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**Biographical note from the Sigall Family Papers (irn 557478)**

Emmy Loeb was born Emmy Hanna Sigall in Darmstadt, Germany, on 31 May 1923, the daughter of Hermann Nathan Sigall (1898-1941), a furrier, and Natalie (nee Kirchhausen) Sigall (1897-1942). In addition to Emmy, the Sigalls had one other child, a son named Alex (born 25 July 1926). The Sigall family owned a shop that sold furs on Ludwigstrasse in Darmstadt, the same street on which they lived. By 1938 however, and in particular after Kristallnacht, they began making plans to emigrate, and in particular, to send their children out of the country first. In the summer of 1939, Emmy left on a Kindertransport for Britain, where she lived with the Callahan family in St. Annes (Lytham St. Annes), Lancashire. By that time, other relatives were living elsewhere in England, including Julius Kirchhausen and Karolin Kirchhausen, the brother and sister of Natalie Sigall. Emmy's cousins, Walter and Ludwig Buchsbaum, also manager to emigrate, with Ludwig finding a relative in the United States who sponsored him, and Walter living in Britain throughout the war. The Sigalls were making plans to send Alex next, but arrangements were not completed by the time that World War II broke out in September 1939, and they were unable to join Emmy in Britain.

Emmy's parents were deported from Darmstadt in early March 1940. Her father died at Sachsenhausen on 24 November 1941, and her mother died at Ravensbrück on 26 March 1942. Being orphaned, her brother Alex was sheltered by the Jewish Community in Darmstadt, before being sent out of the country, via Hamburg, to Palestine, where he settled in a kibbutz at Ben Schemen, near Tel Aviv, and he has lived in Israel since then. Due to restrictions on enemy aliens, Emmy was forced to relocate to Bolton in June 1940, then Breconshire (Wales) until the restriction was lifted in October 1940, and she subsequently moved to Wolverhampton, where she found work first as a dressmaker, and then in a die casting plant. She subsequently worked for the United States Forces in the European Theatre, with the Civil Censorship Division, based in Offenbach and Esslingen, from 1945-1947, before she returned to Britain and left for the United States in August 1947 on the *Marine Hunter*. She soon found work as a dressmaker, and lived with her aunt Karolin and cousins Walter and Ludwig in Brooklyn. She met Harry Loeb at a wedding in New York in December 1947, and they were married in 1950. They had two children, Harvey (born 1952) and Marcia (born 1956) and settled in Yonkers, New York.