

## Family Abraham Strauss II

Schlossstrasse 9, today number 7

Salesman Abraham Strauss, born 1885, the oldest son of Julius Strauss and Sophie, born Rothschild, came from Rothenkirchen. Shortly before closure of the Jewish community there, he had moved to Burghaun with his parents and younger siblings in spring 1906. Here, father Julius died in 1920. Sophie died at the age of 79 probably in Huenfeld in 1936 where she lived with her daughter Ida Kaufherr and her son Salomon who had a butcher's shop there.

In 1913, Abraham Strauss married Jenny Katz, born 1888 in Rhina, in Wherda. They had three children:

Julius, born 1922,  
Frieda, born 1925,  
Rosa, born 1926

Abraham, who, as his father before him, probably was synagogue presbyter, died on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1927 and left his wife behind with three little children. She probably did not have it easy after her husband's early death. She earned some money by selling textiles like lingerie, stockings and petty wares.

According to contemporary witnesses, widow Strauss and her children were seriously affected by their windows being smashed repeatedly during the Nazi era. Farmer Kaufmann from vis-à-vis had driven away people throwing stones and tried to protect the family again and again, until they fled to Frankfurt around 1938 / 1939. Son Julius must have left Burghaun even earlier, before 1936. Presumably, he went to school or did a vocational training in Frankfurt or attended a religious educational establishment. In any case, we find his name on a deportation list of the Frankfurt Jews from 1941. Jenny's last address in Frankfurt was Sandweg 7. A home for orphans had been established there around August 1940, maybe Jenny worked there. Frieda's last address is Fischerfeldstrasse 13, a Jewish educational facility and boarding school. Probably she was a student or apprentice there until it was closed down in June 1941.

On 8<sup>th</sup> November 1941 the family received a notice from the Frankfurt Gestapo about their impending deportation without any mention of the destination. Three days later, on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1941, Jenny Strauss and her three children Julius, Frieda and Rosa were led to the collective point in the market hall by the police and were put on a train of the German Reichsbahn the next day after a harassing clearance process. After a six-day journey they arrived half dead of thirst at the cruel Ghetto Minsk in Belarus. There the four of them were murdered.