
CHRONOLOGY OF COURAGE

2022–2023

THE SIXTH BOOK





DEDICATED
TO THE FALLEN SOLDIERS OF KHERSON REGION WHO GAVE
THEIR LIVES DEFENDING THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL
INTEGRITY OF UKRAINE DURING THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN WAR



PROJECT LEADER: VIOLETTA TSARKOVA

2022-2023



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The sixth book in the “Chronology of Courage” series is dedicated to the memory of Kherson residents who died in the fight for freedom, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The publication honors the personal stories of people whose lives were cut short by Russian aggression and preserves the names of heroes as an integral part of the history of the Kherson region. The book is a testament to the price of freedom and a reminder of the responsibility to remember.

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Khlebus Oksana Leonidivna is a Kherson journalist, poet, presenter, correspondent for “Social. Kherson”. The last three years of her work on the fate of people who, despite the war, continue to live and move forward; about those who survived captivity and occupation; are dedicated to Ukrainian servicemen.

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Journalism”. She currently works as a correspondent for “Social Kherson”. She believes that there are no unimportant topics, because every person has their own story that is worth telling to others.

Nataliya Oleksandrivna Timofeeva is a journalist from Kherson, who has been in this profession for over 25 years. Her creative output includes many materials about the people of Kherson region, their fates and lives.

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A WORD TO THE READER

This book is not about death. It is about life that was given for freedom.

The sixth book of the “Chronology of Courage” is dedicated to the Kherson residents who died defending Ukraine. Each name on these pages is a fate, a family, a home, a street, a city. These are the voices of our fellow Kherson residents who dreamed, worked, loved - and in times of trials stood up for their land.

The Kherson region experienced temporary Russian occupation, losses, pain and destruction. Unfortunately, not all of our land has been liberated yet. But at the same time, it has become a space of incredible dignity and resistance. It was from this land - peaceful, steppe, open - that people came out whose courage changed the course of history.

We have no right to forget. Memory is our responsibility and our duty.

The project of memorializing the Kherson region's fallen for the freedom and independence of Ukraine was created so that the names of the fallen would not disappear over time, so that future generations would know: freedom has a price, and this price was paid by specific people.

While reading these pages, stop, look into their faces, feel the silence between the lines of their short biographies. It speaks more than words.

Eternal memory and glory to the heroes of the Kherson region. They are with us forever.

The Great War unleashed by Russia brought a lot of pain to the Kherson region: occupation, ruthless shelling, loss of homes. But the most terrible were the losses of people - civilians, military personnel, volunteers - Kherson residents, who remained with their city and their country until the last.

The goal of the "Chronology of Courage" is to preserve the memory of everyone who died at the hands of the occupiers. About those who consciously stood up for the defense of the state. About people whose names should remain in the history of the Kherson region and Ukraine.

Our duty is to speak about the dead not in the language of dry statistics, but in the language of memory and respect. After all, the memory of the dead Kherson residents will live as long as we preserve and pass it on.

This book is a common debt. To the families who lost the most precious thing. To future generations who must know the truth about the price of freedom and about those who paid for it with their own lives.

Eternal honor and eternal glory to the Heroes who gave their lives for the independence of Ukraine.

**Oleksandr Prokudin,
Head of the Kherson Regional Military Administration**

BARANOV VOLODYMYR ANATOLIYOVYCH



Baranov Volodymyr Anatoliyovych, call sign Batya, was born on March 22, 1975 in the village of Tomyna Balka, Kherson district, Kherson region. After 8 grades of the local school, he studied at the Belozersk vocational school No. 6 as a tractor driver. He worked as a tractor driver, driver. Since March 2023, he served in the 41st separate mechanized brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He died on November 6, 2023 in the village of Pershotravneve (from 2024 Manuylivka, ed.) of the Kupyansky district, Kharkiv region. He is buried in the village of Tomyna Balka in the Kherson region.

Volodymyr Baranov lived almost his entire life in his native Tomyna Balka. There were three children in the family - he and two more brothers. The boys' parents worked on a local farm. His wife, Viktoria Leonidovna, remembers Volodymyr as kind, sensitive, cheerful and resourceful. She met her husband in 1995 on a bus. Three months later, the couple got married.

“HE WAS SO COURAGEOUS, HIS EYES ARE LIKE DOVES. MY CHILDHOOD DREAM WAS TO MARRY A TALL AND BEAUTIFUL MILITARY MAN. SO IT PARTIALLY CAME TRUE. VOVA CAME AND SAID: “EITHER MINE OR NOT MINE,” THE WOMAN REMEMBERS.

The couple was engaged in agriculture, cultivating the land. At the same time, Viktoria worked as an accountant, Volodymyr was a tractor driver. They loved to go fishing on the river with their family, go to the sea, and grill kebabs at home. Volodymyr's real passion was cars. It was his element. He enjoyed spending time with machinery, repairing it and taking care of it. In 1996, a son appeared in the family, which made the husband very happy. He spent almost all his free time with the child, from the age of three he took him to ride a tractor.

“VOLODYMYR TAUGHT HIS SON TO HANDLE. HE PASSED ON HIS PASSION FOR TRACTORS. HE HELPED HIM TO REPAIR CULTIVATORS, PLOUGHES, TAUGHT HIM TO DRIVE A CAR,” - SAYS VIKTORIA LEONIDIVNA.

