

## **Summary of Oral History: Aviva Cohen**

**RG#: RG-90.141.0006**

**This Summary was written by a USHMM Volunteer on 04/2022**

### **Oral History Summary: 2020**

Aviva Cohen, born on the first day of the war in September 1939 in “a small town in southeast Poland” to a Polish father and Viennese mother describes: her parents escaping Nazi roundups and placing Aviva with a Catholic family; adopting a devout Catholic identity, which spared her for the duration of the war; her father finding her after the war and marrying a woman in 1946 [unclear what happened to her birth mother]; her father wanting to go to Palestine but the three of them escaping Poland to France; living near Paris, finding a U.S. sponsor and immigrating to the U.S. in 1951; moving to New Jersey, which continues to be her home; [responding to a question] her father’s family being “landed gentry” in Poland, her mother an accomplished swimmer and musician; having no memory of her childhood until moving to France at age 8; finding life in the U.S. “wonderful”; marrying and having three sons, one of whom lives in Israel.