



LIFE, LOVE and ADVENTURE



The True Story Of
Edward and Dianne Halpern



Married 61 years, on the way to 80 plus.

Inside are three books in one of unique, entertaining, and beneficial information. Find your interaction, their history, secrets and innovations. See how they will achieve their goal to live the same dynamic lifestyle, on the way to 100 plus.



Excerpt and Sample Chapter:

“Life, Love and Adventure: The True Story of Edward and Dianne Halpern”
(Learn more at <http://edwardhalpernartist.com>)

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INTRODUCTION

This book is recommended for ages fifteen and up.

It is three books of information in one. It is the true life love story of Edward and Dianne Halpern, married for 61 years, now at 85 and 82 years of age, born on the same day of March 6, three years apart. It is our history, diversified business adventures as entrepreneurs, innovators; our secrets to maintain excellent health and how we have and will continue to achieve living the same dynamic life style for our goal of 100 years plus.

The second book gives you information about the modern formative years of the upscale areas of the metropolis Chicago, in Illinois, metropolis of Milwaukee, in Wisconsin and other cities in the USA, Canada and Western Europe from the 1930s through the year 2015 as we have lived it.

Inside this memoir is my historical reminiscences with the rich and famous during this time frame, some you may know, some not, depending on your age. You will discover these vignettes (a brief evocative episode) as you move onward in the reading of the book.

Whatever area of the USA or other country in the world you live in, the historical information about that location is very important. Whether you were born & grew up there or moved there later, the acquired knowledge about your country, city, town, village and surrounding area will help guide you in your work & play and the relationship with others around you.

The third book explores your possible interaction with these events. Except for the specific variations of your life experiences, you may find certain similarities to your own story. Reading this book may help you unlock the secrets of your own life. Whatever your age and stage will determine where and how your personal history may fit comparatively into the story.

As you read this and your age is up to 30, or up to 60, or up to 90, your reactions will be different because you will have achieved life experience only to your current age. If it is possible, you may decide to change certain information and or attitudes derived from the years that you have already lived, or add certain information or ideas learned from within the story into part or the rest of your life. We are all creatures of habit, but life is full of subtle changes.

If you broaden your scope to better understand yourself, and the human condition, you will enjoy greater happiness and be more productive in your life. You are who you were, who you are now and who you will become as you progress. Your exposure from birth on, to the primary influences of your parents, guardians, relatives, friends, acquaintances, peers and the environment you grew up in will mold your thought processes, your life and who you are.

Look seriously in the mirror and think about how you looked, thought and acted before your current age. Go back ten years (five years if you are under 25) to see, compare and better understand your previous self, as opposed to today, then go back another 10 years (or 5). Just try it and you will know what I mean.

Good or bad, changes are certain in life. To a degree you can be instrumental in controlling the internal factors more than the external ones. An internal example could be how your health is at any given stage in life. There are many things you can do to try to create good health. We are creatures of habit and we can proceed through life taking the least line of resistance or as some might say go with the flow. Then again you may be the type who takes the bull by the horns and pushes and pulls every which way leading you to greener pastures as you take advantage of opportunities as you see them to achieve your goals.

An external example could be a depression that begins in the Western World, or the Business you work for falls on hard times and you are laid off. Or foreign competition with much better pricing forces your company or (the one you are with) to close up and go out of business.

Everyone searches through their years to find success as they see it and the answers to the mystery of life. All human contact and conversations are the exchange of ideas with others to find the how, what and why of life and determine benefits of what we learn from one another to improve our own personal satisfaction.

The previous paragraph is true and this is what proves it. Anytime someone or some company receives notoriety in the media for a new song, new album, invention, a good health development, technology development, new car features etc., that is very successful, the appropriate entrepreneurs or companies in whatever field of endeavor rush in to duplicate copy or revamp the same aesthetic function of the item or idea to get their piece of the newly discovered pie. Some might call it, “building better mouse traps”.

Our existence is based on giving and taking from and through others. All knowledge is power. Read on and start your exploratory journey now!

FORWARD

(How it all began!)

For me, it all started in “1930” on March 6, when I Edward Halpern was born at the Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. My Mother was Mabel (Peggy) Greenblatt, born January 7, 1903 in Maywood, Illinois, the third generation born in the USA, my grandfather was Conrad Isadore Greenblatt who before the stock market crash of 1929 owned many three story walk- up and six flat apartment buildings. He lost everything in the depression and in the later years of his life was the proprietor of a candy store across the street from a public school on the West side of Chicago. (See * 1.)