03/22/1975 – 11/06/2023

When his granddaughter was born, Volodymyr was incredibly happy. He called the girl "my princess", nursed her, bathed her, and carried her on his shoulders. He dreamed of taking his granddaughter to the sea, putting a swing in the yard and teaching her to ride a bike. On the night of February 24, 2022, Volodymyr Baranov went to prepare the land for sowing. Returning home at 3 am, he heard a roar similar to a thunderstorm. Then his son called and said that the war had begun. Volodymyr wanted to defend his homeland, called the military registration and enlistment office, but he was told to wait. On March 4, 2022, Tomina Balka was captured by Russian troops.

“BEING UNDER THE OCCUPATION, THE MAN TRIED TO HOLD BACK HIS EMOTIONS, EVEN WHEN THEY PUT THEM AGAINST THE WALL, CHECKED AND AIMED THE AUTOGUNS. TOGETHER WE HELPED OUR MILITARY: WE TRANSMITTED DATA ABOUT ENEMY EQUIPMENT AND CHECKPOINTS,” VIKTORIYA SAYS.

When on November 11, 2022, Ukrainian defenders liberated Tomina Balka, Volodymyr told his wife: “You know me and I will go. For your sake, for the sake of my son and grandson, I will go so that they can live in peacetime.” In March 2023, Volodymyr Baranov joined the ranks of the 41st separate mechanized brigade. He was the commander of the vehicle of the first mechanized detachment of the first mechanized platoon of the eighth mechanized company of the third mechanized battalion of the military unit; he served as the detachment commander. His brothers gave Volodymyr the call sign Batya.

“THEY TOLD THEM HE WAS LIKE A FATHER. A GOOD COMMANDER AND MAN. HE WAS EXPERIENCED FOR EVERYONE, ALWAYS HELPED, HE WAS LIKE A FATHER WITH HIS SON”, - SAYS HIS WIFE.

The last time Viktoriya spoke with her beloved was on November 3, 2023, when he was going on a mission. A week later, Volodymyr planned to go on vacation. “He told me: “Hey, don’t worry. Everything will be fine. I love you all very, very much. If something suddenly happens, it’s all for you,” the woman shares. Volodymyr Baranov died on November 6, 2023 in the village of Pershotravneve (since 2024, Manuylivka, ed.) in the Kharkiv region. “They were in positions, holding back the enemy so that he wouldn’t break through to the city. There was a mortar attack, Vova was mortally wounded. The guys carried him from the battlefield, and then they themselves died,” Viktoriya Leonidivna recalls. Volodymyr Baranov was buried in Tomina Balka. He was 48 years old. The deceased was survived by his wife, son and grandson. “I only remember him well, how he smiled. He always said: “Come on, don’t worry, everything will be fine.” Volodymyr loved and protected me. And even being in heaven, he protects me. I came under fire twice, but he pulled me away,” the wife shared.



BARDELO MYKOLA OLEKSANDROVYCH



Bardelo Mykola Oleksandrovich, call sign Farmer, was born on May 29, 1982 in the village of Novopokrovka, Kirov district, Autonomous Republic of Crimea. After completing his education at a local school, he studied to be a driver at the Chapaivka Vocational and Technical Agricultural School. In 2012, he settled in the city of Kakhovka, Kherson region. In 2020, he signed a contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine, served in the 57th separate motorized infantry brigade named after the kosh chieftain Kostya Hordienko. He died on June 3-4, 2022 near the village of Metyolchyne (until 2025, Metyolkyn, ed.) of the Seversko-Donetsk district, Luhansk region. He was buried on the Alley of Heroes in the city of Dnipro, Dnipropetrovsk region.

Mykola Bardelo was born in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, where he lived with his parents and brother. For some time he was engaged in commercial fishing on ships. In 2012 he moved to live with relatives in the city of Kakhovka in the Kherson region. He got a job at a company that was engaged in the installation of security systems. In the same year, Mykola met his beloved wife, Marina.

“HE HEARD ABOUT ME IN A JOINT COMPANY, LIKED HIM AND ASKED FOR MY PHONE FROM FRIENDS, CALLED ME. HE HIT ME WITH HIS SINCERITY, SIMPLICITY AND RELIABILITY,” THE WOMAN REMEMBERS.

In 2013, the couple got married. A year later, the couple had a daughter, Alena, and in 2018, a son, Yaroslav.

According to Marina, her lover had a talent for drawing, in his free time he could be seen with pencils. The talent for fine arts was passed on to his eldest daughter Alena: the girl studies at an art school. And the son took over his father's passion for cars - cars are the boy's favorite toys.

“My husband would put us and the children in the car and just drive, he loved to go to the Dnieper. He loved the road,” says Marina.

05/29/1982 – 06/04/2022

In 2020, on his wife's birthday, Mykola Bardelo signed a contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He served in the ranks of the 57th separate motorized infantry brigade. He liked to wear a wide-brimmed hat, which is why he received the call sign Farmer. He was a driver-electrician of the anti-aircraft missile system control department. After training in Shyroki Lan in 2021, he went to Luhansk Oblast, where he performed combat missions.

“I LEARNED AT THE FUNERAL THAT HE WAS AT ZERO FROM THE FIRST DAY. HE NEVER TOLD ME ANYTHING. MYKOLA PROTECTED ME FROM EVERYTHING. HE WAS KIND, PEACEFUL, ALWAYS COULD ENCOURAGE AND VERY HOSPITALOUS. AT FIRST, HE TREATED COFFEE TO ANYONE WHO CAME TO US, THEN HE RESOLVED THE ISSUES,” SAYS MARYNA.

On February 24, 2022, Mykola Bardelo, together with his unit, was in the village of Tryokhizbenka, Luhansk Oblast, in the combat zone. The defenders had to retreat, but managed to take all the military equipment with them.

“He could take it from any point. The guys said that they could always rely on Mykola, he never betrayed, he was a man of his word,” recalls Maryna.

