

## Semyon Gun's Mother's Brother Yakov Shtilman



This is my mother's brother Yakov Shtilman wearing his officer's uniform, his waist belt and map case. This photo was taken at the front in 1942. My mother's younger brother Yakov Shtilman was born around 1915. He was a little younger than my mother. I don't have any information about his

childhood. I don't know where he was raised. He was a political officer in the army during the Great Patriotic War. He finished the war in the rank of captain or major. I don't know what he did after the war. He lived with his wife Uliana in a district town in Cherkassy region. His wife was a beautiful Russian woman. Her neighbors tortured her about marrying a Jewish man so hard that she hanged herself in the 1950s when Yakov was on service. Their son Lyonia was a baby when this happened. Yakov visited us after this tragedy. I remember him wearing his military uniform with a belt, waist case and a map case. He was very reserved. Yakov raised Lyonia himself. Yakov died a sudden death in the 1960s. My parents went to his funeral.