

My name is Lydia Tichauer and I am the great niece of Dr Salo Drucker and of his wife Liesbeth Drucker. My father, Gerard Tichauer, was the nephew of Salo and Liesbeth Drucker. My father's mother, Gertrude Tichauer was the elder sister of Liesbeth Drucker.

I want to thank Dr. Abel and his colleagues very much for all the work that has been done in preparing today's ceremony and setting up this plaque and in previous years with the safe keeping of the memorial plaque in memory of Dr. Salo Drucker and the repositioning of it outside the Jewish hospital in Berlin.

Salomon Siegfried Drucker was born on the 17 September 1885, the eldest of four sons born to Wolff Drucker and Hulda Drucker, all born in Lissa in the Prussian province of Posen. After the end of WWI, the Lissa district was ceded by Germany to the newly founded Poland and renamed Leszno. The cousins to the Drucker brothers were also born in the same region, including my grandmother Gertrude and her sister Liesbeth, with the surname Sachs. So the cousins all grew up together. Around 1900, all of the cousins started coming to Berlin.

Salo Drucker studied medicine at the University of Berlin between 1904 - 1909 and received his medical license and doctorate in 1910. From 1910 onwards he specialised in pediatrics in Berlin. He joined the SPD. From 1911 - 1914 he also worked as a youth leader for workers associations. Salo married his cousin Liesbeth Sachs on the 1 July 1914. They did not have any children.

Three years earlier Salo's brother Alfred had married Liesbeth's sister Margarete. They had two daughters, Erika and Hildegard. The family was a very close knit one. The photos that I have brought along show a close, loving family enjoying relaxing activities and being with each other.

Salo Drucker served as a military physician throughout WW1. After the war, from 1919 - 1922 he served as a community and school physician in Berlin - Reinickendorf. From 1922 until his dismissal in 1933, Salo was the first city physician of the Wedding district. He expanded the healthcare system. He collaborated with Georg Benjamin and Alfred Grotjahn in public health education. He joined the Association of Socialist Physicians in 1924. When the Nazis seized power, Salo was dismissed from his post on the 15 April 1933, because he was Jewish and a Social Democrat.

In the same month, my father aged 23 had to flee Berlin for similar reasons and he and his widowed mother went to Rotterdam.

Salo and Liesbeth emigrated to Switzerland, but he was not permitted to practice medicine. He also risked losing his German pension entitlements, so Salo and Liesbeth returned to Germany in 1934. He tried unsuccessfully to emigrate to the USA and to England. He

moved from Berlin - Frohnau to Berlin - Wilmersdorf in 1935, where he set up a private practice in his apartment. He treated Jewish children, as he was only able to practice as a Jewish healthcare provider.

On the 11 June 1940 Salo was arrested in his apartment by the Gestapo and taken to the notorious Gestapo prison at Prinz - Albrecht Straße 8 and interrogated. He was accused of disseminating "atrocities propaganda". On the 14 July 1940 he was transferred to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp where he died on the 19 August 1940, reportedly of pneumonia.

Liesbeth was able to buy his ashes back from Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp and have his funeral here in Weissensee on the 8 September 1940. During her husband's funeral, Liesbeth shouted "The murderers" three times.

On the 27 November 1941, Liesbeth was transported from Grunewald station to Riga and shot there in a nearby wooded area on the 30 November 1941, along with 1,053 other deportees.

Other family victims of the Holocaust included Liesbeth's sister Margarete and her two daughters and Salo's youngest brother Georg, his wife and their two sons.

On the 50th anniversary of Salo Drucker's death on the 19 August 1990, a memorial plaque was unveiled at Reinickendorfer Straße in Berlin - Wedding. My father, his nephew, was so proud to attend the event together with my mother and meet Heinz Domeinski and Marianne Grotjahn.

After the House of Health was demolished, the plaque now hangs outside the Jewish hospital. Stolpersteine have been placed at the last residence of Salo and Liesbeth Drucker, laid on the 22 June 2014.

I'm sure that my father would be pleased that I have come here today and about the memorials for his uncle and aunt.

I am very proud to stand here today. I think about Liesbeth Drucker's words when she stood in this very spot. She was right about the Nazis of course. Nothing can change the past. But as my own Rabbi Kathleen said for Yom HaShoah on the 13 April "we are bound by the pledge never to forget" and "remembering is part of our identity.... memory is the glue that connects the generations".

I thank you for remembering and honouring Salo Drucker. I remember my family every day.

Ansprache Lydia Tichauer am 19. April 2026 auf dem Friedhof Weißensee.