

Testimony of Alex SCHNEIDER

Source: New York Public Library

Alex was the youngest child from Kaszony to survive Auschwitz and other concentration camps. He was only twelve years old when he was deported in 1944. Before he left, his father took him to the Kaszonyer Rabbi, Rabbi Jisrael Zwi ROTTENBERG and asked his blessing for his son. The Rabbi blessed Alex.

At the selection at Auschwitz and at all of the other selections, Alex always envisioned two angels standing behind him. When the Nazis passed him as looking strong and fit for work, he escaped sure death.

After a few months he and his father were transferred to work in a factory in Zitau, Germany. Not long before their liberation, his father became weak and ill and asked Alex to do everything he could not to let his body be burned by the Nazis. When he did die, Alex secretly buried him.

After the war, Alex found his father's grave and buried him according to Jewish custom. Alex now lives in Los Angeles. He is married and the father of three children. Whenever he travels to Israel, he stops along the way at the grave of his father in Germany for Kever Avot.