

**Collection  
SC 0087**

**Irwin Uran Memoirs  
2001-2003**

**Table of Contents**

User Information  
Historical Sketch  
Scope and Content Note  
Container List

Processed by  
Charlotte Blacklock  
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**Thomas Balch Library  
208 W. Market Street  
Leesburg, VA 20176**

## **USER INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION DATES: 2001-2003

PROVENANCE: Irwin Uran, New York, NY

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: Collection open for research

USE RESTRICTIONS: No physical characteristics affect use of this material.

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from Thomas Balch Library.

CITE AS: Irwin Uran Memoirs, 2001-2003 (SC 0087), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 2009.0222

NOTES: Formerly filed in Thomas Balch Library Vertical Files.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Irwin Uran was born on 24 April 1926 to Arthur W (ca. 1892-n.d.) and Rose (ca. 1902-1991) Uran, a Jewish couple in New York, New York. He was enlisted in the Army at the age of eighteen on 8 May 1944 in Fort Dix, New Jersey, and he served in the Army during World War II as a Private First Class, Company K, 264<sup>th</sup> Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, 66<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. On his return to the United States, Uran served as a prison guard and then a military policeman in New York until his discharge, when he settled in California for a time. In 1994, he moved to Loudoun County, Virginia. He married Episcopal priest Rev. Betsee Parker (1951-present) in 1998, and the couple settled in New York. Uran and Rev. Parker had one daughter, Constance "Rosie" Uran, and they subsequently moved back to Loudoun County, where Irwin Uran died on 23 June 2007.

Uran was interested in finance throughout his life and he became wealthy through his investments in the stock market. He used his wealth for philanthropy, creating the Irwin Uran Gift Fund of Loudoun County, Virginia and donating to charities, public facilities, and needy individuals in Loudoun County. As a soldier, Uran witnessed the holocaust first-hand when he assisted in the release of the inmates of the Dachau concentration camp. In order to create awareness of the horrors of genocide, he donated \$1 million to the Loudoun County Public Library towards holocaust studies. Uran was also troubled by the anti-Semitism he encountered during the war and in Loudoun County after the war, and he donated \$2 million toward the construction of a synagogue in Leesburg in hopes that the anti-Semitism would cease.

## SOURCES

Ancestry Library Edition, United States Census, United States Census and Voter Lists. <http://www.ancestrylibrary.com> (accessed 28 June 2011).

Bergner, Audrey Windsor. "For Rev. Betsee Parker, Life Offers Opportunity to Serve." *Middleburg Life*, 14 February 2010. [http://www.sungazette.net/articles/2010/07/31/middleburg\\_life/hunt\\_county\\_people/ma991.txt](http://www.sungazette.net/articles/2010/07/31/middleburg_life/hunt_county_people/ma991.txt) (accessed 29 June 2011).

Irwin Uran Memoirs, 2001-2003 (SC 0087), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

*The New York Times*, "Farm Owner Gives Town in Virginia \$1 Million," 21 May 1997.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of the memoirs of Irwin Uran, written from 2001-2003. It records his experiences in World War II, such as his actions during the sinking of

the Troopship "Leopoldville" on Christmas Eve, 1944, for which he was later awarded a Bronze Star medal. It also explains the source of his wealth and the reasons for his philanthropy.

### **CONTAINER LIST**

Folder 1      Irwin Uran Memoirs