

Vital Volunteers

On behalf of long-lost childhood friends, Holocaust survivor Carl H. Rosner is doing good for others – including UAlbany students.

By Carol Olechowski

The value of education. The importance of family and friends. The significance of leaving a positive mark on the world. Those are all reasons why Carl H. Rosner is committed to supporting the University at Albany.

When the Nazis rose to power in his native Germany, a placid childhood turned “turbulent” for Rosner, the eldest of three sons in a Jewish family. Forced to leave school in the seventh grade, he lived five years in an orphanage and spent the final year of World War II in the Buchenwald concentration camp. When U.S. troops liberated the camp, Rosner emigrated to Sweden, where the self-described “voracious reader” resumed his formal education. He also met his future wife, Frieda, a Holocaust survivor from Lithuania, there.

The Rosners came to the United States in 1952 and settled in New Jersey. Carl earned a degree from the Newark College of Engineering, whereupon he was hired at General Electric. The couple relocated to the Capital Region, where they raised three children. Frieda later studied Russian and Spanish at the University.

While working as a researcher, Carl Rosner earned an M.S. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. During his 16 years with GE, he discovered that “I was better at transitioning the results of research into practical applications, and seized the opportunity to start my first company.” In 1971, with a colleague, he founded Intermagnetics General Corporation (IGC), which became internationally known as a leading producer of high-field superconducting

materials, magnet systems and cryogenic equipment used in the emerging field of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) systems.

Rosner retired from IGC in 1999 but continued to serve as the company’s director and board chairman until 2002. IGC was acquired by Philips Medical in 2006 for \$1.3 billion.

After Frieda’s passing eight years ago, Carl reentered the business world full time as founder,

chairman and CEO of CardioMag Imaging, Inc. (CMI). The Schenectady-based firm manufactures a device that employs a magnetocardiograph (MCG) system to diagnose early-stage cardiac dysfunction.

Connected to UAlbany through his late wife and his interests in medical technology and education, Rosner supports the Life Sciences Research Initiative and the Center for Jewish Studies, and became a director of The University at Albany Foundation Board. There are other reasons, too, for his commitment.

“I have no childhood friends; they were all lost in the Holocaust,” said the soft-spoken Rosner. “I feel some obligation to try to do a little bit of what some of them might have been able to accomplish. I also want to make sure people are aware of the very valuable contributions that Judaism has made, and continues to make, to the world.”

In addition, Rosner, who holds seven patents, wants young people to know how great the United States is, to appreciate the opportunities the country affords them, and to impress upon them that “this is the best time of their lives. They should take advantage of it.”



Wouldn't it be great if . . .



**you could give to one
single organization
devoted to**

**strengthening our
communities,
cultivating the arts,
promoting child
welfare,
and educating the
leaders of tomorrow?**

**UALBANY FUND donors are
doing all of these things
and much, much more.**



UALBANY FUND

www.albany.edu/giving