

Margarita Kamiyenskaya And Her Friends At The Wedding Of Her Schoolmate Anita



The picture was taken at the wedding of my schoolmate Anita. I was the maid of honor. I am second to the right in the first row, on my left is Anita, and her husband is next to her. Anita and all her family perished in Piarnu in 1941 during the German invasion. Unfortunately, I can't say anything about the other guests in the picture. Anita was married to a man from Piarnu and the wedding party was there. I didn't know anybody but the bride. I had never seen anybody in the picture again. The picture was taken in Piarnu in 1936. When I turned eight, my parents sent me to the German ladies' lyceum. It was considered to be the best in Tallinn in terms of education. Not only children of Germans went there, but also many Estonians and Jews. I was the only Jew in my class. I was friends with a Jewish girl Anita, who studied in the parallel group. My other friends were two Estonian girls and one Swedish girl. I wasn't friends with the Germans. Even though I went to a German lyceum, my class teacher always used to tell me on the eve of the Jewish holidays that I could stay home on the occasion of the holiday. On Yom Kippur, Anita and I went to the synagogue for half a day and then we strolled along the city. We stopped by the show windows of confectionary stores and enjoyed looking at deserts, knowing that we couldn't eat them. The next day we weren't willing to eat them either.