

# Press



# Release

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## For Immediate Release

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### **Remembering World War II Veteran Alan Moskin**

**Legislator Wieder: ‘I Will Always Be Grateful For His Service’**

*Moskin Helped Liberate Nazi Concentration Camp Holding Legislator’s Grandmother,  
Later Shared His Eyewitness Accounts In Fight Against Hate & Inhumanity*

**New City, NY (April 19, 2023)** – The Rockland County Legislature voted unanimously to adjourn in remembrance of World War II Army Veteran Alan Moskin, who helped liberate a Nazi concentration camp and later spent nearly 40 years speaking out against hate and inhumanity, often sharing his message with school children. He died Saturday at the age of 96.

For Rockland County Legislator Aron Wieder, Mr. Moskin’s loss felt particularly personal as he liberated the concentration camp where Legislator Wieder’s grandmother, Rosia Schwartz Farkas, was being forced to work.

“I am so indebted to Alan Moskin and the other soldiers who freed my grandmother and 15,000 other Hungarian Jews from that horrific camp,” Legislator Wieder said. “Without their intervention, these people, imprisoned only because they were Jews, faced certain death. I would not be here.”

The connection between Mrs. Farkas and Mr. Moskin came to light during a veterans’ event. It also turned out that Mr. Moskin, who was not from Rockland at the time, was among the 1.7 million U.S. Army troops who shipped out to Europe via Camp Shanks in Orangeburg, the largest World War II embarkation camp in the U.S.

Mrs. Farkas and Mr. Moskin met – perhaps for the second time - during a special gathering held prior to a County Legislature meeting in 2013. She had been liberated on May 4, 1945, from a camp in Gunskirchen, Austria, after being forced to march there from her home in Hungary.

“On behalf of my colleagues on the Rockland County Legislature, I extend sincerest condolences to Mr. Moskin’s daughters, grandchildren and all who knew and loved him,” Legislator Wieder said.

Mr. Moskin, was an 18-year-old Syracuse University student when he was drafted in 1944. He was part of the 66<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 71st Division, serving in General George Patton’s Third Army. His combat unit fought through France, Germany and Austria.

“Alan Moskin saw and experienced some of the worst parts of war – and at a very young age - and like many veterans, he somehow lived with it while he was busy working and raising a family,” Legislator Wieder said. “But as he himself said, there came a point when he had to speak out in hopes of educating others about the dangers of hate and inhumanity. We are a better world for his actions.”

Mr. Moskin, who was an attorney, began sharing his World War II experiences in 1985, talking about the war and the Holocaust, warning about the consequences of inhumanity and the need for people to stay vigilant against it.

He told his story to many, including the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City and the Holocaust Museum & Center for Tolerance and Education in Rockland. He appears in several documentaries and recorded an interview available on the World War II Museum website (<https://bit.ly/3mJaoRi>).

Mr. Moskin served as a Vice President on the Board of Trustees of the Holocaust Museum and Center for Tolerance and Education. He was also a Past commander of the Rockland/Orange District Council of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. He was inducted into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame and was elected by the Veterans Coordinating Council of Rockland County as the 2016 Veteran of the Year.

His funeral arrangements were handled by Hellman Memorial Chapels (<https://bit.ly/3L7ZJJ8>).

Mr. Moskin was laid to rest today at the county’s Frederick W. Loescher Veterans Memorial Cemetery in New Hempstead.

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