

**EPSTEIN** Nuchym (Natek) (1908-1945), clerk, sportsman, sports referee and tourism activist. He was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1908 in Częstochowa, the son of Icek Mendel, a wine merchant, and Frajndla Frana née Zilbersztajn, the brother of → Estera Epstein.

Epstein graduated from the Częstochowa Jewish Gimnazjum, as well as from the Locksmithing Department of the Crafts School. He also undertook a bookkeeping course. From 1924, he worked as a clerk at the Ginsberg & Kohn Paper Factory and Mills (on ul. Krakowska).

He was interested in sport and was a member of the “Warta” Częstochowa Sports Club. He was a gymnast, played table tennis, boxed, fenced, skated, skied and also participated in team sports such as volleyball and football. He took part in sports competitions and won awards. As a member of the Jewish Touring Society, he organised tourist trips. He became an official referee/umpire in many sporting disciplines.

From 1941, he was forced to live in the Częstochowa ghetto. He avoided death during the mass deportations from the ghetto in September and October 1942. On 27<sup>th</sup> September 1942, at pl. Daszyńskiego 3, he was included in a group of Jews who were to be shot and deported. At the last moment, he managed to join a group which was sent to the Landau factory on ul. Krótka. He found himself in the “Small Ghetto”, initially working on the construction of a kitchen at ul. Nadrzecznej 64. He then ran the locksmithing in the technical workshops. From 20<sup>th</sup> March 1943, he worked in the HASAG Pelcery munitions factor. On 15<sup>th</sup> January 1945, together with other prisoners, he was deported to the Buchenwald concentration camp. He was then moved to the Dora sub-camp. During the camp’s evacuation on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1945 in Gardelegen, the SS locked him, together with a thousand prisoners, in a barn and burned them alive.

Orenstein, *Churban Czenstochow*, pp. 387, 388. - JW, 1632712.

**Wiesław Paszkowski**