

Yefim Volodarskiy With His Wife Anes Dubinskaya And Friends



My wife Anes Dubinskaya (from the left) and I. Yevpatoria, 1976. Although there is a habit to criticize the Soviet period, but I used to get a free trip to a recreation center every year. My wife and I rarely had vacations at the same time, but that year I got a family trip and we went there together. 'We had a wonderful time together. We bathed in the sea, lay in the sun, had massages and therapeutic bathing. We got lucky to get tickets to a nice Moscow theater that was on tour in Yevpatoria. We were photographed with another married couple whom we met there at the entrance to the theater.

In 1950 I went to work as shop superintendent at the motorcycle plant. I was promoted to chief mechanic and then became assistant chief engineer of the plant where I worked till retirement in 1977.

After the WWII my wife went to work as a French translator at the State Security Ministry. Since there were not many French translations she also translated from Yiddish that she knew since childhood. The Ministry did dirty work copying correspondence of citizens with their relatives abroad. My wife translated them, thought there was nothing illegal in them. People wrote about their life and children. Sometimes she translated forbidden, but secretly published books. Then Anes went to work as a French and German teacher at school.

My wife and I had a family who knew Jewish culture well, but we were not religious. I didn't know Hebrew, but my wife and I communicated in Yiddish with ease. I can read well in Yiddish. I know and like Jewish literature. I used to be a light operator at the Jewish theater! I watched all performances. We celebrate our holidays as another occasion to have a drink and to eat. However, we only celebrate them having a party, but we do not observe any traditions. I have a nice collection of books: Sholem Aleichem, Peretz Markish and many others. My wife retired in 1975 and I retired in 1977. I liked going to theaters with her. We often went for walks in parks and spent vacations in recreation centers. We had noisy and joyful birthday parties. Our friends and the children's friends visited us. Anes died 10 years ago in 1993.