

Istvan And Panni Koltai



This is my husband Istvan or Pista Koltai and I. The photo was taken in Cece in 1937. We are holding our dog, Hektor. My husband was born Izidor Greiner. Then he magyarized his name to Istvan Koltai in 1946. [The pet name of Istvan is Pista.] He was a member of the Social Democratic Party. He was even imprisoned for four months in the 1930s. He was arrested in Eger. He had to leave Eger and its environs because the police kept looking for him at my father's place. And Dad kept telling them that he had no idea where he was because he didn't keep in touch with him. Finally Pista got a job in Fejer County; there was a lumber-yard in the village of Cece. There were many vacancies; they were advertised in the papers. However, we could only choose a job at a lumber-yard because that was Pista's profession. After graduating from high school he had learnt this trade. The lumber-yard in Cece belonged to David Schwartz. My husband worked for two

people by the name of David Schwartz. One was from Sarbogard and the other from Eger We lived in Cece from 1937 to 1942. When I got married and moved there, I thought that I would move to a normal place. But when I got off the train in the evening and started looking for the village I found nothing. Because it really was just a village compared to Eger. So, I got off the train and said to myself: 'It's ok, I will find it in the morning'. And I woke up the next morning and there was nothing there, just the wilderness. I just couldn't stand living in a village. Eger wasn't a big place but it was still a town. However, I had to get used to village life because I knew that my husband wouldn't find a job anywhere else.