In February 2022, when Russian troops captured Kakhovka, the woman and her children had to go into hiding: the occupiers were looking for the families of Ukrainian servicemen. Collaborators called both Maryna and her husband. In April, the defender's family left for Poltava.

The last time Maryna Bardelo communicated with her lover was on June 2, 2022.

“WE WERE VISITING OUR SISTER'S HOUSE IN POLAND WITH OUR CHILDREN. THERE I POLLECTED A PARCELS FOR HIM AND SENT IT. MYKOLA CALLED US VIA VIDEO CONNECTION. HE WAS CHEWING NUTS FROM A PACKAGE. HE JUST HAD TIME TO SAY: “I'M SO HAPPY,” AND THE CONNECTION WAS BREAKING. THEN HE WRITE: “RUSNYA WENT ON AN OFFENSIVE,” THE WOMAN SHARES.

Mykola Bardelo was killed on June 3-4, 2022, while performing a combat mission in the area of the village of Metelchyne (until 2025 Metelkyne, ed.) in Luhansk region. The defender received a through gunshot wound to the head. The deceased was buried on June 10 in the city of Dnipro.

“I WENT TO THE FUNERAL AND DIDN'T BELIEVE IT WAS HIM. I DIDN'T SEE HIS FACE OR BODY. I THOUGHT THE MAN WAS WOUNDED AND ALIVE. I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IT WAS HIM. THERE WAS A BIG FUNERAL. THERE WERE 29 COVENANTS,” MARINA SAYS.

Sister Zhanna Bendeberya, who has served with Mykola Bardelo since 2020, remembers him as a good person and a faithful comrade. The last time the two colleagues saw each other was at the end of April 2022 in Lysychansk.

“When Kolya passed away, it was very bitter and painful for me and my comrades. He never lowered his head, he greeted everyone only by shaking hands. He was the comrade with whom you could share and cry in your shirt. During our last meeting, he was very nervous. He asked me to support Marina. We still communicate with her. The commander of our battery, Petro Pavlovich, also misses him very much. He often asks me about Nikolai's wife and children,” the servicewoman says.

Nikolai Bardel was 40 years old. He is survived by his wife, daughter, son and parents.

The deceased dreamed of raising children, buying a new car and finishing building his own bathhouse at home.

“We went to a psychologist with our children. Alena is silent about her father. It hurts her to tell him. And Yaroslav says: “Dad is prickly.” My son remembered how a bearded man came home from the army on leave. Mykola wanted to give me earrings. At the funeral, I saw a photo on my phone: earrings that he bought for me through his nephew and never gave to me,” the wife shared.

BEREZOVSKYY YEVHEN VADIMOVYCH



Berezovskyy Yevhen Vadymovych, call sign Maly, was born on November 1, 2001 in the village of Velyka Oleksandrivka, Beryslavsky district, Kherson region. He lived with his family in the village of Borozenske in the Beryslavsky region. After receiving a complete secondary education at a local school, he entered the Kherson Lyceum of the Food Industry with a degree in “food industry laboratory assistant”. After studying for a year and a half, he served in the military service in the village of Rozseshki in the Cherkasy region. In 2022, he joined the ranks of the 56th separate motorized infantry Mariupol brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He died on April 2, 2023 during an assault near the village of Orikhovo-Vasylivka, Bakhmutsky district, Donetsk region.

Buried in the village of Borozenske in the Kherson region. Yevgeny Berezovsky and his sister Kateryna, who is three years younger than him, grew up in a close-knit and sincere family. The children's parents tried to provide them with a better life, so they had to change jobs in search of income. From an early age, Yevgeny aspired to be financially independent from his parents, tried to earn money somehow, and wanted to solve the issues in his own life on his own.

"THE SON WAS VERY KIND AND SINCERE, A LITTLE YOUTHFULLY NAIVE. HE EASILY METTED WITH PEOPLE, KNEW HOW TO MAKE SOCIALISTS. AND HE LIKED TO COOK," SAYS FATHER VADYM MYKOLAYOVYCH

Yevgeny encountered a full-scale invasion in Kherson. The young man planned to study to be a rescuer: he liked the conscription service in the fire department. But unfortunately, the war cut short all his dreams. Together with his sister, the boy hid in the basement from the Russian occupiers for a month and a half.

01.11.2001 – 02.04.2023

“ZHENYA WAS MOST WORRIED ABOUT KATRUSYA SO THAT SHE WOULD NOT FALL INTO THE HANDS OF RUSSIAN SOLDIERS,” SAYS HIS FATHER.

Together with his maternal relatives, the brother and sister were able to leave for the Poltava region. Then Yevhen and Kateryna went to the Vinnytsia region, where their parents were already waiting for them. When Zhenya received the summons, he did not think for a long time and went to the military registration and enlistment office. According to his father, the young man was distinguished by his responsibility in everything. He had the rank of senior soldier, first served in the supply company, then was seconded to the 21st battalion of the first rifle company of the 56th brigade. The brothers gave the boy the call sign Maly, because he was the youngest in his unit.

“EVHEN WAS AN ATHLETE SINCE CHILDHOOD, HIS DISCIPLINE WAS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. HE NEVER GAVE HIMSELF A WEAKNESS. AT FIRST HE WAS INVOLVED IN FREE-FIGHTING. WHEN HE MOVED TO KHERSON, HE FIRST STARTED KARATE, THEN COMBAT SAMBO. HE LIKED IT VERY MUCH,” REMEMBERS VADYM MYKOLAYOVYCH.

Yevhen Berezovsky, participated in battles in the Bakhmut direction, near the village of Orikhovo-Vasylivka in the Donetsk region and near the village of Vozdvizhivka in the Zaporizhzhia region.

