

Dr. George Geyerhahn moved to Lovell, ME arriving December 7, 1941. He was born in Vienna on July 4, 1913, where he graduated from the University of Vienna Medical School in 1938. The day after his medical examination, the Nazis occupied Austria, and a week later, June 1938, his father Siegfried Geyerhahn, J.D. was taken to Dachau, and later to Buchenwald, where he was later released, September 1938. George, his sister Lisa, mother Marianne (Lowy) all emigrated to the United States, though Siegfried was the only surviving member of his immediate family.

Siegfried, while Jewish, was imprisoned because he was a Mason, and it is believed he was released because of a family connection to the notorious Nazi, Rudolph Hess. In letters from Siegfried to his wife Marianne from Dachau, Siegfried asked his wife about the well-being of "uncle Rudy." Dr. Geyerhahn later explained that this was code for his wife to use the family connection with Rudolph Hess to coordinate Siegfried's release. The actual reason for Siegfried's release was never confirmed.

George completed medical internships in New York City and Durham, N.C., and he completed his medical residency in Parkersburg, West VA. He began his first medical practice in Lovell, ME. Upon receiving U.S. citizenship, he eagerly joined and served in the US Army Medical Corps and received an honorable discharge, November 1945, with rank of Captain. George always expressed his gratitude to the United States for saving him and his family and was greatly pleased to have the opportunity to serve his country in the military. He continued his medical practice in Portland, where he was well known by his numerous patients and 44 years of service at Maine Medical Center. Dr. Geyerhahn was on the staffs of Maine Medical Center, Mercy Hospital, Westbrook Community Hospital, and Barron Center; member of the American Medical Association, Maine Medical Association, Cumberland County Medical Association, American Society of Internal Medicine, and American College of Physicians; past secretary-treasurer and president of Maine Society of Medicine; member of Portland Kiwanis Club, where he set up Youth Employment Service (YES), which provided jobs for youth during summer school breaks; president of Portland Executive Club; and director of Viking Nursing Home for 16 years.

Dr. Geyerhahn married Virginia Pierce in 1941. They had two children, George Jr. (born 1943) and Gordon (born 1945). Virginia fell ill and was institutionalized after the birth of Gordon. George raised George and Gordon in South Portland. George married Nona Joy in 1969, and they moved to Cape Elizabeth. In Cape Elizabeth George and Nona often hosted their family, and especially their four grandchildren, Benjamin, Nate, Jed and John Siegfried for holidays and many regular visits.

The Geyerhahns trace their ancestry back to Israel Geierhahn of (Nikolsburg) Mikulov, Břeclav District, South Moravian Region, currently the Czech Republic. Dr. Geyerhahn's great-grandfather Sigmund ran a shop in Angern, Austria, which was seized by the Nazis. Most later generations of the family lived in Vienna. Dr. Geyerhahn was not a practicing Jew, but embraced his heritage. He proudly took his three oldest grandchildren to his home in Vienna in their teens, and to visit his grandparents home and former shop in Angern, Austria. He also took them to Dachau, where his father was imprisoned. He valued education and hard work. He

donated the personal letters and written testaments to the United States Holocaust Museum.