

Harry Hirsch Biographical Information

Harry Hirsch was born on April 23, 1923 in Kouchiv, Poland. His parents, Jacob Mordechai and Torte Herschkowitz, had nine children, of whom only Harry and one brother survived. Harry was an apprentice carpenter, but when he was sixteen, he was deported to a concentration camp, the first of three. The last camp was Auschwitz-Birkenau, where he made bread that he smuggled back to other prisoners.

After liberation, Harry met Sophie Gross in a displaced persons camp; they married and lived in Nordheim, Germany. In 1951, he and Sophie immigrated to the United States, shortening their name to Hirsch. For a time Harry and Sophie stayed in Philadelphia; Harry worked as a carpenter. Then they moved to Corbin City where they bought a chicken farm. This developed into a food business. They later moved to Vineland. In 1966, they built the Montreal Inn in Cape May, which he and Sophie operated until she passed away in 1975.

In the final years of his life, Harry moved to Seashore Gardens Living Center, where his close friend, Ruth Satt, lived. Harry said he was most proud that he survived and made a life for his family. He passed away on August 20, 2011. He was survived by his sons, Larry and Joseph and four grandchildren.