

Holocaust Survivor Biography: Anne Lehman Fox

Anne Lehman Fox was born in Berlin, Germany in 1926 and lived with her family in a spacious apartment building on the third floor. An international bank employed her father, who had lost his arm in WWI. Her mother, a former photographer, was a housewife. Anne had one brother, ten years older than her.

Within months of Adolf Hitler coming to power, in January 1933, anti-Jewish legislations ousted all Jews from banks as well as other public offices. Her father was fired from his job. Her brother, who was completing his studies at a public high school, was forced to leave. He applied and was granted a student Visa to England.

Anne, 10 years old, attended a public school in Berlin until conditions soon became unbearable for Jewish students. Although she was happy with her non-Jewish friends, her parents enrolled her in a Jewish school and she had to get there by elevated train.

Kristallnacht, November 9th and 10th, 1938, took the family by surprise. They could not understand why windows were broken and stores ransacked on that night. They sat at home with locked doors waiting for a break-in by Nazi gangs. Luckily they were spared.

Shortly after Kristallnacht, England relaxed its strict immigration policies and her parents, having found out about the Kindertransport, registered Anne to go to England. She left by herself at the end of December 1938. A Jewish family in London took her in and she was sent to a County Council School. When war was declared on September 1, 1939, Anne was moved to a farm family in a very small village until she was sent to a school in Shropshire to complete her education.

After she graduated, she went to live in Cardiff, Wales with her sister-in-law, her brother having married while in the British Army. She worked at the Public Library. It was there that she met an American soldier who became her future husband, Frank Fox. The U.S. government brought her to America along with other "G.I. Brides". They have been married 67 years.

Anne found out after the war that her parents were deported to Theresienstadt in Czechoslovakia where her father died. Her mother was sent to Auschwitz shortly before the end of the war.

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Witness to History Project:

The Witness To History Project is designed to further the message and lessons of the Holocaust by direct interaction between students or interested adults and Holocaust survivors. Participants "adopt" a survivor by learning his or her unique account of via listening to the survivor tell his/her story, asking questions, writing a biography, reviewing a videotape, and memorizing and re-telling the story to others. Ultimately, the participant will have the lifelong job of educating others about the Holocaust by sharing this personal narrative. Contact the Holocaust Awareness Museum to participate.

Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center

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