

# PETER P.

Peter was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1927. His parents divorced, so their mother raised both Peter and his sister.

To escape the persecution of Jews in Austria, Peter's family moved to Czechoslovakia. After the Germans invaded Czechoslovakia, his family moved to Brussels to live with Peter's grandmother. While in Belgium, his mother obtained a position as a nanny in England. She was told that it would be easier to travel alone, and to send for the children later, so she arranged for Peter and his sister to travel to England on May 17, 1940. However, the Germans invaded Belgium on May 10, 1940, and the children were unable to follow their mother to England. In 1941, Peter's grandmother died in an accident, so he and his sister were on their own.

Peter worked as a sculptor's assistant, but was picked up by the Gestapo and eventually sent to a transport camp. His sister managed to hide in a convent for the rest of the war. Peter survived Gestapo abuses, internment in Auschwitz, a forced march to Dachau and life in the labour camps. After liberation, he was reunited with his mother and sister.

Peter spent 14 years in Glasgow, Scotland. In 1959, he followed his sister and mother to Canada, settling in Vancouver in 1966.

SEE THE TESTIMONY RECORDS OF [PETER P., 1987](#) AND [PETER P., 2010](#) IN THE VHEC'S COLLECTIONS FOR RELATED HOLDINGS AND FOR INTERVIEW DETAILS.