and Szajndla Kaltman. He had two brothers Simon and Abraham, and two sisters, Ita Mariem and Rajzla.

In 1939 when the German Army occupied Lodz, the family stayed together and were later forced to move into the ghetto. The brothers worked with their father as locksmiths in the ghetto. In September of 1942, Sam's little sister Rajzla was taken away in the round up and deportation of people over 65 and children under the age of 10.

He met his future wife Roma Nowak in the Lodz Ghetto in the courtyard of their building where young people would gather and discuss books. Sam and the rest of his family were deported to Auschwitz in 1944. His sister and mother were taken to the gas chambers on arrival, while he and his brothers, father and uncle were processed into the camp.

They spent most of their time in Auschwitz digging ditches and moving rocks. Later they were deported to Kaufering, a sub camp of Dachau. After liberation Sam and Roma found each other and were married in Bamberg, Germany and came to the US in 1949, later settling in Cincinnati where Sam had friends who he had met in the camps. They had two children Sandy and Jerome. Sam worked during the day at Gruen Watch company and studied plumbing in the evenings on his own, teaching himself to become a master plumber, which led to him opening his own business which he operated for 30 years.

Sam was the president of the Jewish Survivors of Nazism group a forerunner to HHC from 1980-1984 and served on the board of the American Gathering and Federation of Jewish Survivors, and the Bureau of Jewish Education. Sam died at the Age of 68 in 1990.



Simon (Simcha) Kaltman

Born May 8, 1927

Lodz, Poland

Simon (Simcha) Kaltman was the youngest son of Herschel and Szajndla Kaltman. He had two brothers, Sam (Shmuel) & Abraham (Avraham) and two sisters Ita Mariem and Rose (Rajzla). They were a very large and close family, Simon remembered how his brothers looked out for him.

On September 1, 1939, the German army occupied Lodz and things changed quickly for the family. In February 1940, the ghetto was established, and disease and hunger were rampant as food was scarce. Simon remembers that they only would get one loaf of bread to last eight days, which he would split with one of his sisters.

Simon worked with his father as a locksmith and then in the ghetto laundry that cleaned German uniforms sent back to the front. He and his father maintained the machines working twelve-hour days. In 1942 Rose was taken during a deportation of people over 65 and children under the age of ten. The rest of the family remained in the ghetto until 1944, when they were deported to Auschwitz.

Simon's mother and sister were taken to the gas on arrival. He and his brothers, father and uncle were processed into the camp. In Auschwitz they dug ditches and moved rocks back and forth until they were sent to Kaufering, a sub camp of Dachau.

After liberation, Simon was in a Feldafing a displaced persons camp in Germany. From there he went to Palestine (Modern day Israel) and was in the Israeli Armed forces. In 1952 he met Helen Altman who he married in 1955. They later came to the US in 1959, eventually settling in Cincinnati where his brother Sam lived.



Lajzer Cwilich (Leo Wilich)

Born May 6, 1912

Lodz Poland

Leo lived in Lodz with his father Mordka and his mother, Marja Cwilich and his four brothers and two sisters. . His father, Mordka worked as a seller/trader in Lodz.

In 1939, The German army occupied Poland, Leo and his brother Pajsech, and possibly his mother, were forced into the Lodz ghetto sometime between 1940 and 1941. Leo lived in the deplorable conditions of the ghetto for several years before being transported to Auschwitz with his brother in 1944.

In Auschwitz, Leo received a uniform and a number, but not a tattoo, as he was only there for 10 days prior to being transported to Dachau. In the brief time he was in Auschwitz, Leo witnessed the death of his brother, Pajsech.

Imprisoned in Kaufering Lager 4, a sub camp of Dachau, Leo was liberated by the U.S. Army on May 1, 1945. Only his sister Malka, survived the war. After Leo was liberated, he spent time in the Feldafing Displaced Persons camp, before immigrating to the United States. Leo arrived in New York City on the USAT General C.C. Ballou on November 30, 1949. Soon after arriving he moved to Cincinnati.

Leo, applied for US citizenship in 1950, completing courses and receiving his naturalization papers in 1954. He changed his name to Leo C. Wilich, keeping the C as his middle initial to honor his family. He worked as a furrier for Lowenthal's Furs of Cincinnati, until he retired.

