

Thea Marguerita Valeria Sacca Rips

Thea S. Rips was born in Trieste, Italy on February 24, 1922 and describes her childhood; her family moving to Rijeka when she was five years old; growing up in a Catholic family but having many Jewish friends; witnessing the persecution of nearby Jewish families; aiding several families in their attempts to escape Italy; wanting to become a doctor and working in a shipyard infirmary in Rijeka and then in Padua; getting a job working on the Marshall Plan after the war; being offered a chance to move to the United States and work as an interpreter in 1955; meeting her husband, who she was engaged to for eighteen years before they married in February 1976; and the death of her husband in September of 1994.