

## **Eva Cohn**

Born in 1927, (written in the papers from the Malmö police station from 1945, but actually she was born in 1929. The reason for this is that she had previously decided to be 2 years older to work), born and raised in Kal A smaller city in Hungary located 10-15 miles northwest of Budapest. The father exported fruit and vegetables.

The family consisted of nine people - the parents Samuel and Ethel Kallus and their seven children, three boys and four girls. They lived a traditional Jewish life in a small rural community. All sons Bela, Miklos and Tibor were enrolled in the Hungarian Army in 1943 and carried out forced labor behind the German lines at the Russian front. All three survived the war. Bela and Miklos returned to Hungary, but then fled to Sweden in 1956, during the uprising, together with their families. Tibor moved directly to Palestine after the war.

The two oldest sisters, Jolan and Ersebet, 23 and 19 years old, had both moved to Budapest and in the spring of 1944 they were deported to Bergen-Belsen. Ersebet died there. Jolan survived, returned to Budapest, then moved to his brother Tibor in Israel.

Eva, her parents and her youngest sister Mira were deported to Auschwitz. Eve was the only one chosen for work, the others were murdered immediately upon arrival.

For about three months, Eva lived in the childrens barracks, No. 8, in Auschwitz, after which she was deported to slave labor in a factory in northern Germany. The German armor industry needed labor, girls with good eyes and steady hands. Eva worked with Valvo / Philips to assemble radio transmitters. When the Allies began to bomb the area, the factory was evacuated into a salt mine lying in the inner parts of the country.

Eva was liberated in spring 1945 and came to Denmark with one of the White Red Cross busses. From Denmark, she then went to Malmö and from there to Osby. Here, Eve's "new" life begins. In Osby she was, together with a hundred other girls, from Hungary and other countries, quarantined for about a month. Hungary's ambassador to Stockholm knew about these girls and realized that most of them could not speak any language other than Hungarian. That's why he recruited a famous, a former dancer Bea Lajtai, who lived in Stockholm. She went to Osby to help them with the language, as far as possible. Eva and Bea liked each other and Bea arranged so that Eva could come to Stockholm to live with some friends at Bea. In 1948, she married Franz Cohn.

She also completed various subjects to obtain a student exams because she wanted to start studying art history at university.

She feels Swedish, in the sense of well-integrated, although she does not look so Swedish. She does not live in traditional Jewish life, but her husband Franz is active in many Jewish relief organizations. She herself always went to the synagogue on Rosh Hashana / Atonement Day to attend the memory of those angels.

She would have liked to change her last name (Cohn), so that she would not know she was a Jew, but she did not want her husband.

It was very important for her to have children and especially to have a daughter because she missed much the sister she lost during the Holocaust. She has told people she has come to know, and for her children, that she had been in Auschwitz, but no details about what she had been about.

They do not keep cosies in the home.