

The Waks (Vax) family

Information: Sylvia Singer, Nava Kaplinsky, Rachel Ashkenazy, Tzvi Yoeli, Shraga Waks, Adiva Cohen, "Pinkes Kovel", "Yad VaShem"

The known patriarch of the family is **Dov Waks**. Dov was married to Sarah, but after she passed away, he married Chaya. The known children of Dov Waks were Feivel, Yoel, Meshel, and Rahche'. Another son was reputed to have emigrated to the United States before WWII.

- **Feivel**, son of Sarah, born 1890. A merchant in Kovel. Married Michala Goldstein (Goldsztajn?), daughter of Yosef and Faige, born in 1892 in Kobryn. Their children: Dov, Avram, Yaakov, Sarah, and Yoesf. The parents perished in Kovel.
 - Dov, born 1913, merchant in Kovel. Married. They perished in Kovel.
 - Avram, (1911-1999),
 - . Made Aliyah 1928, worked in Emek Israel and the area. married Mara (Miriam), 1915-1996), born in Bender Beserabia Romenya. They lived in Petah Tikva and raised three daughters: Donia, Adiva, and Michal
 - Yakov, [1917-1995] married Fella (1923-2007), made Aliyah in 1948 with their son Shraga Feivel' born in refugee camp in Italy. Their other son Natan, born 1952 and they lived in Petah Tikva.
 - Sarah and Yosef, born circa 1920, perished in Kovel
- **Yoel**, son of Chaya, born circa 1890. Was a cattle hides merchant. Married Rachel Segal (born circa 1890), daughter of Yehoshua and Bluma. Resided on 6 Magistraka, near the great synagogue. Their seven children:
 - Bluma, born 1909. Studied in Kovel, trained as a halutza at Hashomer Ha'Tzair, made Aliyah in 1932 to Kibbutz Ramat Hakovesh, and then moved to Tel-Aviv. Married Shlomo Grabarsky, a halutz from Rozyszcze, Vohlyn. Their daughters married and raised families in Israel: Attara (Zissman), Nava (Kaplinsky), Rachel (Ashkenazy).
 - Dov (Berl) (born 1910), made Aliyah in 1932. Married Naomi. Their daughter Chaya (Govrin) married and raised a family in Israel.
 - Mordecai Waks (changed his name to Yoeli in memory of his father), born 1915. Graduate of Gymansia Tarbut, made Aliyah in 1933 as a student at Hebrew University. Served in the Jewish Brigade. Was an author of textbooks, and a translator. Married Yafa. Their children: Nir (deceased); Meir ("Meiki") and Tzvi married and raised families.
 - Avram, born 1917, made Aliyah and lived in Petah Tikva. Married Leah. Their children Sarah (later Yerushalmi) and Yoel married and raised families.
 - David Waks (changed his name to Yoeli in memory of his father), made Aliyah in 1933 and enrolled in Hebrew University. Married Chana. Their children, Amir and Talya married and raised families.
 - Sarah and Faige perished in Kovel with their parents
- **Meshel**, son of Chaya, married Baila. Their children: Chaya, Faige, Dvora, Ester, Rachmiel, Avrum, and another son who is known to have emigrated to Russia in 1914 at the beginning of WWI.
- All but Chaya, and the son in Russia, some of them married, perished in Kovel IN 1944.
- Meshel donated a large sum for the stained-glass window at the Great Synagogue of Kovel.
 - Chaya married Yankel Kot (Kott) and lived in the town of Kashivka near Kovel with their children Sylvia and Bernard. Chaya passed away still young in 1937.

- During the war, Yankel, his mother Mirel (Kolodny), children, and his brother Asher, hid in the forests. Yankel's mother died (1942) from starvation, but the rest survived and after the war immigrated to Canada.
- Sylvia married David Singer and raised five children in Toronto: Helen (married Michael Skliar), John (Sigal Schwartz), Sharon (Ivan Karlin), Stella (Mitch Miller), and Ester (Jeff Green).
- Bernard married Irene Mangel and raised five daughters in Toronto: Deborah (lives in Israel with her husband Michael Weingold), Mirilyn, Caroline (Daniel Katz), Barbara (David Tree), and Jacqueline (David Wolle).
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- **Rahche**, married Itzhak Feivel Hasid, son of Arie, from Kovel. Their children: Israel (married), Chaya, and Dov. The family perished in Kovel. (Commemorated by the Hasid family, Argentina).

Another Waks from Kovel: Moshe Waks, born 1904 in Kovel is Michal Waszynski, a renowned film director (see Wikipedia). His parents were probably Piotr and Cecilia Peltz of Kovel, who lived at 26 Lutzka. Until 1919 lived in Kovel. Then converted to Christianity and began his film work. In the 30s was the most prolific director in Poland. Directed "the Dybbuk". After the war continued working in Italy and Spain. Died 1965.