

George G. Heller

A Holocaust Survivor

Adnan Alam

Holocaust Literature

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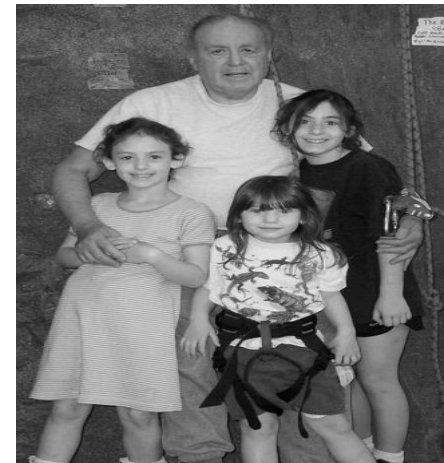
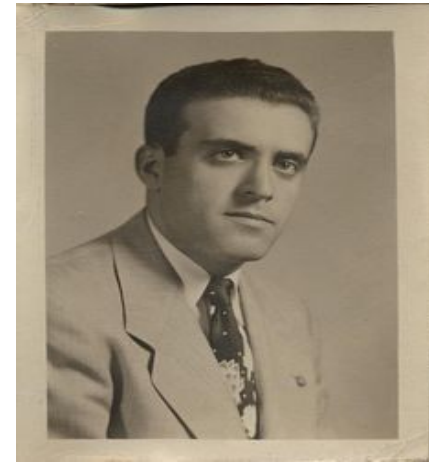
Topics

- Introduction
- Before the war
- During the war
- After the war
- On hate and forgiveness
- On God
- The top of the wall

- Q&A

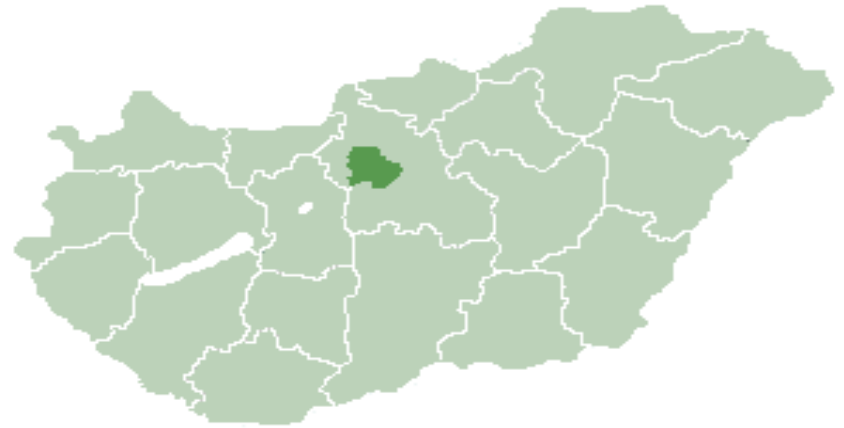
Introduction

- George G. Heller
 - Day of Learning
 - *A retired IBM computer scientist. He has significant contributions, in the areas of computer education and information systems development.*
- Focus of the Interview
 - Hate and Forgiveness
 - God



Before the War

- Budapest, Hungary, 1924
- Family
- Neolog (Hungarian Conservative) Jewish Community
- Anti-Jewish law of 1920, which was known as “Numerus Clausus ”



During the War

- Budapest ghetto
- Losing family members
- Slave labor: Hungary, Austria
- Death March to Mauthausen



After the War

- Liberation
 - WILLARD G. WYMAN
(Commanding Major General, USA)
- Work: American Army, United Nations, IBM
- Education: 3 B.S. degrees
- Awards



On Hate and Forgiveness

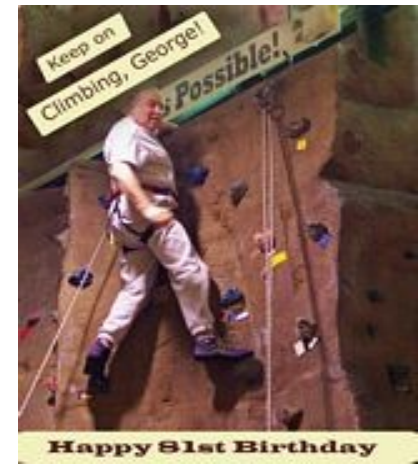
- “Hatred is a very destructive behavior. It destroys the hater, not the hated. When you hate someone you are focused on your hatred. It is hatred that occupies your mind and your thoughts. You deprive yourself of the opportunity to spend your time enjoying life. The person you hate may not even know he is hated. I chose to spend my time rebuilding my life.”
- “You don’t have to forget or forgive what happened to you. But life continues from this day forward. You have a choice.”
- “We have little control of the events around us, but we can control the way we act”.
- “Hate will ruin your life”.
- “Terrible things happen, but they don’t have to be the end – they can be the beginning”.

On God

- “We don’t always understand Divine Intervention. My wife’s family left everything behind, fled and survived. People have many choices. We may not like these choices, but we must try to control our destiny as best we can. We may not always succeed, but we need to try”.
- “We are not always wise enough to understand God’s response”.

The Top of the Wall

- It's Possible!
 - The hill of Mauthausen, April/1945
 - “When we give up hope and faith, we have chosen to die”.
- The Passover Seder
 - Enhancing the cause of freedom
 - Tolerance vs. Acceptance



Q&A Session

- If you want to know more about Mr. George G. Heller
 - www.google.com
 - George G. Heller + The Top of the Wall
- A message from George:
*“Life is what you make it.
There is Magic in believing it”.*

