

Iosif Gotlib's Family



This is my family. From left to right, 1st row: my mother Dora Gotlib (with glasses), my older sister Sima, my niece Tsviya my younger sister Haya Strikovskaya's daughter. 2nd row: a neighbor, my younger sister Haya Strikovskaya, her husband Aron Strikovskiy. This photograph was taken shortly before my mother died. The whole family was photographed on my mother's birthday. They sent me this photograph to Uzhhorod. This photo was taken in Rishon LeZiyon (Israel) in 1990.

My parents and siblings emigrated to Israel in late 1945, then I was at the war. From 1946 I've tried to find my family. I sent requests to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and tried to search them through the Red Cross. They replied that they had no information about them. Later I gave up those efforts: for a citizen of the USSR it was dangerous to have relatives abroad. Besides, I was a Party member. They found me after we moved to Uzhhorod in the late 1970s. I received a letter from my younger sister Haya. She wrote that she wanted to come to the USSR to see me, but they didn't issue her an entry visa. She went to Hungary. It was easier for residents of Subcarpathia to obtain a Hungarian visa compared to the rest of the USSR and I went to Budapest to meet with my sister. Of course, we were so happy to see each other. We didn't even hope that we would meet again. My sister told me about my dear ones. My father died in Israel at the age of 67 in 1955. After he died my mother lived with Sima and her family. Sima married a Jewish man in Sambor before they moved to Israel. She didn't work after getting married. She has a son, but I don't remember his name. Haya married a Jewish man from the USSR in Israel. Her family name is Strikovskaya. She finished an accounting school in Israel and worked as an accountant till she retired. Haya and her husband have two daughters: Tsviya and Esta. They are married to Jewish men and live in Haifa. I don't remember their marital surnames.