

Our grandfather Richard Kinauer was born on 17.03.1901 in Vienna, Austria, as the only child in the family. His parents were Peregrin Kinauer on 14.01.1858 and Anna Kinauer on 09.06.1871 (Freundorfer). Our grandfather was missing for 80 years and with the help of my genealogy he was found. Richard had moved to Finland at the end of the 1920s, he lived in Vaasa then and was into boxing.

Waldhoff's cellulose factory had built a company in the early 1930s in Käkisalmi, which was located in Finland at the time. He had found a partner by his side and my grandmother Kerttu married Richard on 14 November 1931. Three children were born to the family, our mother Inge-Maj 1933. Karl 1932 and Pirkko Annikki 1937 who, however already died at the age of a few months. Richard worked in a factory as a laboratory technician. However, the happiness did not last long when the family broke up. Richard lost his job in Käkisalmi and returned to his home country of Vienna. Then the Second World War broke out and Kerttu went to Ostrobothnia to Isonkyrö with his children, accompanied by his mother Katri.

The story takes you to 1934, when Richard was unwell and had sought help for his mental problems. In February, he was placed in the Steinhoff Mental Hospital in his hometown of Vienna. At that time, there were no psychiatric drugs and electrotherapy was used as a treatment, his condition did not improve and a couple of years later, in 1936, he was moved more than a hundred kilometers away to Ybbs, a sanatorium far from Vienna.

The Second World War broke out in September 1939 and Austria was annexed to Hitler's Germany, where racial laws had been enacted and enforced. The aim of the racial hygiene program was to eliminate those individuals they considered harmful or useless to society. At the end of September 1940, Richard boarded a bus with 79 other patients placed at Ybbs. Määränpää was Harheim Castle, located in the countryside near the city of Linz. Busloads of patients were brought there from treatment facilities and mental hospitals located in different parts of Austria.

The patients were not told that that place was the central location of the extermination program that the Nazis named Aktion T4. The bodies were destroyed in the crematorium and the ashes were sprinkled in a nearby river. The walls of the gas chamber are now surrounded by commemorative plaques,

which also have our grandfather Richard Kinauer's name on them. to give up his family, he lost his job and was unable to support his family. He had told the psychiatrist that he had sent his wife and children to Finland because his life and feelings had become too difficult. A wise decision from him because we would not be telling this story and his fate!! You were missing for 80 years, but we finally found you. Father and Grandfather, you are in our thoughts.

Your daughter Inge-Maj and your grandchildren with their families in Finland