“THE GUYS WHO SERVED WITH THE SON IN THE SECURITY DEPARTMENT INITIALLY TOLD US THAT ZHENYA WAS DESTROYING FIGHTS. HE SAID HE WANTED TO TAKE REVENGE ON HIS ENEMIES FOR HAVING HIMSELF FOR LEAVING THEIR HOME. THE SON WAS NOT DESTROYING AWARDS. I REMEMBER HIM CALLING VIA VIDEO CONNECTION FROM THE COMBAT UNIT. HE SAID THAT EVERYTHING WOULD BE FINE AND HE AND THE GUYS WOULD DEFINITELY RETURN. HE WAS SO STRONG AND INTENSE,” SAYS THE FATHER.

Yevhen Berezovsky died on April 2, 2023 near the village of Orikhovo-Vasylivka, Donetsk region, during an assault on enemy positions. The defender received an explosive wound and waited 10 hours for evacuation. He died from significant blood loss.



BILY ARTHUR OLEKSIYOVYCH



Bily Artur Oleksiyovych, nickname Joker, was born on May 7, 1998 in the village of Yasna Polyana, Genichesky district, Kherson region. Later, the family moved to live in the village of Zmiivka, Beryslav district, where the boy received his education at a local secondary school. He served in military service in Mykolaiv on the frigate "Hetman Sahaidachny". On March 17, 2020, he signed a contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine, served in the 56th separate motorized infantry Mariupol brigade. Participant of the Joint Forces Operation in eastern Ukraine. Died on February 24, 2023 in the village of Berkhivka, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. Buried in the city of Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region. Awarded the Commander of the Joint Forces Order of the Cossack Cross, 3rd degree, and the Medal "For Service in Intelligence" (posthumously). At the time of writing, the family of the deceased was waiting for the signature of the President of Ukraine on the Decree on awarding Artur Bely with the Order "For Courage" 3rd degree (posthumously).

Artur Bely was the only child in the family. His mother raised him alone. She worked as a primary school teacher at a local school.

"ARTUR WAS RESTLESS FROM A CHILDHOOD, HE LOVED ANIMALS. HE HAD A PASSION FOR DRAWING, CONSTANTLY IMPROVED HIS SKILL IN IT. APPARENTLY, THESE ARE MY GENES. I LEAD THE FINE ARTS CLUB AT SCHOOL. I REMEMBER HIM ALWAYS CHEERFUL AND SMILING", - TELLS MOTHER YANCHIK MARYNA IVANIVNA.

According to her, Artur did tattoos for some time. After the end of his contract in the army, he dreamed of opening his own tattoo parlor. He was engaged in cycling and parkour.

In the ranks of the 56th separate motorized infantry Mariupol brigade, he was the commander of the first reconnaissance unit of the radio reconnaissance platoon reconnaissance company, had the rank of chief sergeant. He chose the

07.05.1998 – 24.02.2023

call sign Joker - the character liked him for his ability to think through actions in advance, and in cards it symbolized luck.

Artur Bily was a sniper-shooter, constantly improving his skills in this direction. In 2021, he trained with British soldiers in the village of Pisky in the Donetsk region. The instructors, impressed by his skills, offered to sign a contract with the British army, but Arthur's command did not give permission, saying: "Ukraine needs such skilled soldiers."

"THE GUYS REMEMBER ARTHUR AS CHEERFUL, QUICK AND SOCIAL. HE ALWAYS CAME TO HELP HIS FRIENDS. WHEN SOMEONE WAS WOUNDED, THEY ALWAYS CAME TOGETHER FOR TREATMENT," SAYS MARYNA IVANIVNA.

On February 24, 2022, Arthur Bily was found in Zhytomyr, where he was giving lectures to other servicemen.

"HE CONTACTED THE GUYS IN MARIUPOL AND THE COMMAND. THEY GATHERED UP, THEY WENT THERE TO HELP. HE WAS IN MARIUPOL FOR SOME TIME, THEY WERE TAKEN OUT. THEN HE WAS IN THE ZAPORIZHKY DIRECTION, ASKED FOR KHERSON. AND THEN HE WROTE THAT IT WAS ALL TO BAKHMUT. JUST FOR CHRISTMAS THEY WERE TRANSFERRED," THE MOTHER SAYS.

Artur was very worried that his family was staying in Zmiivka under daily Russian shelling. He planned to take his family to a safer place on his next vacation.

"He was given 5 days of leave. He wanted to come. I talked him out of it, because it was very dangerous for us. We were never destined to see each other again. On February 24, 2023, at 10 am, his last SMS came: "Everything is fine. We are working." At 12:30, my son died as a result of shelling," recalls Maryna Ivanovna.

Artur Bily died while performing a combat mission in the village of Berkhivka in the Donetsk region on the anniversary of the full-scale invasion. His fiancée informed Maryna Ivanovna about the death of her son: Artur and his beloved were going to get married, but, unfortunately, they did not have time.

The defender was buried a year and a half later in Kryvyi Rih in the Dnipropetrovsk region. Artur Bily was handed over by the Russian side in the process of exchanging the bodies of the deceased. On February 3, 2024, the family received the results of a DNA examination. "When I was informed about Artur's death, I immediately left Zmiivka for Kryvyi Rih. I contacted the command several times. They explained to me that they knew where he was, but that the territory was under the control of Russian troops," said the mother of the deceased.

Artur Bily was 24 years old. He is survived by his mother.



