

DAVID MINKOWSKI

Dawid Minkowski was born on 6 June 1916 in Piotrkowice, Poland.

During the Second World War he was imprisoned in various forced labor camps (e.g. Dombrowa Grube, Leschnitz, Markstädt).

From February 1944 he was a prisoner in the Flossenbürg concentration camp before he was finally taken to the Pottenstein satellite camp.

After his liberation in April 1945, David Minkowski settled in Pottenstein as a small grocery, haberdashery and shoe dealer.

He had already met his wife Herta, née Mandel, during his time in Markstädt – her father had a roofing and plumbing business for which he had to work. The two met again by chance in Bayreuth and soon married in Fürth in 1948.

In 1952, the Minkowskis took over the wholesale company Maass in Pegnitz under lease in the Glenk house. However, the purchase of the house did not materialize. Later, in the 1960s, the building in Rosengasse, which then became the "Minkowski Department Store", offered itself. The business existed until the 1990s.

David Minkowski now had branches in Pegnitz, Pottenstein, Ebermannstadt, and Heroldsberg.

The Minkowskis had three daughters:

Elfriede, called Elfie (her Hebrew name is Esther) now lives in Tel Aviv.

Sylvia, called Sylvie, now lives in Montreal, Canada.

Mirjam, the youngest, lives in Munich.

After his rejection in the Bayreuth Jewish community as a Jew married to a "Schickse", he and his family became members of the then liberal community in Amberg, and also attended synagogue services there on festival days.

In Yiddish usage, "Schickse" means a non-Jewish woman. If it is implied that a Jew should only marry a Jewess, then a "Schickse" is a non-Jewish girl who is not eligible to marry and start a family.

David Minkowski died on September 9, 1994 during a spa stay in Bad Berneck. His wife Herta died in 2004.