

**ALEX HALEY and MIRIAM WEINER**  
**Collaboration on “Ancestors,” a PBS Series for KBYU-TV in Salt Lake City**  
**Norris, TN / September 10, 1991**

In 1991, KBYU-TV, a television station in Salt Lake City, contacted Miriam to invite her to be part of a television series being developed for PBS called "Ancestors." The host was to be Alex Haley, author of the best-selling book "Roots." Several months later, Miriam spent 3 days with the television and PBS crews of about 10 people along with Alex Haley at his farm in Tennessee.

During one of the lunch breaks, Miriam was asked to speak to the group about her roots in Ukraine and visits to her ancestral towns as well as her first book, *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy*. During the planning and concept discussions, it was proposed that one episode in the series would focus on Jewish Genealogy in the "old country." It was anticipated that a film crew would accompany Miriam back to the small towns in Ukraine where her family came from.

Unfortunately, in February 1992, Alex Haley died suddenly from a heart attack at the age of 70. The project was then delayed and ultimately went in a different direction.



*Miriam Weiner presents copy of her book  
“The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy”  
to Alex Haley at his farm in Norris, TN, 1991*

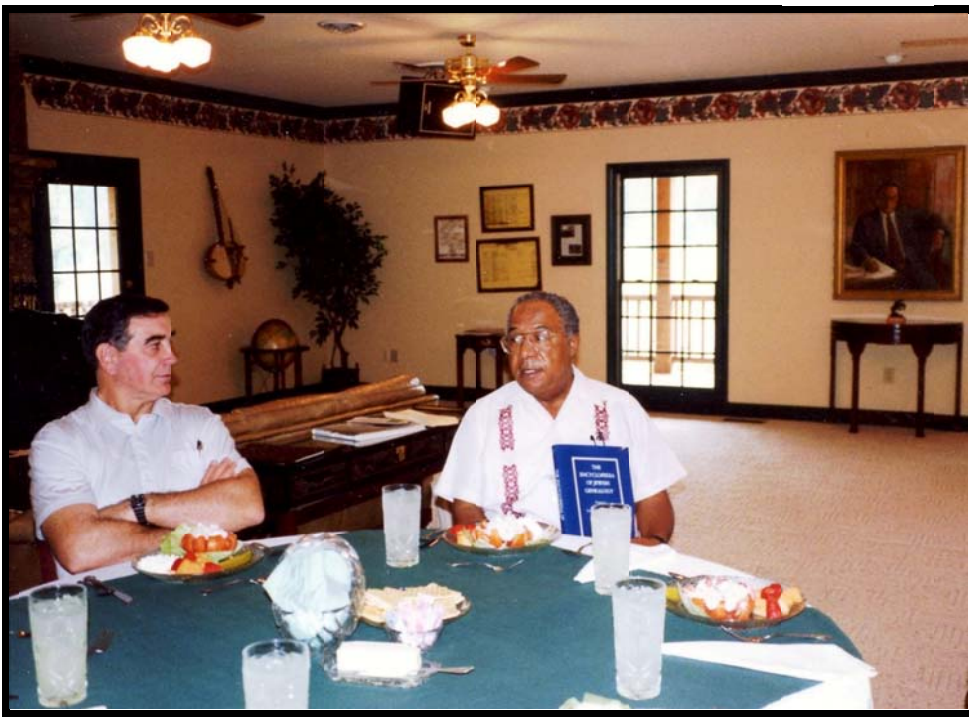
**Concept Meeting at the Alex Haley Farm  
Norris, TN / 1991**



*Left side: L-R: Miriam Weiner, Babette Davidson, Alex Haley  
Right side: Male Unknown, Mel Rogers, Male Unknown, Female Unknown*



*Left side, L-R: Miriam Weiner (rear), Female Unknown, Mel Rogers  
Right side, L-R: Alex Haley (pink shirt and glasses)*

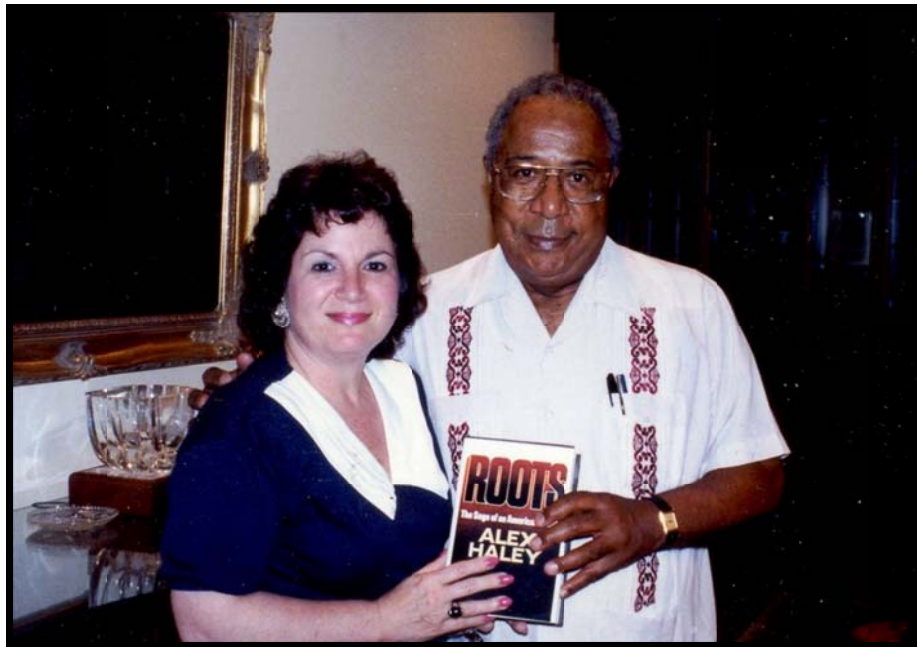


*Alex Haley at Concept Meeting Luncheon with PBS regarding "Ancestors" Series production. In this photo, Haley is holding copy of Miriam Weiner's book, "The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy" At this luncheon, Miriam was asked to speak about her work in the former Soviet Union*



*Miriam Weiner speaks about her work in the former USSR during concept meeting with PBS & television crew at Alex Haley's farm in Norris, TN, 1991*





*Alex Haley presents copy of his book "Roots" to Miriam Weiner, 1991*

September 10, 1991

For Miriam Weiner,  
colleague genealogist,  
with Brotherly Love  
from me and all of  
the ROOTS family  
of Kunta Kinte ..

Sincerely,  
Alex Haley

*Alex Haley book inscription to Miriam*