

“Whoever saves a single life, saves an entire universe.” Oskar Schindler was born on April 28, 1908, in Zwittau, Czechoslovakia. Schindler worked for his father selling farm equipment. Oskar Schindler was definitely a hero during the Holocaust because he saved the lives of many Jews and became the Sun to many Jewish Holocaust prisoners’ lives.

By the spring of 1940, the Nazis began the crackdown against the Jews, so Schindler employed mainly Jewish workers to save them for deportation. The word spread in the summer that the main camp and Schindler’s factory were to be closed. In August, the Nazis issued a new regulation asking all but “work-essential” Jews to leave the city. Schindler bribed an SS officer to support his plan to move his workers to Czechoslovakia, so they could continue to supply Hitler’s army. The SS officer told Schindler to draw up a list of people he wanted to take with him. After making arrangements and paying necessary bribes, Schindler began transporting his factory to Brunnlitz. Those who worked for Schindler survived the Holocaust.

Schindler had displayed a sense of humanity and concern for his workers since the beginning of the war and referred to his workers as his “children.” Schindler was dedicated to the humane treatment of his Jewish employees and their physical as well as psychological needs. He provided for his workers like the bright stars provide light for the dark midnight sky.

As Schindler was leaving his workers, they gave him a golden ring inscribed with a Hebrew verse from the Talmud: “He who saves one life, it is as if he saved the entire world.” Schindler died at the age of 66; however, he will always be remembered as a Holocaust hero just as the stars give bright light to the universe.