

Toman Brod With Wife Libuse And Daughter Sarka



This is my wife Libuse Brodova, my daughter Sarka Brod-Hyland and I. The photograph was taken in our apartment in Prague in 2003, and is one of the most recent ones we have.

Sarka had at that time just arrived from America for a visit. She lives there with her family, her husband Richard Hyland and daughter Rivka, in Philadelphia.

She teaches design at the local university, she also designs exhibitions, book covers and similar things; basically she does that which has given her joy her whole life.

Her husband is a lawyer and also teaches at university. I'm very glad when they come to visit us, and I definitely like it better when they come to visit us, than when we have to go visit them in America.

You see, I don't like the American lifestyle, its kind of frenetic there. When they come here, we have time for them, we can devote ourselves to them constantly, but what would we do in America?

The East Coast, where our daughter lives, I've already seen, I've travelled it through, so it doesn't attract me any more.

Although there are places and things in America that I'd like to see, when we go visit them, we don't travel much further any more, so I don't know what I'd do there.

My wife and I are already retired. But there's always something to do. I, for example, often give lectures, not regularly, but simply when someone shows interest in my lecture, then the lecture takes place.

For example, I lecture at schools, elementary and high schools, even at colleges. I talk about the Holocaust, about what I lived through, and because I have broad historical knowledge, I can put it into the context of the events of the time.

And so I think that it is interesting for those children. In the end, I'm really the last generation that is capable of talking about what they experienced.

There were even younger children that survived the war, but during its course they were too small, so they can't talk too much about their experiences. I always try to make it interesting, to captivate the children somehow.

And hopefully what I tell them even interests them, at least it doesn't happen to me that they would behave inappropriately or leave early. But I always insist that participation in the lecture be voluntary.

I also lecture at the Jewish Educational Center, basically I lecture for whoever shows interest. Not long ago a book of mine, which I consider to be my life's work, came out. There's simply always something to do.