

Victor Hertzdahl

Victor Hertzdahl was born and raised in Sittard in the Netherlands. Together with his brother Sylvain Victor owned two clothing stores, one in Heerlen and one in Maastricht. He was the director of the Maastricht branch of the firm NV Kleedingmagazijnen van Wolf & Hertzdahl, a chain of **clothing shops**. His life was his family as well as his work in the clothing stores.

On 7 September 1920 Victor married **Marie Bloemgarten**. The couple had two children, **Thilly** and **Karel**. The German occupation and persecution of European Jews did also immediately affect the Hertzdahl's life. From 20 May until 21 May 1942 Victor was imprisoned for unknown reasons in Maastricht. Shortly after Victor was deported and arrived with the second transport from Westerbork in **Auschwitz** on July 17 1942. In Auschwitz he was selected to do forced and heavy labor. His assigned number was 48151. However, not much over two months later, on 30 September 1942 Victor was murdered under unknown circumstances.

His wife Marie and their children Thilly and Karel tried to escape via Nancy to the Swiss border. However, they were captured by Germans and returned to the Netherlands. They tried to go into hiding in the Netherlands but were **betrayed**. Marie was transported to **Auschwitz** but her children were able to flee and hide in the Netherlands. They both survived the war.

Marie arrived together with Sylvain in Auschwitz in April 1943 on transport XX. In Auschwitz she was forced to work as a nurse for women who had been victims of **medical experiments**. Almost no one survived that place. However, Marie miraculously **survived Auschwitz** and was reunited with her children after the war.

(Source: Marja Pinckaers, De cirkel)