

**Monique Simon**

**RG-50.163-0074**

November 9, 1932 - born Monique Gautschoux in Mulhouse (Alsace-Lorraine), France

September 1939 - father went into French Army

Family moved to Bourbon-les-Bains to relatives' house, had gas masks

Mother taught her to be scared

Early 1940 - went to Plombières-les-Bains, attended school

Late 1940 - left quickly for Crest, after sister said she was Jewish, while in class

Early 1941 - father located the family who were living with mother's sister, 8 people to a room

Father found a non-Jewish family, the Lutrands, through the Red Cross, to live with

Conditions worsened, father purposely got Identity cards marked "Juif", against mother's wishes

Children hidden with a priest, parents hid in post office, father arrested but released

Early 1942 - Monique and sister lived with peasant family, the Oliviers

cleaned the farm, did not go to school

February 1944- she and sister went to aunt's house

Americans bombarded the village, was in bomb shelter for weeks

Germans came and took hostages, radios and bicycles, tortured people

Lutrands took them to the village of Livron,

when Germans came, walked 4 hours back to Crest

knew many resistance fighters, so knew when they did not return

no food, rats, no sanitation facility

Americans and Germans fought for village, she stayed in bomb shelter

Early 1945 - family returned to Mulhouse

went to high school, spent summer in Zurich

1950 - went to physical therapy school in Paris for 3 years

1955 - visited sister in Israel - met husband, Benjamin Simon, there

1958 - Came to US - married and settled in Washington, DC, husband was a dishwasher, she was a maid

1960 - daughter born