

## Herbert Hochhauser, Ph.D

### Education



By all statistical rights, Dr. Herbert Hochhauser should not be in the Collinwood Hall of Fame. He should have perished during the Holocaust. "Six million killed," he says, his eyes welling with tears. "A million and a half children. And I came through."

Hochhauser was born in Berlin to Jewish parents. His family was torn apart during World War II. Herbert's father spent 3 ½ years in a labor camp and the preadolescent Hochhauser lived as a refugee in Swiss and French orphanages. When the family was reunited after the war, they came to the United States. "It was not a pleasant youth," he says. "I was convinced when I came to this country that I was a subhuman. I'll never forget the man at New York – he said 'You are welcome here'. I never heard that before. He must have said it 1,000 times a day, but I had never heard it before." The family settled in Cleveland when Hochhauser was 14. After six months of English training, he was deemed ready for enrollment at Collinwood High School. He was given an I.Q. test, but since he couldn't read most of the questions, he filled in the answers randomly. When the score showed 78, he was assigned to Auto Shop and given the job of washing cars, because, according to paperwork, he was not smart enough to be trusted with tools.

Despite the struggle, Hochhauser graduated from Collinwood and enrolled at Ohio University. He blossomed intellectually there and became a German literature scholar. In 1960, he received his B.A. from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. In 1963 he received his M.A. from Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont. And in 1972, Herbert Hochhauser became Dr. Herbert Hochhauser when he received his Ph.D. from the University of Akron in Akron, Ohio. Dr. Hochhauser says that his experiences have lead him to appreciate his students as individuals, to devote extra time to those students who are struggling, and to have compassion for the weaker student.

From 1964 – 1999, Dr. Hochhauser was a Professor at Kent State University. It was there that he found a most meaningful academic pursuit; he and a colleague made their first video together, documenting Holocaust themed speeches and interspersing them with photographs. Kent State University considered these documentary films as "publications" and gave their support.

As time went on, the films became more and more polished, thanks to experience and Kent State's teleproductions department. Dr. Hochhauser received his first Emmy in 1985, for "Robert Clary A-5714". The number refers to the tattoo on Clary's arm, given to him when he was a child at the Buchenwald Concentration Camp.

Dr. Hochhauser went on to receive many more Emmy's for his work, such as "Susan" (1987), "Voice of Giants" (1988), "C.A.N.D.L.E.S." (1990), "Looking into the Face of Evil" (1996) and " A Survivor's Journey" (2003).

Dr. Hochhauser was also an Adjunct Professor at Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio (2000) and at John Carroll University (2000- 2002). He has received many prestigious Administrative Appointments such as Director of Kent State University's Ethnic Heritage Program (1980 –1999) as well as Directorship of the Ohio Council on Holocaust Education - Appointed by Ohio Governor Richard Celeste.

