

Emmanuel (Monty) and Philip were the sons of Abraham and Hannah (Annie) nee Herman. Their father Abraham and grandfather Philip were both born in Kiev, Ukraine.

Grandfather Philip married Leah Drachya in Ukraine in 1878 when they were both eighteen years old and their first child Yetta was born the same year. She was followed by four more children, Barnett, Abraham, Eva and Luba.

By 1901 the family had moved to England and settled in the Spitalfields area of London. The 1901 census states that Philip was a paper bag manufacturer and the family were living at 38 Fashion Street, Spitalfields. Daughter Yetta worked as a cap maker, sons Barnett and Abraham both worked with their father in the paper bag business, Eva was a student of shorthand typewriting and Luba was at school. All of Philip's children married with Yetta known as Ettie marrying Levi Trachtenberg, Barnett married Kate Shackman, Eva married Alexander Wax and Luba married Isador Mynk.

The census also shows that Abraham who was seventeen, lived next door to Annie Herman who was also seventeen and was to become Abraham's wife. Annie's father Harris worked as a tailor and Annie is listed as a tailoress.

On 7 December 1903, the Hartstein family became naturalised British citizens. Six months later in June 1904, Annie's father Harris Herman and mother Sarah who were born in Poland, also gained their naturalisation certificate.

Abraham and Annie began courting when they were eighteen and John their youngest son, recalls: *According to my mother, when they were courting at age eighteen, they had to save a penny by not taking the bus.* Abraham and Annie married in July 1906 and their first daughter Rose was born in July 1907, followed by Sylvia in 1910. The 1911 census shows that the family are living at 81 Sandringham Road in Dalston and Abraham is listed as a printer of paper bags.

Abraham's father Philip, in 1911, was living at 42 Colverstone Crescent, just around the corner to his son Abraham, with his wife Leah, mother Becky and daughter Luba and he was listed as a paper bag maker and printer. By 1920, he had moved to 25 Cazenove Road, Stamford Hill where he died aged sixty. Philip was one of the founders of the Federation of Ukrainian Jews and served as the treasurer. An appeal was made on his death and money was raised for the consecration of his tombstone.



Hartstein Family Photograph taken in London c1908

Back Row		Front Row
Kate Shackman-Hartstein	1	Barnett Hartstein
Levy Trachtenberg	2	Bertha Josephs-Hartstein
Ettie Hartstein-Trachtenberg	3	<b>Philip Hartstein</b>
Eva Hartstein-Wax	4	<b>Leah Drachya</b>
Luba Hartstein-Mynk	5	Abraham Hartstein
Harry Walden		
Anna Herman		

Monty and Philip's younger brother John Hartstein recalls; *'The family members I can put a name to are (in the front row from left to right) my Uncle Barney. Barnet Hartstein was my father's young brother. Seated next to him is a question mark – can it have been my grandfather Philip's mother? Highly likely from her position beside him! Next is my grandfather Philip Hartstein with his wife on the other side. Then the dashing gentleman at the end is my father Abraham, with my mother at the end of the row behind him.*

*The back row is the one that puzzles me, apart from my mother. But, strangely enough, I recognize all their faces. My father's sister is there, third from the right I think: she married Isidore Mynk. The short woman (third from left) is, I believe "Auntie Ettie." The man with a moustache, next to my mother is Harry Walden, but I've never been sure of his relationship. He reputedly began in business with a cart in which he collected old bottles from door to door. He washed them out and filled them with a hair cream he made in the bath and sold them under a brand name he invented. This was at the time of "Nufix" and "Brylcreem." I believe it was Colgate-Palmolive who bought him out and made him a millionaire. I remember him well; he took me to a concert at the Albert Hall. We sat in his private box. But I was only a prep schoolboy and too young to appreciate him.*

Abraham and Annie's eldest son Jack was born in December 1911 and he was followed by Hylda in 1915, Emmanuel in 1917, Philip in 1920 and the youngest child Irvin (John) was born in 1925. John recalls: *By the time I was born he was a multi-millionaire, and when I was four, I lived in 42 Aylestone Avenue, which was called "Millionaires Row" by the locals then. Having talked to some of his early customers, he achieved it by enthusiasm, energy, honesty, and kindness. The firms in the Midlands who provided him with newly-invented machinery for making paper bags – an innovation at the time – recognized, I believe, his capacity for hard work. In other words, he was a winner. I regret I never knew him since he died when I was nine. Only when I look back at the business do I realize how perfectly it was run. And he must have taught Jack how to manage the factories.,*

Abraham died when he was only fifty-one in 1936 at Manchester Street Nursing home in Middlesex. His eldest son Jack then took over the paper bag business and married Cato Mishiku in 1938. Cato's father Shigeichiro was a Japanese businessman and her mother Selma was born in the Netherlands. Jack's widowed mother Annie moved into their house and in the 1939 census the family were living at 20 Monarch Court in Finchley where Jack is listed as a director of a paper bag manufacturer.