THE CHILDREN

Eduard Hornemann
Eduard Hornemann

Eduard, the older of the two Hornemann brothers, was born on 1 January 1933. His family nickname was Edo. The Hornemanns lived in Eindhoven in the Netherlands.

Eduard's father, Philip Carel Hornemann, worked for Philips from 1925. Under the German occupation, Hornemann was one of 100 Jewish employees at Philips who had to work in the company's Jewish “special department”, which was set up in late 1941. His wife Elisabeth went into hiding on a farm together with Alexander, while Eduard hid on another farm. When the Jewish employees at Philips were deported to the Vught concentration camp in 1943, Elisabeth Hornemann followed her husband with both of their sons. On 3 June 1944, the Hornemann family was transported from Vught to Auschwitz, where Elisabeth Hornemann died of typhoid fever in September. Alexander and Eduard were transferred to the children's hut. Shortly before the liberation of Auschwitz, Philip Carel Hornemann was taken to the Dachau concentration camp and was then put on a transport to Sachsenhausen, during which he died on 21 February 1945. Eduard Hornemann was taken to the Neuengamme concentration camp on 28 November 1944 and murdered on 20 April 1945 here on Bullenhuser Damm aged 12.

Ans van Staveren, Elisabeth Hornemann's sister and Eduard and Alexander’s aunt, was the only member of the family to survive. She managed to remain in hiding until the liberation of the Netherlands. For a long time, van Staveren hoped her two nephews would return. It was not until 1979 that she learned of their fate. Van Staveren remained in touch with the Children of Bullenhuser Damm association until her death in 2008.

A street in the Hamburg district of Burgwedel is named after Eduard and Alexander Hornemann.
Eduard Hornemann with his mother Elisabeth in 1934.

*Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial,*
*Günther Schwarberg collection, 2002-433*
Anns van Staveren looked after her nephew Eduard regularly, particularly during the first years of his life. Every weekend, she would travel to Eindhoven from Rotterdam, where she worked in a hospital, to visit her sister and her family. She remembered Eduard as a short, rather shy boy with ginger hair. She said he had been very bright, top of his class, and had wanted to be a doctor.

*Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial,*
*Günther Schwarberg collection, 2002-435*
The Hornemann family at Scheveningen beach in 1938.

From left: Elisabeth Hornemann’s mother, the Hornemann family’s maid, Giem de Haas, Elisabeth Hornemann’s sister Ans and Elisabeth Hornemann with her sons Alexander and Eduard.

*Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial,*
*Günther Schwarberg collection, 2002–45*
Eduard Hornemann

Eduard and Alexander Hornemann circa 1942

*Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial, Günther Schwarberg collection, 2002-41*
Ans van Staveren-Docters circa 1981

Ans van Staveren learned about the fate of her two nephews in 1979. She was in touch with the Children of Bullenhuser Damm association and provided them with photographs and testimonies. However, van Staveren was not prepared to travel to Germany, where the crimes against her nephews had been committed. She died in 2008 at the age of 103.