

22 September 2025

**It is with deep sorrow that we share the passing of our beloved friend, survivor, and long-standing Board Director of the Melbourne Holocaust Museum, Abram (Abe) Goldberg OAM z”l.**

Abram was involved with the Museum since its inception in 1984. Over the past 40 years, he generously shared his message of acceptance and understanding of difference with thousands of students and visitors. We are deeply grateful for all that Abram has done for Holocaust remembrance and education, and for the countless lives he has touched through his wisdom and compassion. We know his legacy will inspire a world where hope shines brighter than hate.

Abram’s strong sense of gratitude and optimism is demonstrated in his infamous motto: “Not every day will be a sunny day. There will be overcast days, but the sun will shine again.”

His story of survival is a harrowing one. Born in Lodz Poland, Abram was incarcerated in Lodz Ghetto in 1940, and lost most of his family—including his father—during a Nazi-ordered mass deportation to Chelmno death camp in 1942. Abram survived the next two years in the ghetto with his mother, until they were transported to Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1944. Abram’s mother was sent to the gas chambers on arrival. He always remembered his mother’s last words to him:

“Abram, you should do everything humanly possible to survive. When you will survive, wherever you will be, wherever you should find yourself, you should tell people what was happening to us, and what was done to us.”

Abram was eventually liberated on 2 May 1945 by the US army, after being transported to a number of camps in Germany. Following liberation, he met his future wife Cesia in Belgium and the two of them emigrated to Australia and had their children Charlie and Helen. Abram’s history with MHM dates back to its planning stages in the 70s, where he describes being eager to hear of the updates from his childhood friend, and co-founder of MHM, Bono Weiner.

Since then, he has carried on his mother’s wishes at the museum, educating people about the Holocaust, so it will never happen again. We could not be prouder to have Abram at the core of MHM.

As Abram himself said:

“We all should remember that we all belong to the same human race...

What hurts one human being, hurts also another. You should always respect other people [that] are different from yourself.”

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Abram’s family, friends, and all who were touched by his remarkable life. May his memory be a blessing.

## Contact

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