

Halina Peabody

This Interview is a follow-up interview focusing on Halina Peabodies post-Holocaust experiences (she has previously been interviewed by the Shoah Visual History Foundation). Halina talks first about the end of the war, and how her family escaped Poland, then about her families treatment and lifestyle after the war.

Halina Peabody was born Halina Janna Litman in Krakow on December 12, 1932. During the war she assumed the Catholic name of Halina Litinska. Halina was in Jaroslaw with her mother and younger sister, posing as Catholics, when the Russian army "liberated" the town. After the war Halina was reunited with her father, who had been in the Polish Army. Before reuniting with Issac Litinska (Halina's father), Halina and her mother and younger sister lived in group homes in Poland, outside of Krakow, while they waited for the Jewish agency groups to get them out of Poland, and into Germany. From Germany, Halina and her family traveled to Italy where they were placed in a DP camp (where they reunited with Halina's father). Halina's family spent two months in the DP camp before traveling to England (rather than going to Palestine). In 1957, after Halina's mother died, the family immigrated to Israel, where they had family. Halina took a job at the American embassy in Tel Aviv. In Israel, Halina married a Bulgarian Jew who worked for the U.S. Information Agency. Halina left Israel in 1968, with her husband and five year old son. They moved to Palo Alto, California, where her husband could get a job at the Hoover Institute. Two and a half years later the family moved to Washington where Halina's husband got a job at *The Voice of America*. Halina divorced her husband in 1972 and later married Richard Peabody. Halina has spent a great deal of time volunteering at the Holocaust Museum, "doing whatever they need." Halina has been very involved with survivor groups such as the Association of Child Survivors.