BODYK OLEKSII VITALIYOVYCH



Born on May 10, 1996 in the city of Kherson, Kherson region. Here he graduated from Kherson Gymnasium No. 3 and entered the Kherson Professional Shipbuilding Lyceum as a car mechanic. He then studied at the Kherson Higher Professional Commercial School as a cook. On May 11, 2023, he volunteered to join the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as part of the Special Operations Forces. He died on November 27, 2023 near the village of Mala Tokmachka, Polohivskiyi district, Zaporizhia region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the cemetery in the city of Khmelnytskyi, Khmelnytskyi region. Awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree, the Medal "For Courage" and a departmental award from the unit (posthumously). Oleksiy Bodyk was also posthumously awarded the title of "Honorary Citizen of the Khmelnytskyi City Territorial Community".

Oleksiy Bodyk was the youngest child in the family, had a brother Viktor and a sister Svitlana. The boy's mother was a housewife. She took care of the comfort in the house and the upbringing of the children. His father worked in various specialties: at a factory, then at a trolleybus depot. He took on any part-time job to provide the family with everything they needed.

"Lyosha was energetic and positive. He turned simple things into fun. For example, you could tell him: "Drink your coffee calmly". And he would put the glass on the floor, insert a straw and, standing on his hands, drink it upside down. Also, the son was fair, never staying away from a situation that he considered wrong. In particular, he could stand up for his grandmother on the bus without hesitation when someone refused to give up their seat or defend a person in a fight, even if the whole company was against one of them," says his mother, Iryna Mykhailivna.

She adds that since childhood, the children were extremely friendly with each other. They always stuck together, were each other's mountain. Over the years, their bond grew stronger. For Oleksiy, Viktor was an example to follow. In adulthood, the brothers worked together abroad for work, and later both went to

05/10/1996 – 11/27/2023

serve in the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He and his sister were similar in character. They seemed to be on the same wavelength, and their communication was distinguished by tenderness and laughter. Oleksiy affectionately called Svitlana “wafelka”, and she called him “khlebushek”.

Oleksiy Bodyk played sports, was a candidate for master of sports in trampoline jumping. In addition, he was fascinated by Japan: he knew a lot about this country and dreamed of visiting there someday. Another passion of the boy came in handy in the army. He loved weapons, especially knives: he could tell the characteristics and purpose of many types. And his skill in using a knife was highly appreciated by his comrades.

“A COMMANDER WAS DISTRIBUTING THE GUYS TO TASKS, AND WHEN OLEKSIY’S PARTNER ASKED FOR A THIRD IN THE GROUP, HE ANSWERED: “WHY DO YOU NEED SOMEONE ELSE, IF YOU HAVE A PRICE WITH A KNIFE,” - SHARES THE MOTHER.

Oleksiy Bodyk had golden hands. If he was interested in the work, he gave himself to it 100% and showed maximum results. For some time he was looking for himself, so he tried his hand at various professions: cook, builder, car mechanic. And everywhere he proved himself to be a good specialist.

In the first days of the full-scale invasion, Oleksiy and a friend helped the Ukrainian military on the Antonivskyi Bridge - they carried water, food, cigarettes. At the end of April 2022, Oleksiy took his sister and nephew from Kherson to Odessa. He planned to return, but the Russian military closed the city to entry. Then Oleksiy aspired to join the Armed Forces of Ukraine. However, the military enlistment offices refused him because of his age - at that time he was 25 years old.

After the liberation of Kherson, the man immediately came to his hometown. He got a job at a service station and actively volunteered - he repaired cars for the army for free.

In May 2023, as soon as Oleksiy Bodyk turned 27, he was mobilized to the Special Operations Forces. At first he was a driver, then a senior at arms (browist).

He had the rank of senior soldier and the call sign Price.

In order not to worry his relatives, the soldier did not share the details of his “work” (this is what the man called his service, - ed.). Only after his death did his comrades tell the family what a reliable and brave soldier Oleksiy was.

“ON SEPTEMBER 2, WE SAW EACH OTHER FOR THE LAST TIME. THE DAY BEFORE, LOSHA ARRIVED IN ODESSA AS A SURPRISE, AND IT COINCIDED THAT THE WHOLE FAMILY GATHERED THEN. VIKTOR WAS ALSO IN THE CITY ON VACATION. ON NOVEMBER 25, LYOSHA CALLED ME AT 9:30 PM TO COMMUNICATE. HE DID NOT HIDE THAT THE ALTITUDE WOULD BE DIFFICULT, BUT HE PROMISED TO RETURN AND CONTACT IN A FEW DAYS,” REMEMBERS IRINA MYKHAYLIVNA.

Oleksiy Bodyk died on November 27, 2023 near the village of Mala Tokmachka in the Zaporizhia direction. While carrying out a combat mission, their group came under mortar fire from the Russian army. Oleksiy was covering his comrades with machine gun fire, who were evacuating the wounded, thereby saving them. During the retreat, a shell exploded next to him, causing fatal injuries.

“Lyosha served in the Khmelnytskyi military unit, he really liked this city. He said that it was as small and green as Kherson, he felt at home. So we decided that this is where our son should be buried. We installed a concrete kitten on the grave. Because he adored cats, even in positions he would definitely take care of them,” says the mother.

An information banner with a portrait of Oleksiy Bodyk has been installed on the Alley of Heroes in the city of Khmelnytsky. The soldier was 27 years old. He is survived by his grandmother, father, mother, brother, sister and nephew.

“Every month, on the 27th, my husband and I go to see our son at the burial place. We cannot do otherwise... I think about him every day all these years. He is always with me in my heart and soul. I feel him, for me he is alive... And all our boys are alive as long as we remember them,” notes Iryna Mykhailivna.

