

Lev Mistetskiy And Family



This photo was taken when I visited my brother Mikhail Mistetskiy in Andijan where he was in evacuation and stayed to live after the war. From left to right: 1st row - my younger son Anatoliy Mistetskiy and Mikhail's son, Valeriy Mistetskiy. 2nd row - my older brother, Mikhail Mistetskiy, and I. This photo was taken in 1964. In 1953 I was appointed director of cattle breeding stocks in Lipovets. I was a commodity expert: I received sheep wool from kolkhozes and assessed astrakhan fur skins. I was a decent worker, but I often heard unfair words and suffered just for being a Jew. This always happens: if something goes wrong, they will always find a Jew to blame. Doesn't matter, whose fault it really is. People began to drink after the war. They drank at work and this was not considered to be a violation of rules. Our director was a retired lieutenant colonel, who didn't know a thing about our business, but liked commanding and yelling. He was always drunk at work. He was hard to deal with. I finally quit. I was sent to Tulchin in Vinnitsa region. Then I worked in Yampol and other towns of Vinnitsa region. I was appointed to do work as a good specialist, and my bosses asked me to train my replacement, when I was to take another job. My wife and children moved with me. Our older son Iosif, named after my deceased brother, was born in 1953 in Tulchin, and the younger Anatoliy was born in Tulchin in 1957. Our daughter Lilia was born in Aratov, Vinnitsa region in 1960. My older brother Mikhail had a hard life. Mikhail got married after the war. I don't remember his wife's name. His older son Israel was born in 1950. His second son Valeriy was born in 1955, and two months later Mikhail's wife died. My brother never remarried. Mikhail worked at a construction site and sent his children to a children's home having no time to raise them. In the early 1990s Mikhail and his sons and their families moved to Israel. They live in Arad, Hadarom. They have a good life and no regrets for leaving here.