

Marian Migdalski With His Grandchildren



My husband Marian Migdalski with my grandchildren Krzys and Alik Wilmer at the Warsaw Ghetto Monument on Mila Street. This photo was taken in the 1990s. My husband's name is Marian Migdalski. He is Polish. He was born in Sandomierz in 1926. When I met my husband, he was a party member, and in my freshman year I also joined the party. My husband knew from the very beginning about my Jewish descent. In fact, I've never hidden it. We got married in 1954. In 1955, our daughter Hania was born, and the name wasn't accidental, of course, it was after my little sister Chana. I wasn't permitted to write Chana, but only Hania. I had always dreamt that if I had a daughter, it'd be Hania, and then if I had another baby, my husband would choose the name for it.

In 1959, Andrzej was born, my husband chose the name, the first letter of the alphabet; I accepted it. Hania has a degree in psychology. She's married. Her husband is a mathematician. A very talented man. He's a software developer. Shortly before the introduction of the martial law, they went for a vacation, the martial law met them in Canada, and they never returned. He works at a psychiatric hospital, he's the head therapist there. And my grandsons were born there, Krzysztof in 1983, and Aleksander, or Alik, in 1986. Their first language was Polish. My daughter combines the different traditions at her home. There's a photo where her sons sit at the table in skullcaps, it's Pesach, but later it's Christmas, and their Polish friends come to visit them for Christmas Eve, and it's the proper Christmas Eve dinner, there's a tree. There was a Sunday school in Canada for lay, non-religious children, where they had lessons about, among other things, Jewish culture and tradition, the holidays, Hebrew classes too, if anyone wanted. Krzysztof and Alik attended that school. The boys are grown up now, Krzysztof is halfway into his university studies, he has completed the third year. Alik has been a bit at odds with school. A very talented boy. He loves music, he's set up a music studio for himself, writes songs, alas, school's been less important for him, and it's been like that for a couple of years now. And he'll probably be continuing his education in evening courses now.