Leo never forgot his experiences during the Holocaust, and kept his prison uniform, which became the personification of his suffering. Leo's cousin Hannah Goldman wrote, "Leo understood the freedom he found in the U.S. could never be disengaged from its hard-won roots in his suffering. "

Leo was a founding member of the Jewish Survivors from Nazism, which later became the Holocaust and Humanity Center. Leo was also very active in the Jewish Community and volunteered his time at the Jewish Hospital.



Esther (Czinner) Lucky

Born June 6, 1911

Kassa, Austria- Hungary

Esther was born to Adolf & Sabina Czinner. She had a brother Andrew and a sister Lillian. When World War I ended in 1918, the city of Kassa became part of Czechoslovakia. Esther first met Paul (Gluck) Lucky in 1933, and they became a couple in 1938.

Paul was part of the Czech Army when they witnessed the fall of Czechoslovakia in 1939. The region around Kassa was surrendered to Hungary. Esther and Paul married on October 30, 1940. At the same time, new Hungarian laws would limit their freedoms.

After the Nazi occupation of Hungary in March 1944, Esther and Paul were deported to Auschwitz. Esther was separated from Paul and spent nine days at Auschwitz before being sent to a different camp. After posing as a nurse and being sent to 13 different camps, Esther was abandoned at Ravensbruck Concentration Camp in Germany by the SS, who were fleeing from the Soviet army in April 1945.

Returning to Hungary, Esther learned that Paul was alive. The couple reunited, had two children, and immigrated to the United States in 1948.

Henry was born to Samuel and Rose Karter in Dankowice, a small town not far from Oswiecim, Poland. He had 3 brothers and three sisters, Adolf, Gustav, Josephin, Martha, Sally & Wilhelm.

As an adult, he operated a successful electrical business in Bielsko, Poland. During the 1930s, Henry married Edith Lanzer and had two children, Jurek (George), and Halina.



Attempting to flee the Nazi occupation, the family relocated to Krakow in 1939 thinking they might be safer there; however, by 1941, the family was forced into the Krakow Ghetto. Henry was in hiding away from his family working as a member of the Polish underground. He was arrested, beaten and tortured after he attempted to re-enter the ghetto to visit his family and was deported to Auschwitz.

He arrived in Auschwitz in January of 1943 and spent time in all three camps Auschwitz III Buna, Birkenau and Auschwitz I the main camp, before being liberated on January 27, 1945. His wife, and two children were murdered at Auschwitz, and he lost a large majority of his extended and immediate family.

After liberation, Henry married Anna Blander, whom he met in Auschwitz, and knew from his time working in Bielsko before the war. The couple adopted Jack, a young boy who was orphaned at Auschwitz and later reunited with Anna's daughter, Alina, who survived in hiding. The family immigrated to Cincinnati in 1947, where they had a daughter named Ruthie.

Henry Carter

Born April 8, 1908
Dankowice, Poland

Henry's father, Moritz, was born in Tarnow, Poland in 1903. According to Henry's mother, Pessel, Moritz was an accomplished pianist, who could come home from work and play for hours. He owned a pet and flower shop with a partner in the city of Utrecht, which was about an hour by train from where the family lived in The Hague. Being very young, Henry does not remember much about his father, but does have a memory of his father taking him to the Zoo.



Henry Fenichel

Born April 1938

The Hague, Netherlands

After the German Army occupied Holland, Moritz was rounded up and deported to Mauthausen on July 26, 1942. Later, he was sent to Auschwitz, where he was murdered on November 8, 1942. Henry and his mother, Pessel, went into hiding. In 1943, Henry and his mother's Jewish identities were discovered, and they were arrested in their hiding place and sent to Westerbork, one of two transit camps in the Netherlands. Later, they were sent to Bergen-Belsen, but were lucky to be saved by being on an exchange transfer to Palestine on June 30, 1944.

Henry and his mother immigrated to the United States in 1951, where he met his wife, Diana. They had two daughters and moved to Cincinnati in 1965, where Henry was a professor of physics at the University of Cincinnati for 40 years.