

The Katz Family



This is the Katz family. The picture was taken in 1914. The back row from right to left: my grandfather, Mor Katz, my mother Iren Molnar, nee Katz. The front row from right to left: my uncle Kalman Katz, my aunt Rozsi Schon, nee Katz, my grandmother Amalia Katz, nee Pollak and my uncle Marci Katz. My paternal grandfather was born in 1877 in Hajduszovat. He was a painter. My grandmother, Amalia Pollak, was born in 1880 in Vekerd. They got married in 1901 in Darvas. They had five children, all of them were born in Berettyoujfalu, and then sometime in 1913 or 1914 they moved to Budapest. My mother was born in 1902, then Marci was born in 1904, he died during the war in 1945. He was hiding in a garage, and a bomb hit him. Then Bandi was born in 1906. Rozsi was born in 1908, she was very sickly, the poor thing, she had heart problems from her childhood. After Rozsi, Kalman was born in 1910. Kalman became a furrier; he had a prospering shop on Kossuth Lajos Street. The shop is still there, now his daughter runs it. Kalman magyarized his name to Koves sometime in the 1930s. He was first drafted into forced labor in 1939, and they let him home at the end of 1940. Then in 1941 they drafted him again. In 1942 he was wounded at the Don Bend, the Hungarians left him there. The Russians saved his life; they took him to the hospital. They healed him, and then they took him to Siberia, from where he came home at the end of 1947. He continued the furrier trade. He opened a shop again. My mother only finished elementary school. They were extremely poor. My grandmother was ill all the time; my grandfather was never at home. My grandmother raised her four younger siblings: one girl and three boys. My grandfather was a careless man; at least they told me so.