My Father was Benjamin (Ben) Halpern, born October 12, 1900 in Bialystok, Russia. He came to the USA at 7 years, by boat in steerage. They had little to eat and the story he told was about upper deck passengers who gave them food which he thought were rolls; long and thin like a fat breadstick. They were very chewy and the inside soft and sweet, which took a long time to eat but it stopped the hunger. He landed at Ellis Island. After arrival in the states he found out these so called rolls were bananas and they ate the skin and all.

On June 18, 1922 my Mother at 19 years and my Father at 21 years were married in Cook County, Illinois. Like most of us there struggle to exist as young adults was difficult as they learned the lessons of life and living. As they say “love conquers all” and they had that with each other. He worked at many sales jobs including door to door, but it wasn’t until 1932 that he Landed a good steady job with the Charles Company, a well-known jewelry store on Van Buren Street off State Street in downtown Chicago.

He was a good salesman, very mechanically inclined, and understood the inner workings of at that time mechanical jewel lever watches, taught himself to be an excellent watch repairman, studied pearls, precious stones and diamonds which he knew was a token of love.

In January 1939 he left the Charles Company to open his own jewelry store on the eleventh floor of a high rise building in downtown Chicago on the



My Mother, Mabel (Greenblatt) Halpern on
Her Wedding day June 18, 1922 at 19 years

corner of State and Adams Street. Having very little money of his own he sold shares in the company (which he called Halpern Jewelers) for several thousand dollars, to two of his brothers who became silent partners in the business. In January 1940 he became Executive Secretary of the Credit Jewelers Association of Chicago for 4 years while he now owned the Jewelry store after buying out his brother's interest.

My older brother Richard went to war in Europe with the 514th Field Artillery Battalion and ended up fighting in the battle of the bulge. It started on December 16, 1944 the last major offensive for the German army which took place in the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in Belgium, France and Luxembourg. The weather was very cold with snow on the ground, visibility poor and the US Air Force was held up from dropping supplies to the troops. Frostbite was a big problem and he fortunately was able to recover from the case he had in his feet.

Weather conditions finally improved and the superior U.S. Air and ground force went to work as the troops broke out with a huge offensive against the Germans. General George Patton broke through from the South to free up U.S. forces who was besieged by the Germans in Bastogne. It was the largest and bloodiest battle fought by U.S. Forces in World War Two. Approximately 610,000 U.S. forces were in the battle with 70,000 injured and 15,000 killed. The battle ended on January 28, 1945. It was the beginning of the end for Germany as the war ended several months later.

From one veteran to another, if you were or are now in the United States Military please reflect on the service you have given to our country as all U.S. citizens sincerely thank you for that.

My parents, who started out poor, now were middle class. My Mother was a mover and shaker who believed that you only come into this world once and you should make the most you can of your life's experience. A large number of married women are directly and indirectly responsible for the material successes that their husbands achieve on the road of life.

If you are married think about your own relationship to your spouse and then back to your parents and their relationship to each other as they were making their way. Do you see similarities in the action and interactions

between generations? My Mother convinced my Father that it was time to move up, so my parents moved to 3314 N. Lake Shore Drive in Chicago.

The building had been remodeled to one and two bedroom apartments from 18 rooms per floor. Among others, it was said that very wealthy tenants such as, Nathen or Maurice Gold blatt of the Chicago, Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana discount department store chain of Goldblatt Bros previously, for years occupied a whole floor. At the time it was said (as a joke) that when birds flew over there discount stores they uttered in a faint, shrill tone; chirp; peep; cheap; cheap!

Times were changing, World War Two was soon to end and the world was in turmoil! My Father never learned to drive a car, the building did not have a garage, and the number 51 Bus to downtown and his store was right outside their building entrance. For Mabel and him it was all peaches and cream.

Three years later in “1933” on March 6, Dianne Konefsky (later Kaye), was born at the Women’s and Children’s Hospital in Chicago. Her Mother was Mildred Emily Valeria Obalewski, born May 9, 1909 in Chicago, Illinois. All her life she was a very beautiful woman in mind and body. Dianne’s Grandfather was Stanislaus Stanley Obalewski born in Warsaw, Poland. He could understand what you said but he never learned English and never spoke it. Her mother was Joanna Dombrowska who at age forty went out to take a walk and was run over and killed by a train that ran behind their apartment house in Chicago. The circumstances were never determined as to how or why this happened.

