

Esphir Kalantyrskaya's Sister's Husband Mikhail Shatukha



Luba's husband Mikhail Shatukha. He sent this picture to his wife Luba in Kiev in the memory of his service in Kronshtadt in 1940.

My older sister Luba worked as the Russian language and literature schoolteacher in Pochep. Later she became director of this school. She married Mikhail Shatukha, a Russian man. After his service in the army Mikhail got a job assignment in Nevel of Leningrad region. Luba followed him. Mikhail Shatukha became secretary of the Nevel Town Party Committee. In 1937 he was called to Moscow and arrested. He didn't stay under arrest long. Luba said that it was Lazar Kaganovich, one of the Soviet leaders that contributed to his liberation. During the war Mikhail and few other members of the Town party Committee stayed in town to organize underground movement in the rear of the enemy. One of his co-workers turned out to be a traitor. He told Mikhail that he had been ordered to escort him to the partisan unit in the woods. He shot Mikhail in the outskirts of the town. In the morning collective farmers found Mikhail's body and buried him in secret from Germans. Luba buried her husband at the town cemetery after she returned from the evacuation. After the war the monument to Mikhail Shatukha and other comrades that had perished after the war in Nevel. Luba died in 1962. Her son Arnold lives in St.-Petersburg.