

As I was putting together the memories of the people in Torczyn that survived the holocaust, people asked me if I wanted to go back, to see Torczyn. For a long time I wasn't sure.

In 1995, 50 years after the war, Aaron Katz went back with 2 of his sons. He saw Shanka Krutt, the man who saved his life and he attended a wedding.

I never met Aaron Katz, but I recently met his wife, Matty, a special woman. Aaron's son gave me a copy of a deposition Aaron gave after the war. I used some of his words in an earlier chapter.

After the war O was in Germany and Aaron lived in Italy for a time.



MATTY



Then, years later, Aaron met Matty, the woman who would become his wife.

Matty was born on the island of Rhodes. Her father Moshe (called Bachor), her mother Rachel, and her brothers left Turkey in the 30s. 3 siblings were born in Rhodes.

During the Second World War the family fled to Morocco. In 1945 Matty's brothers wanted to go to Palestine to fight for the new state of Israel. Her mother said if the boys go the family goes.

The family lived in Giv' atayim near Ramat Gan and later in Yaffo. Matty went to a Nun school for 8 years and learned English and French. Her father worked at many jobs at first, then opened a shop that sold coffee. A brother was badly wounded during the Israeli war of Independence.

One of Aarons cousins Bellie Katko survived and lived in Jaffo. When Aaron visited his cousin he walked by Matty's house, saw Matty's sister, and told his cousin he wanted to marry that woman. Bellie told him that woman was married but she has a young sister. Matty was only 17 at the time. Aaron was much older. They met and married. A distant American relative brought the couple to New York. Aaron went into the upholstery business and was very successful. They have three sons.

THE UPHOLSTERER
THE N.Y. RELATIVES

