



Cantor William Hauben

**Holocaust Survivor,
Cantor and Author
Born in Krakow, Poland
March 25, 1922**



The young boy showed musical talent at a very young age. His paternal grandfather was a Baalei T'Filah, a person who leads the congregation in prayer and who brings new melodies to the congregation by traveling to the big cities to listen to the great hazzanim (cantors). His father loved the violin and played for family and friends. At the age of 6 in 1928 he began to sing in the synagogue choirs, as an alto, and he became a soloist. He was surrounded by music as a young child.



His father specialized in imported bakery ingredients for pastry shops in Poland. He traveled all over and spoke many languages. He was the oldest child of 12 siblings.

William Hauben was a teenager when the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939. They were forced to live in the 16 block ghetto of Krakow.



Cantor Hauber teaching Bar Mitzvah boys.

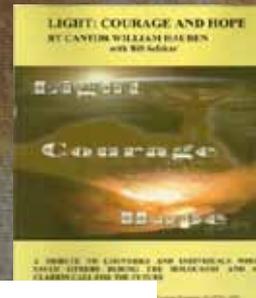
Romek, William's younger brother, did not have traditional Jewish looks and spent most of his time as an outsider with gentile friends. During the time of the Krakow Ghetto he lived outside and smuggled in food and money helping them to survive.

On October 28, 1942 they had a major "selection". Romek got sick and stayed in the ghetto for the night. Romek and William's parents were sent to a death camp that day and died there.

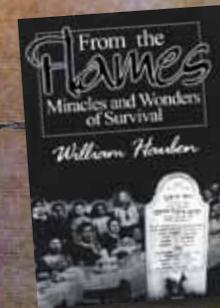
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He survived 4 concentration camps, one was the camp run by the vicious commandant Amon Goethe, who was portrayed in the film Schindler's List. His message is about "honoring people that did the right thing during the Shoa (Holocaust)." His second book "Light: Courage Hope" is about these courageous people.



Light: Courage Hope



From his book, "From the Flames: Miracles and Wonders of Survival"

I am often asked, "Cantor, how have you found the power to forgive?" And I tell them that forgiveness is part of the Jewish tradition, that the people who perpetrated the crimes against our people are for the most part not around anymore. How can we blame the children and grandchildren- they should not have to share the guilt.