

Students Learn about Holocaust from the Son of a Survivor

Marty Thau was a guest speaker for Mrs. Alcorta's US History and Advanced Placement History class. Mr. Thau shared his father's story of surviving the Holocaust. The students learned that Charlie Thau hid and lived in the woods for 19 months before he was conscripted into the Russian Army. After WWII ended, Charlie lived in Israel before moving to Milwaukee.



Charley Thau was among Russian soldiers shaking hands with U.S. troops at the Elbe River in 1945. It was his first step to a new beginning in Wisconsin.



Marty Thau

Marty Thau's father Charlie was a Holocaust survivor. Charlie's story of survival is both fascinating and heart wrenching. After losing his parents and two brothers, he survived by living 19 months in the woods, joining the Russian Army, and battling for survival every day of his life until the war ended. He remained in Europe awhile after the war, eventually went to Israel, and in 1951 received sponsorship to Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Charlie settled in Milwaukee, met his wife Ida, had three children, and owned a successful business.

Married to his high school sweetheart, Sandy, Marty Thau is the proud father of three children and six grandchildren. After thirty-eight years working for Rockwell Automation, Marty retired three years ago to spend more time with his wife, children, and grandchildren; travel; and to pursue his hobby of repairing cars.

