Eva Kor

Terre Haute, Vigo County
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Eva Mozes Kor is a Holocaust survivor, a forgiveness advocate, and public speaker. Eva Mozes was born in 1934 in the village of Portz, Romania. Though the Mozes family were landowners and farmers, the family lived under the shadow of the Nazi takeover of Germany and the everyday experience of prejudice against the Jews. In 1944, the family was transported to the regional ghetto and then to the Auschwitz death camp.

Kor lost both parents and two older sisters, and then suffered through numerous experiments, along with her twin sister, Miriam, as part of Dr. Josef Mengele's infamous experiments on twins. The concentration camp was liberated in 1945. Later, both girls moved to Israel by 1950 to be raised by family. She married and moved to Terre Haute where she entered Indiana State University, earning a degree at the age of 56.

Kor has spent her lifetime educating about the Holocaust. In 1995 she created CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Terre Haute in memory of Miriam who died in 1993. The museum was destroyed in 2003 by arson. Through the generosity of local and national supporters, CANDLES rose from the ashes and erected a new building. By April of 2005, CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center was reopened to the public. A 2005 recipient of the Indiana Commission for Women's Torchbearer Awards, she denies being a victim despite all she has been through. "Don't pity me. Envy me," she stated. "I survived and I function and I have overcome unbelievable evil."

For more information about Eva Kor, go to http://www.candlesholocaustmuseum.org/about/eva-kor.htm.

For more information about *Writing Her Story*, go to http://www.in.gov/icw/2440.htm.

Photo: Stapleton, Grant (2010). Eva Kor (Poland). The Forgiveness Project. Retrieved from: http://theforgivenessproject.com/stories/eva-kor-poland/.

