

NEWS 14 Website

Friday, March 30, 2007

Holocaust survivor tells story of hope

3/27/2007 2:58 PM

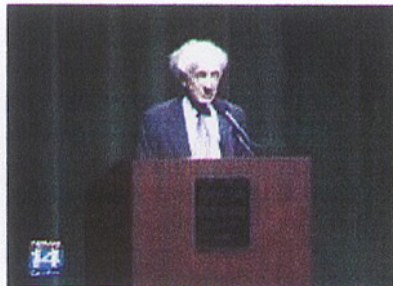
By: Johnell Johnson, News 14 Carolina

CHARLOTTE -- A holocaust survivor shared his story Tuesday with Myers Park High School students as part of the Echo Foundation's 10th anniversary.

Elie Wiesel's story began nearly 80 years ago in an orthodox Jewish family in Romania. But at the age of 15, his life took an unexpected twist.

In 1944, the Nazis deported his family to the Auschwitz death camp in Poland. His father, mother and younger sister died in the camps. Now an author, his story isn't about the deaths of his family members, but life after death and how he wrote a new chapter for his future.

"We who write and teach try to bring humanity out in the human being," he said.



Elie Wiesel won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986 for sharing his message of peace, atonement and human dignity.

In the death camp, Wiesel vowed he would make sure no one forgot the holocaust. He helped to keep his promise when he spoke with students Tuesday. During the speech, he addressed several things, including change, justice and social equality. Some students say his words changed their lives.

"Having a person in front of you gives you a live connection and it makes it more personal and it brings emotion in to it," Myers Park student Lola Bajomo said.

They say he was a living lesson in history and hope.

"I definitely feel like I can make a difference," said middle school student Isabelle Voler. "And after hearing him speak, I see so many doors open just because of what he did through his writing."

Wiesel has written more than 40 books. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986 for sharing his message of peace, atonement and human dignity.

WATCH THE VIDEO



Holocaust Survivor

News 14 Carolina's Johnell Johnson has more on the inspiring story of Elie Wiesel in this report.

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