BONDARENKO VITALIY OLEKSANDROVYCH



Bondarenko Vitaliy Oleksandrovych, call sign Tykhy, was born on September 23, 1999 in the village of Novopavlivka, Beryslavsky district, Kherson region. Having received a complete secondary education at a local school, he decided to work as a handyman and moved to Kherson. In December 2018, he went on conscription. In 2019 - 2021, he served under a contract in the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the ranks of the 43rd separate artillery brigade named after Hetman Taras Tryasyl. Participant of the Joint Forces Operation in the territory of Donetsk region. Since September 2022, he has served in the 17th separate heavy mechanized Kryvyi Rih brigade named after Kostyantyn Pestushko. He died on August 2, 2023 during hostilities near the village of Ivanovske, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. Buried in the village of Novopavlivka, Kherson region.

Vitaliy Bondarenko was the sixth of eight children in a large and friendly family. He had three more brothers and four sisters. The boy was the second oldest among them. His father worked as a tractor driver, his mother was a housewife.

"IT WAS HARD FOR HIS MOTHER, BUT THEY COULD. VITALIY WAS A SUPPORT FOR HIS MOTHER. HE HELPED THE FAMILY A LOT," OLEKSANDR'S WIFE SAYS.

According to the woman, her husband was very independent since childhood. He was distinguished by his principles, always kept his word. The boy was responsible for his studies.

Oleksandra met her lover in 2017 in Kherson. The young man was her mother's colleague.

"HE WAS A POSITIVE PERSON. HE NEVER SEEN SORROW IN HIS EYES. HE CHARGED EVERYONE AROUND WITH HIS MOOD AND ENERGY. EVEN HIS BROTHERS TOLD THAT IN SERVICE, DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE WAR, VITALIK KEPT HIS PRESENCE OF SPIRIT. HE SMILED AND ENCOURAGED OTHERS," REMEMBERS OLEKSANDRA.

09/23/1999 – 08/02/2023

After completing his military service, he signed a contract and participated in the Joint Forces Operation in the ranks of the 43rd Separate Artillery Brigade.

“I DIDN’T KNOW THAT HE TAKE PART IN THE COMBAT. HE DIDN’T EVEN SAY THAT HE WAS WOUNDED. IT WAS ONLY WHEN THE FULL-SCALE INVASION BEGAN THAT HE TOLD ME EVERYTHING. HE DIDN’T WANT HIS FAMILY TO SUFFER,” SAYS THE WIFE.

Later, Vitaliy and Oleksandra got married, and in 2020 their son Kyrylo appeared in the family. The husband was very happy about the baby. He tried to call from the service via video call as often as possible, and on vacation he didn’t let his son out of his hands.

“THIS IS HIS FIRST CHILD. I GET GOOSEBUMPS ALL OVER MY BODY WHEN I REMEMBER HOW MUCH MY HUSBAND LOVED HIM. IN GENERAL, HE TREATED CHILDREN WELL. FROM THE TIME WE MET, MY LITTLE BROTHER SAID HE WOULD NOT LET THEM OFFEND ME, SOMETIMES HE WOULD MAKE CHILDREN’S FUNNY ACTORS, AND VITALIK ENDURED AND LAUGHED”, - HE TALKS ABOUT HIS BELOVED OLEKSANDR.

The family loved to spend time together, go out into nature, and walk in the park. Vitaliy retained his childhood passion for football into adulthood. Even at work, he organized a team with his brothers and sisters and played football and volleyball in his free time.

In 2018, the family moved to Bila Krynytsia, in the Kherson region. That's where they found themselves in a full-scale invasion in 2022.

Having left with his family for Kryvyi Rih, Vitaliy Bondarenko joined the 17th separate heavy mechanized brigade. He was a junior sergeant, commander of a machine-gun platoon. He did not inform his family of his decision.

“He said he could not be aloof: ‘My child is growing up. How will I look her in the eyes if I hide,’” his wife recalls.

Vitaliy fought in the Kherson direction, participated in the liberation of Kherson. He often recalled November 2022, showed his beloved photos and videos from her hometown.

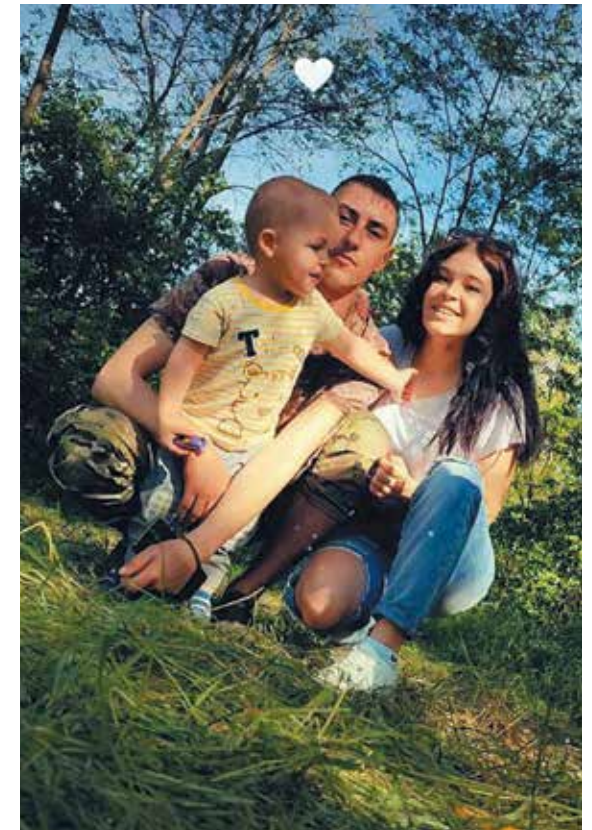
“I saw many people with flags, everyone was hugging, kissing. There was just a storm of emotions and happiness in these people and in the liberators,” says Oleksandra.

