

Larisa Shyhman's Sister Maya Zhitnitskaya



My sister Maya Trachtenberg. This photo was made in a recreation center near Kiev where she was taking treatment in the 1960s.

In 1941 on road to evacuation my sister Maya was freezing and she fell ill with tuberculosis of her knee joint. Maya was taken to hospital immediately and they diagnosed her tuberculosis of the knee joint. They provided medical treatment for her, but they couldn't bring her to final recovery and she became an invalid of group 3: she was lame.

In 1955 Maya finished 10 grades at school and didn't continue her studies. She spent a lot of time in hospitals. She worked as furnace operator and salt loader and then she was a janitor, I don't know. Her husband's last name is Zhitnitskiy, they were introduced to one another being invalids. Her husband's name was David, he was a Jew, everybody called him Dima. He was also an invalid of grade I. He served in the army in Lithuania and there was something I don't know there: some combat action, I don't know any details. To make a long story short, they took him home when he was paralyzed. He also had a rear disease: his liver generated silver. Doctors from Moscow tried to treat him and even an English professor. They actually brought him to recovery. His hands didn't function, but they rescued him. Their son Vladimir was born in 1978. When Maya got pregnant there was a group of doctors watching her. Her husband died of cirrhosis in the 1980s, his liver failed him.