

## MIRIAM BIGANOV SHARES VERY PAINFUL

### MEMORIES:

*„They will be my people, and I will be their God!“*

**„Survivors‘ guilt!“** Many survivors suffer terribly from feelings of guilt, because they have survived and close ones have not.

Here is a short story of Miriam’s life!

Miriam’s mother was shot on June 6, 1942. The people from her hometown had also been killed. Miriam was already being held in the third labor camp. „We lived in completely inhuman circumstances and I understood that we were soon to die. Suddenly my friend



Miriam with our good friend Manfred Wessler from Germany

Clara came to me. We both went to the same school. She was very smart and one of the best students! Clara was outstandingly beautiful with long braids and big dark eyes: It was Clara who said to me: „Miriam, let us try to escape from work!“ Clara gave me the idea and from then on I could think of nothing else, but trying to escape. However, I was scared to escape with Clara, because of her beauty. Her beauty would draw attention! I ran away with another young girl and through a big miracle we escaped and survived. I could share a lot about that, but I want to share about Clara: When we escaped the weather was dry, but when Clara— and another young woman— tried to escape, the end of October, the weather was wet and they were caught, taken captive again and terribly beaten. They were brought back to the camp and before the eyes of the other prisoners they had to dig their own graves and were shot before them — as a public warning! At this time we were only 15 years old! All these years my conscience gives me no peace and is plagued with questions: „**Would Clara still be alive if we had tried to escape together? Would she be alive, if I would have taken her?**“

In bright loving memory of Clara Weinstein, who did not survive!

**Aliyah:** Miriam came in 1992 to Israel. She is a true Zionist: „**In the Ghetto there was a woman who told me about Israel. From then on I had the wish to live in my homeland!**“ While still in Ukraine, she also had an interesting dream. „I stood at the bottom of a mountain and a small path went to the top. I started to walk upwards and came to a plaza. Later on, already living in Israel, I saw this exact same place!“

*„I will make an everlasting covenant with them!“ Jer.32:40*

### HOME VISIT IN ASHDOD:

*„I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord!“ Eze. 37:14b*

**„Walking History!“**

I heard from Raja’s family, that she had fallen and that she has not been feeling well ever since. So we visited her. I expected Raja to be „down“, and I have to say, she was more serious than usual, but when we asked her, how she is doing she answered: „God said to me: Be thankful and live!“ She shared with us about her childhood and what a Zionist her father was. A special occasion she remembered was, when Wladimir Zeev Jabotinsky—the great Jewish leader of national Zionism— visited their home and kindly put his hand over her head! Her father never made it to Israel, but she immigrated in the 90s!



Beate and Katrin with Raja in Ashdod

*„See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth!“*

*Jer. 31:8*