Vitaliy Bondarenko died on August 2, 2023 near the village of Ivanovske in the Donetsk region, receiving injuries incompatible with life. The last time Oleksandra spoke with her beloved was seven days before his death, when he was going on a combat mission. Worried, the woman contacted her husband's brother and learned that he was no longer there.

“If I die, take me by the way you love,” Vitaliy said to his brother Vlad before leaving.

Vitaliy Bondarenko was buried in Novopavlivka in the Kherson region. He was 23 years old. He is survived by his parents, three brothers, four sisters, his wife and son.

“My son and I often remember dad. Kyryusha says: “Dad protects you and me from the sky. I want to become an astronaut to fly to him,” Oleksandra shared.



BORYSENKO DMYTRO ANATOLIYOVYCH



Borysenko Dmytro Anatoliyovych was born on September 29, 1981 in the village of Shchaslyvtsevo, Genichesky district, Kherson region. After 11 grades of secondary school, he entered the Simferopol Cooperative Trade and Economics College, studying to be a commodity expert-customs officer. Later, he received a higher education in the same specialty in absentia at the Poltava University of Economics and Trade, later received a second higher education at the KhDA-EU at the Faculty of Fisheries and Environmental Management. He worked in supermarkets, then, due to historical events in the country, he decided to combine his life with military affairs. After the start of the full-scale invasion, he defended Ukraine as part of the 110th brigade of the TRO. He died on July 2, 2023 near the settlement of Uspenivka, Zaporizhia region.

Dmitry's childhood was spent in a warm family, where, despite the parents' busy schedules, family comfort and love always reigned. Father Anatoly Alekseevich worked as a welder, and mother Iryna Nikolaevna - as an accountant in the village council. The boy grew up with his sister Alexandra, who was 9 years younger than him, whom he always took care of.

Dmitry graduated from 11 grades of the Shchaslyvtsevskaya comprehensive school, continued his studies at Simferopol College, received his first higher education in Poltava, and his second - in Kherson.

- My son had many hobbies. He loved nature, water, he was very concerned about ecology. When he went to the sea to walk with his dogs, he always collected garbage on the coast. I used to scold him, saying: "What are you collecting there, are you bringing it home?", - says mother Iryna Nikolaevna.

This attention to nature was combined with a deep interest in history. Dmytro was also interested in religion, reading the Bible and the Koran. His passion for archeology led to an unexpected discovery: in Shchaslyvtsevo he found a ravine, reported it to the village head, after which archaeologists arrived to conduct a study of the find. Dmytro took an active part in the excavations, maintained contact with the Kherson Museum of Local Lore.

09/29/1981 – 07/02/2023

Dmytro found his personal happiness in Simferopol, got married, and in 2005 his daughter Kateryna was born. Until 2014, he lived and worked in Crimea. The annexation of the peninsula was a turning point. Dmytro resisted the occupation, stood at rallies and near military units occupied by the invaders.

- When it all started, my son and his like-minded people tried to resist. And immediately after the so-called "referendum" he decided to return to the Kherson region with his family because he did not agree with the way events were developing in Crimea, - recalls the mother.

At home, Dmytro tried to join the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, but the military enlistment office refused him because his documents remained in Crimea. The only one who volunteered to accept him was the Ukrainian Volunteer Corps. So in early May, Dmytro went to Kakhovka, where he joined the Ukrainian Volunteer Corps "Right Sector". In the summer of 2014, after training in Desna, he fought in Pisky as a machine gunner, later in the Maryinka area. During this period, he even sold his two motorcycles to financially help the Ukrainian military.

Later, he returned home, but not for long. Realizing that the war was not over, he signed his first three-year contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine, fought as a machine gunner in the 57th separate motorized infantry brigade. Between military contracts, Dmitry managed to pay attention to his family - he took his daughter Kateryna to Lviv and Zaporizhia, where they visited numerous museums together.

On the eve of the full-scale invasion, after another training exercise, Dmitry returned home to Shchaslyvtsevo. He was already confident in the inevitability of a big war.

- He had long said that there would be a full-scale war. He said that it would be difficult to fight here, because the terrain is open, everything is as if in the palm of your hand, - says Iryna Mykolaivna.

On February 24, 2022, his words became reality. In the morning, when the enemy troops were already close, Dmitry got ready to set off. In Henichesk, near an empty military registration and enlistment office, he met three more guys. The four of them, in a "Niva" car, on dirt roads, they broke through to Melitopol, not meeting Ukrainian soldiers, they drove further, to Zaporizhia. Here he was

accepted into the ranks of the 110th separate territorial defense brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

As part of this brigade, he fought in several directions, liberating the village of Malynivka (Zaporizhzhya region). Dmytro's parents remained under occupation in Shchaslyvtsevo, and communication took place only through his sister Oleksandra, who left with her family for the controlled territory. At first, Dmytro fought as a machine gunner and scout. In the fall of 2022, he was seriously wounded in the area of Velyka Novoselka. Then, during a raid, their group collided with tanks. Dmitry was wounded in the shoulder, arm and head, but despite the pain, he saved his comrade Alexei. After treatment, he returned to the front line.

In the last period of his service, he was the commander of the strike unmanned aerial systems unit of the 110th separate territorial defense brigade. A few weeks before his death, he was awarded for the successful completion of a combat mission, when his unit destroyed four enemy tanks. Dmytro's life was cut short on July 2, 2023 - he died from wounds received while performing a combat mission near the settlement of Uspenivka, Zaporizhzhia region. The seriously wounded Dmytro was taken to the regional clinical hospital of the city of Zaporizhzhia, where he died.