Her Father was Bernard Sidney Konefsky, born on November 17, 1905 and legally changed to Kaye on April 5, 1948. His father was Lewis Konefsky and his Mother was Fannie Goldberg both from O’ Claire, Wisconsin.

Bernard at twenty- two and Mildred at twenty-one were married on September 9, 1929 in Cook County, Illinois, just before the stock market crash called (See * 2)- black Friday. It hit bigtime on October 24 and the worst depression in U.S. history began.

In 1930 the population in the USA was approximately 123,000,000 people. Between 1929 and 1932 real wages rose 16% and unemployment went from 3% to 23%. No government agency in the 1930s had an ongoing program of

collecting unemployment data and these are estimates from various sources that fluctuated. Some counted government public works programs as employment while others did not. Long term unemployment (a year or more) affected fully 63 to 65% of those unemployed. Before the USA entered World War Two, between 9% and 14.6% were out of work.

If you have ever been out of employment for a year or more, you will feel the pain of these figures more than those who are regularly employed. There are also various similarities of this period with the time frame of 2008 thru 2015. This capsule of information sheds light on what most people in the USA were up against; (1929 thru 1941) depending on your age maybe your own relatives.

Bernard and Mildred struggled to exist day by day; for a while he worked at the Ford Motor plant in Chicago but the job did not last. By March 1933 when my wife Dianne was born her sleeping quarters were in a dresser drawer as they could not afford a child's bed.

In the mid-1930s he was able to open a United Cigar Store on Halsted and Adams Street in Chicago. Cigars, especially from Cuba and cigarettes were in Vogue. Soon after he took over an adjoining store and added a beer and liquor bar and a sandwich station for cab drivers and factory workers in the area. As the country moved into the era of world war two and the factories increased in that area, his secret to success was, cashing payroll checks and cutting beef and ham sandwiches with the trimmings, given for free to customers with their purchase of drinks, which grew the business.

In 1939 he purchased controlling interest from an ageing original owner, who now became the junior partner, of the company called Glenbard Tool Mfg. at 216 N. Clinton Street in Chicago, Illinois. They produced special cutting tools and machined parts for other manufacturers. It grew over the years and eventually was sold to Anixter Brothers, a listed company on the New York Stock Exchange.

Soon Bernard & Mildred would retire to a new area in LaCosta, California. They went from poverty to wealth by using initiative, perseverance and hard work. All life is a gamble, nothing ventured, and nothing gained. What have you done lately? If you are set, God bless you. This is an example of how anyone in the USA can succeed. It can happen to you if it hasn't yet. If there is a will, there is a way!

On July 18, 1954 Edward and Dianne Kaye married and she became Dianne K. Halpern.

(1.*)- It is easy to see how most people's lives change. It is said that nothing is forever. Some changes are major and some minor. Major outside influences can change vast numbers of people's lives. It can be almost impossible to control your lifetime. The crash was one of those times in history. You have to be lucid and take your life experiences with a grain of salt as much as possible or it will do you in.

Redouble your efforts like a whirlwind for as long as it takes so you can come up smelling like a rose. Believe me it can be done; you will survive and prosper if you keep persevering. Practice PMA (Positive mental attitude) as negative thought does nothing for you. Practice this attitude all your days for a wonderful life!

(2.*)-"Black Friday" the term first used was to describe the crash of the U.S. stock market. The dictionary defines the word black as; somber; dismal; forbidding; deadly; which fits the situation on that Friday.

In recent years to current, merchants use the term "Black Friday" to describe one of the year's biggest sales, the day after Thanksgiving, when stores make a profit for the year, i.e., going into the black. It is said that most merchants achieve about 40% of their total gross yearly business over the Christmas sales period.

Another says the term was in a publication called Factory Management and Maintenance in 1951, which told of worker absenteeism the day after Thanksgiving. (Black Friday).

Still another says in the early 60s "Black Friday" was used by Police in Philadelphia who applied the term to traffic jams and congestion because of Merchant sales the day after Thanksgiving.

** Read the rest! Available in print and ebook. Learn more at <http://edwardhalpernartist.com/Halpern-artist-book.html>