

July 14, 1919 - born Zev Wolkowicz in Tomaszow-Mazowiecki, Poland

September 1, 1939 - saw airplanes but went back to family's farm because it was the

Sabbath - other Jews came to hide there

September 6, 1939 - went to Rawa, then to Biale where he was caught by Germans

ran away to get home for the Sabbath, Germans came to the farm and took away 2 steers

Joseph went into the city, family joined him. On Rosh Hashanah Germans arrested 140 boys. Not all could fit into one train car so he was put in with Poles to Gurlitz. After 2 day journey, taken to Luckenwolde near Berlin. Taken then to Zheshov near Cracow

February 1940 - placed in a hospital in Cracow

Faked a cough, doctors gave him papers to leave, went to family farm for 2 months

Spring 1940 - Polish Nazis ordered family out, went to Tomaszow-Mazowiecki

ghetto established, children died of starvation

October 1941 - Germans sent family to Jarnov

Joseph got a truck and brought family back to Tomaszow illegally

November 1, 1942 - Liquidation of ghetto - he and brother Meyer were given ID cards to

work in the small ghetto, the rest of his family was sent to Treblinka

had to bury 187 people killed by the Germans in one grave

Purim 1943 - another liquidation

May 21, 1943 - sent to Blizyn labor camp, between Radom and Tomaszow

made slippers for German army from Jewish clothing

gave potato to starving prisoner, got 25 lashes and stood 4 hours naked in the snow

Taken to Auschwitz - # B 2697, arm swollen, taken to Arbeit Camp D, barrack 31

job pulling the waste wagon filled with the waste buckets from the cattle cars

would try to hide shoes and food in it

October 1, 1944 - taken to Sachsenhausen, then Liebe Rose near Hamburg, cut wood in forest in the snow

January 1945 - to Nosen near Dresden to dig ditches

February/ March 1945 - went on Death March, near the Czech border, thrown into truck and

put into a cattle car, no food for days, walked to Theresienstadt

May 8, 1945 - Russians arrived, went to Prague, then to Lodz, Berlin and Munich

1946 - married

August 17, 1950 - came to US with wife and child