

Mariasha Vasserman With Her Brother Perets Vasserman And Sister Sore-Reyze Goldman



I do not like to be photographed and do not keep my pictures. That is why there are no pictures between the period of 1946 and this picture from 1991. My siblings talked me into taking pictures for the sake of memories. We are sitting here the way we did in a prewar picture: I, my elder sister Sore-Reyze Goldman, nee Vasserman and brother Perets Vasserman. This is the way we are looking now. The picture was taken in Tallinn in 1991. My brother had worked as an accountant all life long. He worked for different enterprises, but only as an accountant. His wife Sima worked in the kindergarten in Tooste and after moving to Tallinn he worked as a secretary at the plant. Their sons live in Estonia. All of them are married to Estonians. They don't identify themselves as Jews. My brother died in 1992. He was buried in Jewish cemetery in Tallinn. The Jewish community of Estonia had already been founded and so my brother's funeral was Jewish. Perets's wife Sima is still alive. We keep in touch. My sister finished Tallinn Teachers' Training Institute extramurally. She taught mathematics at the vocational school until her retirement. Her husband Isaac was a wonderful sportsman. He took an active part in coaching children. He worked in school as a physical training teacher and a coach. I went to Israel for the first time in the 1990s. I went to see my sister and her husband. They left for Israel in 1990, before Estonia gained independence. My sister was scared that they wouldn't be permitted to immigrate because of their exile. At that time it was still hard to leave the USSR. It was easier only after breakup of the Soviet Union. In the end, they got the permit to leave. They settled in Ashdod. Unfortunately, my sister's husband Isaac couldn't get acclimatized for some reason. The reason was the heat. He was a healthy man, a sportsman. There he started having problems with his health. They hoped that he would get adjusted to the climate with time, but he was getting worse. They had to come back to Tallinn after five years. Even now, many of Isaac's ailments are connected with his stay in Israel.