

Julius and Ida Hopfer, née Hanauer Deported to Theresienstadt in 1942.

Ida Hopfer was born in Schluchtern near Heilbronn on December 1st 1886. Her parents were Sofie Levi and Josef Hanauer. She became the third wife of Julius Hopfer, a cattle-dealer from Rexingen who was twice-widowed. Julius was born in Rexingen on June 18th 1873 to Kieffi Hopfer and Henriette Hirsch from Dettensee. He took over his father's business as cattle-dealer. The family lived in Brühlet today 30 Freudenstädter Strasse. Like his father, he was a member of the Rexingen district council. He was elected in 1931 but in 1933 was pressurized into leaving the council by the Nazis.



*From right to left:
Julius Hopfer, his wife
Ida, his daughter Paula
from his first marriage
and Ida's father Josef
Hanauer.*

Ida's older sister Berta had been Julius' second wife and had died on the birth of her son Arnold in 1916. From his first marriage Julius had two children, Sally and Paula, for whom Ida became a mother.

Julius Hopfer's two brothers managed to flee with their families to the USA and Palestine. His son, Arnold, emigrated to the USA. His daughter Paula fled to the USA with her husband Adolf Pressburger. They had to leave their two children behind with their maternal grandparents because they couldn't obtain a visa for them, although there was hope of obtaining one. The children were actually able to follow their parents in August 1941 travelling alone via Lisbon. Their uncle Sally had managed to acquire the necessary papers for them. He couldn't help himself as his hope of escape was shattered when America entered the war. He was deported to Riga in December 1941.

Ida and Julius Hopfer were deported to Theresienstadt in 1942. On May 16th 1944 they were taken to Auschwitz and murdered there.

In September 2012, three 'stumbling blocks' were laid in Rexingen in memory of Ida, Julius and Sally Hopfer.