Curt Lowens was born in 1925 in East Prussia (now Poland) to a home filled with music and laughter. His father, a respected lawyer, lost all his clients with the rise of Hitler. The family moved to Berlin in 1936, hoping to find safety in the large Jewish community there, but eventually decided to immigrate to the United States. The day before they were to depart on the SS Veendam from Rotterdam (Holland), the Germans invaded, preventing their departure. In June 1943, the family was sent to Westerbork, a transit camp to Auschwitz. Fortunately, they were released and immediately went underground.

Lowens assumed a false identity and became an active and valiant member of the resistance. After the war, Lowens, his father, and stepmother immigrated to the United States where he met Katherine Guilford at the famous Berhoff Studio. He remains a respected character actor, working onstage on Broadway and in film and television.