

Albert Isaev With His Children



My husband Albert and our two children, Valeri and Lidya. The picture is from 1998 and it was taken in Sofia. I took this photo on the eve of Albert's birthday, when our children visited us at home. Lidya graduated from the University of Economics in Sofia. She works as an economist. Valeri graduated from the Medical University in Sofia and is a doctor. He works as a pediatricist. I have three grandchildren - Lidya's Roumen and Yassen Nikolovi, and Valeri's Svilen Isaev. My children were raised as Jews, but they are married to Bulgarians. They know everything about the war and what happened during the Holocaust. We celebrate Rosh Hashanah and Pesach. I celebrate Christmas with my son's family. We don't celebrate Easter. We keep the 'gastronomical' side of the Jewish traditions, and I have even handed them over to my daughter, who is also a master of Jewish specialties. Perhaps 70 % of my circle of friends are Jews, but I have always had friends among Bulgarians, too. I keep good relations with my cousins in Bulgaria, especially in Sofia. We meet at least once a week with some of them.