

**RG-50.405.0031**

**Stan Khazan, Interviewed on July 11, 1990**

**Summary**

Born in Romny, Ukraine in 1953

Moved to Lvov, a larger city, by elementary school

Parents were David Khazan, born on August 23, 1927, and Sophia Jashinsky Khazan, born on October 29, 1931; David was a steelworker and Sophia was a seamstress and a factory worker

No siblings

Grandmother did not work; grandfather was a successful beautician

Grandparents did not teach Jewish traditions, but understood Yiddish; David did not speak or understand Yiddish

Married Eleonora Kogan in 1979 in Kiev; Eleonora born in Kiev in 1959

One child with Eleonora named Julia Khazan, born in Kiev in 1982

Attended college in Russia for electrical engineering; designed nuclear project stations

Raised in Russia; tried to emigrate to Israel but could not due to Brezhnev's restrictions

Emigrated to the United States in 1989

In Russia, did not belong to any religious organizations or synagogue, but occasionally attended services; however, grandmother sent hamantaschen on Purim

Jews did not live near each other; did not have many Jewish friends or playmates; only one; occasionally teased for being Jewish

Told mother he did not want to be a Jew; she told him that he should not be ashamed to be a Jew, but also warned him not to advertise the fact he was a Jew because it could cause him problems; "tried to keep me away from Judaism"

Lvov had culture of antisemitism; hard to get into college; Jewish quotas, even though it was illegal; applications to school marked with "Jewish" as nationality

Spent a lot of time in childhood waiting in breadlines, until the USSR starting buying bread from Canada after Khrushchev

Lots of political holidays, with time off, when families would discuss politics; parents not communists and criticized the government, while David had a different view, having been subject to Communist party education in school

Jewish community in Lvov had disappeared by the time of the interview; "the only place you can meet Jews in Lvov is in the Jewish cemetery"

In college, interested in history but did not want to become a historian because "I would have to be untruthful"—history in the USSR was like propaganda

Heard Voice of America radio in high school and began to become anti-communist

Drafted in the Soviet army during the Afghanistan war, when in college

Met wife at a party; knew he wanted to marry a Jewish woman, at the encouragement of his father; however, nothing "Jewish" about the wedding itself—other than strudel and gefilte fish; wedding held at the Palace of Marriages

After wedding, got to live alone in grandmother's apartment following "family change" and grandmother relocated to his parents' apartment

Bosses were all communist and Ukraine continued to be antisemitic, although no one talked about it; hard to get jobs