

Itsik Margolis` s Family



Here you can see me with my wife, Libe-Leya Margolis and our daughter, Raisa. The photo was taken in Riga in 1968. I got married in 1961. With much effort I managed to get an apartment ? a room of 6.8 square meters plus kitchen of 2.5 meters. The courtyard was beautiful, green, with apple trees and a garden. There were even vegetable beds divided between the residents and I had one too, but we failed to grow anything there except for grass. My spouse's name is Libe-Leya Girshovna, Lyuba, maiden name Nagle. She worked with me at the same factory. She is from Ludza. She was born in 1936. My wife had no special education and finished a secondary school in Ludza. She was a young girl when her mother died. Her father Hirsh Nagle went with the children ? with Lyuba and her brother Yakov ? to live in Riga. She worked in different places. We had no chuppah at our wedding. We had only a civil wedding. We have no money and our wedding was really modest. I speak Russian with my wife, although she perfectly understands Yiddish. All throughout the long Soviet period I remembered that I am a Jew. I had no negative consequence in my work places for my Jewishness. I have many friends ? Jews, Russians and Latvians. But my Jewishness wasn't something special ? I could still attend the synagogue, but I worked on Sabbath. My factory worked on Saturday and Sunday. I didn't keep kosher. We kept our Jewish tradition in our family. I have one daughter, Raya, born in 1963.