

Sonia Schreiber Weitz*

I was born in Krakow, Poland on August 27, 1928 to Adele (Finder) Schreiber (May 31, 1896 – 1942) and Jakub Schreiber (March 24, 1894 - March, 1945).

Of an extended family of at least 84, only my sister, Blanca, and I survived the 6 years of darkness under the Nazis.

The Germans invaded Poland on September 1, 1939 and we immediately began experiencing the early persecutions. Two years later we were herded into the Karkow Ghetto. My mother was taken to Belzec where she was killed.

In 1943 we walked to Plaszow, a slave labor camp, where we remained for 2 years. Blanca's husband, Norbert, and my father were eventually sent to Mauthausen where my father was murdered a few weeks before the end of the war.

To avoid the approaching Soviet armies, Blanca and I were sent to Auschwitz where we were forced on the "death march" to Bergen-Belsen, then on to Venus-Berg to make Messerschmit airplanes, and finally to Mauthausen where I was too sick with typhus to remember being freed on May 5, 1945.

After being united with Norbert, the three of us spent 3 years in Displaced Persons camps until Norbert's uncle, Harry White of Peabody, MA found us and brought us to the United States.

I am married to Mark Weitz and we have 3 children. I write and teach about the Holocaust. (Sonia also is the proud grandmother of three.)

*Deceased June 23, 2010

Her first great grandchild was born in 2011.