

Alfred Julian Lakritz (born Alfred Julian Weber)

Alfred Julian Lakritz was born on June 1, 1934 in Kiel, Germany. Most of his extended family was killed during the Holocaust. In 1939, after narrowly escaping being deported to Poland, Lakritz parents moved the family to Antwerp, Belgium. After six months the family moved to Marmande, France, to escape bombings by the German Airforce. In July of 1942, Lakritz's parents sent Lakritz and his brother to a Jewish summer camp in southwest France. Lakritz's parents decided it would be best for the boys to stay on at the camp after the end of the summer term. For two and a half years - from the summer of 1942 until November of 1944- , the Jewish organization running the camp moved Lakritz and his brother to various safe houses around France. They eventually ended up at a convent in Lourdez where they met a Jewish French woman who took them in for the remainder of the war. After the liberation, Lakritz and his brother were placed with a catholic family in Tarbes. Their mother had survived the war, hidden by an Italian farming family; their father had not. The boys reunited with their mother in Marmande and applied for visas to the United States. They were not admitted for five years because they were in an unfavorable quota. They immigrated to the United States in 1950 and settled in Oakland. Lakritz and his brother both attended the University of California at Berkeley. After completing his undergraduate, Lakritz studied law at Berkeley and became a lawyer. His brother became a CPA and started work for the IRS. After law school, Lakritz moved to Los Angeles with his wife, who he met in law school. They had two children. A boy and a girl.