

Peter Rabtsevich With His Brother Lev Rabinov



My older brother Lev Rabinov and I in Kiev after the war. The photo was taken during my brother's visit to Kiev in 1946. Lev, went to the army in 1934. He was recruited to a cavalry unit, but he had a secondary education, so he was sent to study at a medical school. After finishing it he returned to the army and became a doctor in a cavalry unit. He stayed there until the end of his service term. In 1937 Lev returned from the army. He couldn't find a job as an assistant doctor. There were no vacancies at the medical institutions in Pinsk. He went to work at the Luriye plywood factory. He got married in 1938. His wife Haya [nee Levzina], came from Pinsk. She was a Jewish woman and a couple of years younger than Lev. She owned a small food store at the Luriye factory. They had a traditional Jewish wedding. They rented a canteen at the factory for their wedding party. They had a crew of cooks that made kosher food for the party and many guests. There was a chuppah at the wedding and a rabbi. In 1944 Pinsk was liberated. I wrote a letter to our acquaintances in Kovniatin village. My brother Lev also wrote a letter to this village from the army. He served at the 2nd Belarus front. We found each other and felt better from a moral point of view. We wrote to each other. My brother was wounded on his lung and sent to a hospital in Moscow. There he met a nurse that was looking after him. Her name was Tamara. She came from Moscow and was half-Russian, half-Georgian. They got married. In 1959 Tamara gave birth to a girl. After the war Lev graduated from the Moscow Medical Institute and worked as a doctor. He was a surgeon in Balashyha. He died in March 2001. His daughter and her family live in Balashyha.