

Serafima Staroselskaya's Father Nakhimya Staroselsky



This is my father Nakhimya Shmuilovich Staroselsky. Father's ancestors came from the town of Gorodok in Belorussia. My paternal grandmother's name was Nekhama, and grandfather's name was Alter-Shmuil. I do not know what kind of education they had. I only know that grandma Nekhama was very beautiful and active and grandpa was, as they say, henpecked. Grandma was very enterprising, she was engaged in commerce, though I do not know what kind. They were better provided for than my mom's parents. They owed two houses in Gorodok before the

Revolution, a small one and a bigger one. They also had 2 or 3 cows. Everybody in the family worked. However, they were 'dispossessed as kulaks' in the 1930s. Father (born in 1907) worked since he was a small kid, as he was the only boy. He had 4 sisters. The elder Dora was born in 1905 and Sonya was born in 1912; there was also Ida, who was born in 1913 and died right after the war; Bronislava, born in 1915, is still alive. Unfortunately, I do not know much about this part of the family. Father lived in Gorodok approximately up to 1928, because he had to help his parents. Later he moved to Leningrad. He had there a room in Basseynaya (now Nekrasova) street. There was a Jewish club nearby, where a lot of young people gathered, so dad lived a Jewish life mostly owing to that. Jewish young people entertained themselves and relaxed there, it was not prohibited at those times yet. There was even a peculiar 'meeting club'. Dad had a lot of friends. He was a very outgoing and cheerful person. He met mom in one of such companies. He was wounded in the war, lost his health, which had a significant effect on his temper. Mom very often recalled what kind of nature he had had before.