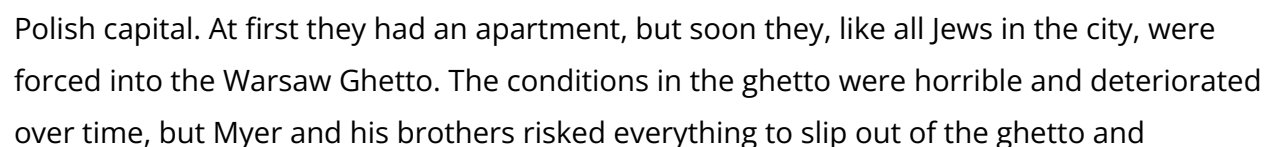


# Myer Glick & Paul Warech

**Myer Glick** was born Icek Meir Galek in the small town of Blonie, Poland, west of Warsaw in 1926. His family owned a hosiery factory. When the war broke out, Myer's family fled east to Warsaw, away from the advancing Germany army, which nevertheless occupied the



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smuggle food in. During the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in May and April 1943, Myer and his father were able to hide in bunkers in the ghetto, just before they were captured by Germans. They were deported to Majdanek concentration camp, where they survived for four months. Then they were sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where they arrived in late 1943. Myer and his father survived the first winter at Birkenau. Later they were transferred to Melk labor camp in Steyermark, Austria. The Americans liberated the camp in the final days of the war. He then trekked back to Blonie, with a long detour to Krakow for eight months, where he found some cousins who had survived. Later he traveled to Heidenheim displaced persons camp near Stuttgart, in the American occupation zone. While there, he was contacted by an uncle, who lived in Philadelphia. With the sponsorship of his uncle, Myer immigrated to the United States in 1949. When he arrived in Boston, his uncle greeted him and brought him to Philadelphia. Myer worked as a shoe salesman in Philadelphia. After raising enough money, Myer started his own shoe store in Norristown, PA. There he met his wife, Nella Distenfeld, in 1958. Nella Distenfeld, a fellow Holocaust Survivor, had survived the war as a young girl in hiding on a Polish farm. Her parents, who had also survived, settled as poultry farmers in Vineland, New Jersey with their two daughters after immigrating to the United States in 1947. Myer and Nella married in Philadelphia in 1959, and lived in Norristown for ten years.

**Paul Warech** was born in Zawichost, Poland in 1933. His family fled Europe in 1938 and found refuge in Cuba before coming to the United States in May 1944. Paul was raised in Brooklyn, New York and attended the Yeshiva Torah Vodaath Prep School. He then graduated from Ner Yisroel College of Men in Baltimore. He served in the US Army from 1955-1957 in the 7th Infantry Battalion stationed in Fort Benning, Georgia. In 1960, he married Alice Kaiser, a fellow Jewish refugee from Europe. Alice, born in Hamburg, Germany in 1937 had immigrated as a toddler with parents, Grete and Gustav Kaiser. After a few years in Brooklyn, they moved to Carmel, New Jersey, and in 1943 to Vineland. Paul and Alice married in 1960, and raised three children in Vineland.



Vineland Mayor Henry Garton with Myer Glick and Paul Warech at 1971 grand opening

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## About Tri-City Lumber

Myer was given a business opportunity to buy Tri-City Lumber in Vineland, New Jersey in 1969. Nella's sister, Yetta Bergstein, and her husband Ben Bergstein, decided to invest as partners in a lumber company where Ben worked; the owners were looking to sell, and business. They approached Myer, who was a businessman, and had more money to invest, and after considering it, Myer sold his shoe store and inventory and the bought the Lumber company. After a couple of years, Myer's partnership with his brotherhood was dissolved. Together with another dynamic businessman, Paul Warech, Tri-City Lumber was moved to a new building located on South Main Road in Vineland. Myer Glick and Paul Warech remained partners for twenty-five years until their retirement.



After Myer and Nella retired from the Lumber business, they remained in Vineland until 2014, when they moved to Marlton, New Jersey to be closer to their children. Myer passed away in 2017; he was 91 years old. Nella Glick still lives in Marlton. Paul Warech passed away in Vineland at age 86 in April 2020, only a few months after Alice, his wife of almost sixty years.

Meyer and Nella Glick in 2014

## For more information see

South Jersey Holocaust Survivor Digital Archive, Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center at Stockton University.

Myer Glick Testimony, USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive.

Obituary for Paul Warech, *Daily Journal*, Vineland, 4/8/2020, p. A4.

*Times Journal*, Vineland, 4/1/1969, 5/22/1986

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