

My Neuman Family

by

Marvin Newman, Canada

My father, Samuel Meir Newman was born July 15, 1919 in Hukliva, My father was born on. My father was the youngest of, I believe, 7 children. He survived the Holocaust along with 2 other brothers, Zvi (also known as Hersch, born in 1906) and Chaim (also known as Jindrich, born in 1909). (Photos on the family photo page)

My Uncle Chaim (Jindrich) lived in Prague following WWII with his wife Suri. My uncle was the shammes of the Altneushul in Prague from WWII until his passing. His wife looked after the kosher kitchen in the Jewish community centre across the street from the synagogue.

My Uncle Zvi lived in Bnei Brak, Israel following WWII.

My father's father, Moshe Sofer. He perished in Auschwitz during the holocaust. He was likely born around ~ 1880. My grandfather was a very religious man. He was a sofer stam (a scribe) who professionally wrote torah scrolls and mezuzahs. I am named after my grandfather, as my Hebrew name is Moshe as well. My grandfather was married to Esther Neuman, who passed away in 1923 from illness when my father was only 4 years old. Because my grandparents were married by a rabbi but had no civil marriage or marriage documents, all the children received the name Neuman and not Sofer. My grandfather had the same name as the great Jewish scholar, the Hatam Sofer who was also called Moshe Sofer. The Hatam Sofer was from Pressberg and is buried in Bratislava, where his tomb is a shrine. (I visited his grave this past summer while on a Central Europe heritage tour.) I do not know if we are descendents of the Hatam Sofer but my father never mentioned it when he was alive.

My mother is Piri (née Schneider) Newman was born May 15, 1926 in Nelipyno, near Hukliva She survived WWII hiding in Budapest, Hungary from the Nazi's. She was the oldest of 10 children. Her brother Chaim, second oldest, was born in 1929. Only the two of them survived the Holocaust.

My parents were married in 1946 on Lag B'Omer in a DP camp in Baumberg, Germany. They moved to The Hague, Holland. My older sister, Susan, was born in The Hague, Holland on September 30, 1948.

My parents moved to Canada in 1950 settling in Toronto. My other sister, Esther, was born on January 23, 1954, in Toronto.

I was born on May 1, 1959 in Toronto.

My father passed on August 23, 1996.