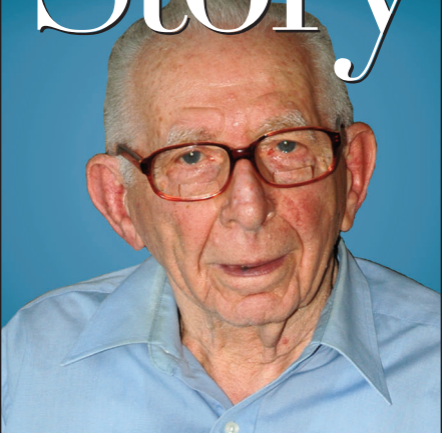


# My Story



**Wolf Gruca** is a Holocaust survivor. He arrived in Detroit from Poland in 1949, speaking no English, and with little money, so he came to Hebrew Free Loan for the financial help to establish his life. He worked hard, learned the language, and raised his family.

“My whole family perished during the war,” Mr. Gruca said. “I lost both my parents, five siblings, and a lot of other relatives. I went through Buchenwald – Dora, Oste Rhoda Hartz, and others. What saved me was my training as a tool maker. I survived, and now I am here, at the head of four generations.

“In my older years of life, every day, every week counts to me. My greatest happiness is my grandson, Rabbi Aaron L. Starr of Congregation Shaarey Zedek. Every time I see my grandson deliver the sermon, my heart is filled with joy.”

In honor of Rabbi Starr, and also of his good, dear friend, Rachel Yager, Mr. Gruca donates generously to HFL, and remembers the “good deed” the agency did for him many years ago, that enabled him to make a future after so much tragedy.

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