

# HOLOCAUST CENTER *for* HUMANITY

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Pete M. | Hidden Child | Holland

Pete was born in Amsterdam in 1935. In 1942, the Nazis seized his entire family, except for Pete and his mother. Pete's mother contacted the Dutch Underground, through which she found Klaas and Roefina Post. The Posts sheltered Pete and his mother on their small farm in the northern Netherlands, putting their own lives at risk. Yad Vashem, Israel's leading Holocaust Museum, posthumously awarded the Posts the [Righteous Among the Nations](#) title.



For two and a half years, the Posts sheltered Pete and his mother, shared their meager rations, and provided Pete with extra love and attention. After frequent Nazi raids in the area, Klaas built a two-person cave in the ground in the adjacent forest. Pete and his mother hid in this cave for many days.

Eventually, staying with the Posts became too dangerous. To avoid endangering the Posts' lives, Pete's mother contacted the Dutch Underground once more and two women living in The Hague offered them shelter.

Pete and his mother were forced to leave The Hague when his mother found out they were going to be turned in. Pete's mother made herself a nurse's uniform and they bravely hitched a ride, incognito, on a Nazi troop convoy to Amsterdam.

At the end of the war, Pete and his mother were the only survivors in their family. In 1949, they both immigrated to the United States.

It was not until 1993 that Pete returned to Holland and found the Posts' farm as well as the cave that sheltered him and his mother. The incredible discoveries he made during this visit convinced Pete to share his story. He has done so ever since as a member of the Holocaust Center for Humanity Speakers Bureau, in schools, universities, synagogues and churches across the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

### Other resources relating to Pete's story:

- Pete's [testimony and more](#), in the Holocaust Center for Humanity's online Survivor Encyclopedia.
- [The World Must Know](#) by Michael Berenbaum
- [Children with a Star: Jewish Youth in Nazi Europe](#) by Deborah Dwork
- [Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl](#) by Anne Frank
- "Hidden Children" – and "Non-Jewish Resistance" - U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum ([www.ushmm.org](http://www.ushmm.org) - under "history" click "encyclopedia" and enter topic into search box)