

Yakov Voloshyn's Family And Relatives



This is a family photo: From left to right: my daughter Nelly Gluschenko, nee Voloshyna, my wife Lilia Voloshyna, nee Tombak, my sister Rosalia Khananova, nee Voloshyna (sitting in the back), her husband Yevsey Khananov and my son Rafail Voloshyn. This photo was taken in a park in Kiev in June 1951. During World War II my wife and son and my wife's parents and sisters were in evacuation in Miass, Cheliabinsk region. My wife and son and her parents returned from evacuation in 1945 after Victory Day. We all lived in two rooms that I had received in 1944 after demobilization. My wife didn't work after she returned to Kiev. In 1946 our daughter Nelly was born and my wife looked after the children. We always celebrated Soviet holidays. My colleagues from editorial offices - photographers and artists - visited us. There were at least 40 guests on New Year, 1st May and Victory Day. Of course, Victory Day was the most important holiday for us. My family and my wife's parents didn't observe any Jewish traditions. We knew about Jewish holidays. Occasionally we recalled that there was a Jewish holiday and what we were supposed to eat on it, but this was all. We never had matzah at home. Regretfully, working so much, I didn't have time to spend with my family. I didn't give sufficient attention to my children. We spent our summer vacation with the children in the Crimea. Our children often had angina and their doctor advised us to take them to the seashore every summer. Those were happy days: we were together and I didn't have to hurry. This was my time when I enjoyed spending time with the children.