

Early life

Bernard was born 13 August 1920 in Stepney to Pizer and Rose nee Kenrick. His Hebrew name was Baruch Ben Pesach Ha Cohen.

Bernard's grandparents Isaac and Betsy Goldman were born in Poland and on the records of the 1911 census it states they were married in 1877 in Poland.

The Goldman family emigrated from Poland around 1888 and by 1901 were living on the Buxton Road in Mile End. Isaac worked as a tailor's presser, his son Joseph was a tailors machiner, Morris and Pizer were working as upholsterers. In 1911, the family were living in Antcliff Street in Stepney and they were all working as tailors.

Bernard's father Pizer married Rose Kenrick in 1915 in St George in the East, London. Their first daughter Queenie was born in 1916, followed by Sylvia in 1919, Bernard in 1920 and Martin in 1928.

The family moved to Tottenham and by 1936 Pizer was working as a taxi driver. In 1938, the family name was changed from Goldman to Kenrick.

When Bernard left school, he worked as a barber. In 1940, aged 20 he enlisted at Euston.