This is a project of Memories of Ukraine

In our project we collect memories of people from Ukraine. We share with the world to tell about Ukraine about our traditions and about the Ukrainian people.

Q: What is your name and how old are you?

A: My name is Lyudmila Hryhorivna, I'm 70 years old.

Q: Describe the place where you were born, where you grew up?

A: I was born in Zaporizhia, near the city, in a small house. Our parents had three children, an older brother and a sister just like me. It was good there, we were little. I remember that every summer we went to my grandmother in the Kherson region, in the village, and there all summer. I remember it very well, the cows were grazing, my grandmother had a big garden, my grandfather was engaged in bees, and the small vineyard was his own. I didn't really want to go home.

Q: What are your first memories, what are they about?

A: I went to first grade school, I remember sitting at desks, and 30 minutes later I went home. The teacher asked where I was going, and I replied 'home', already tired of studying. :) Such mentions, and then the parents came closer to Kiev. At first they moved to Kyiv, but there was no place to live. They lived near Kyiv in Vasylkiv, first in an industrial yard, for about 4 months, and then bought half a house and lived there for another 3 years.

Q: What games did you play as a child?

A: Jump rope, love with my sister, when they came to my grandmother, take boots and help in the garden, plant something. We liked it because my grandmother called us helpers.

Q: What was your favorite toy?

A: I remember my favorite toy when I was 6, my father made us dolls himself. I don't remember what their hair was made of, but we braided it.

Q: How did you spend your leisure time, maybe some hobbies?

A: Played skipping rope and hide and seek. When we were with my grandmother, we made their own dolls out of corn. We loved grazing cows, there were many of us from the street, and we went, grazed cows, and told each other fairy tales in the village. I really liked it when I helped my grandmother.

Q: How did you meet your husband?

A: We met by phone, by chance. I worked in a medical facility, there was a mushroom season in the woods and there was a lot of poisoning. It was necessary to transfer information to the central clinic. I mistyped the wrong number and an unknown guy answered the call. We agreed to meet. We met, and almost a year later, 10 months later, we got married.

Q: How old were you then?

A: I was almost 22 years old. And we lived together for 45 years. Two boys were born. The husband died 3 years ago. One of the sons lives separately, the other with me.