

Irina Santurdjiyan's Wedding



This is my daughter Irina Santurdjiyan's wedding in Sofia in 1989. It was a civil marriage, like all of the weddings in Bulgaria at that time. My husband Leon Beraha and I are first and second from right. The others are relatives and guests. The wedding took place after our return from Cambodia. My husband, who was a diplomat, was ambassador there. At the time of the wedding I already knew that he suffered from cancer. Our daughter Irina was born on 30th January 1966. She graduated from the College for dental mechanics. She is married to an Armenian and has a little daughter. She does not identify herself as a Jew. She doesn't observe the traditions. She is not affiliated with the Jewish community. I myself am a complete atheist, yet I buy matzah for Pesach and prepare burlikus, I visit the synagogue at Yom Kippur, but just to join our community. I don't pray there, I'm just very sensitive in terms of the Jewish community, and I want to stay informed about the events that are taking place there.