

Fira Rabinovich's Family



This is the family of my wife Fira Rabinovich. From left to right: my wife Fira, her older sister Sulamyth Rabinovich and their mother Rosalia Rabinovich. The photo was taken in Kiev in 1928. During my post-graduate course at Kiev Light Industry University, in 1947, I met my future wife. She was a student at the institute. She was born into a respected Jewish family in 1923. Her father Saliman Rabinovich came from a big assimilated Jewish family. He came to Kiev from Riga. He was a big china specialist and worked in famous china factories. He met his wife Rosalia Ratmanskaya, in 1911. He died of spotted fever in 1933. My wife didn't know Yiddish. Her father took her to the synagogue several times when she was a child. Fira worked at a hospital at the front. She was awarded the Order of the Great Patriotic War. After Fira and her mother returned to Kiev in 1944 they lived in the hospital for some time and then they received a room on Saksaganskogo Street - and that replaced their nice apartment in Pushkin Street that they had before the war. We got married in 1948. Our daughter Sulamyth was born in 1950. She got her name from my wife's sister Sulamyth, who died of spotted fever when she was young.