The farewell to Dmytro took place in Zaporizhzhia on the ninth day after his death. His mother traveled from the occupation through Europe for a week to say goodbye to her son.

Dmytro was awarded posthumously and during his lifetime: the Order "For Courage" III degree (posthumously), the honorary distinction of the commander of the operational group of troops "Zaporizhzhia", the honorary breastplate of the Chief of the General Staff - Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine "For Exemplary Service" III degree, the distinction of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine "For Wounds".

In accordance with Dmitry's last will, he was cremated. His will was to scatter his ashes on a mound near Shchaslyvtsevo, where he had once participated in archaeological excavations. While his native village remains under occupation, his ashes travel with his family, awaiting the moment when his will will be fulfilled on the liberated land.

VOZNYUK DMYTRO VOLODYMYROVYCH



Born on July 8, 1984 in the village of Romashkove, Kherson district, Kherson region. After graduating from Dnipro secondary school, he studied at the State Educational Institution "Belozersky Vocational and Technical School No. 6" as a driver of motor vehicles and a mechanic for the repair of wheeled vehicles. In May 2022, he was mobilized to the 94th Border Detachment of the State Border Service of Ukraine. He died on September 12, 2023 in the village of Andriyivka, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. Buried on the Alley of Glory in the village of Bilozerka, Kherson district, Kherson region. Awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously). Relatives initiated a petition to award the title "Hero of Ukraine" to Dmytro Voznyuk (posthumously). It received the required number of votes and is currently under consideration.

Dmitry Voznyuk was the eldest child in the family, he had a brother Yevhen who was four years younger. The children grew up in an atmosphere of love, care and mutual support. The boy's parents worked all their lives at the Municipal Enterprise Agricultural Firm-Soviet Farm "Bilozersky", which is located in the neighboring village of Dniprovske. His mother was a handyman, his father was a driver.

"Dima was always the support for the whole family. He had great respect for his parents and an extremely good attitude towards his brother. Over the years, this bond only strengthened. The man never left his relatives without support: he helped both physically and financially, and was there when needed," says Dmitry's wife Lyudmila. Dmitry Voznyuk was calm, attentive, and sensible since childhood. He studied well at school, and devoted all his free time to cars. This hobby was passed down to him from his father, who skillfully coped with the repair and management of any equipment. In the end, it became Dmitry's life's work – he became a driver, like his dad.

Having received a professional education, the man immediately began working in his specialty, constantly improving his qualifications and opening new categories. In particular, in different years he had a motorcycle, a passenger car

08.07.1984 – 12.09.2023

and a truck. It was his favorite job that gave Dmitry a meeting with his future wife. This happened during another business trip, when his husband worked on KAMAZ trucks, transporting grain. At that time, Lyudmila was finishing 11th grade. The husband waited for her to enter the university and suggested that they meet. A year later, in 2010, the couple got married. The marriage gave birth to two children: a son, Vladislav, and a daughter, Valeria. The young family settled in Dmitry's native village of Romashkove.

“DIMA LOVED ME AND THE CHILDREN UNLIMITEDLY. FOR HIM, WE WERE EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD: HE DID NOT HOLD A SOUL IN THE CHILD AND VERY HIGHLY VALUED OUR RELATIONSHIP. THE MAN WAS KIND, SINCERE, SENSITIVE. DESPITE HIS INCREASED BUSYNESS AT WORK, WE FOUND TIME TO BE TOGETHER. EVENINGS ON HOLIDAYS, TRIPS TO THE SEA IN THE SUMMER, WALKS WITH FRIENDS - GRADUALLY BECAME OUR LITTLE TRADITIONS, MOMENTS OF UNITY AND CLOSENESS”, - REMEMBERS THE WIFE.

Lyudmila adds that their children are different in features, but each carries a piece of Dmitry within them. Son Vladyslav, like his father, has a calm, balanced and restrained character. But daughter Valeria is active and energetic, but from an early age she was drawn to technology: she rode with her father in any car and watched him during various repair works.

The full-scale invasion found the family apart - Dmitry was on a business trip in the Vinnytsia region. Together with his colleagues, he traveled home for five days along dirt roads, avoiding checkpoints and shelling. After several months of temporary Russian occupation, the family left for the controlled territory of Ukraine - the city of Dubno, Rivne region.

On May 20, 2022, Dmytro Voznyuk was drafted into the 94th border detachment of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, had the rank of senior soldier and the call sign Melkiy, which he received because of his short stature - up to 1.60 meters. The soldier served on the borders of Chernihiv, Zhytomyr and Sumy regions.

He also had rotations to the front, carried out combat missions in the Bakhmut direction.

“Dima was an example of responsibility and courage. During his service, even in the hottest spots, when others could not go, he said: “I will go.” He never left his guys, supported and helped in everything. He was the soul of the company, had no conflicts with anyone, because he could find an approach to everyone. People were drawn to him - in friendship, in conversations, in joint affairs. They remember him as a brother only with warmth and respect,” says Lyudmila.

Dmitry was constantly in touch with his wife and parents, worried about them and missed them. The last time his family spoke with the soldier was on the day of his death. He called his friend on the phone in the morning and said that they were going to the positions. That day, according to his wife, Dmitry was not supposed to go on a mission, he volunteered to replace his sick brother.

“We saw each other often, because I went to him everywhere: both alone and with the children. Only we didn't get to Bakhmut. I remember how the children and I were standing at the train station in Kyiv, and he called and said: "Don't go, we are being shelled a lot." And I answered: “No, we will come.” Because the children and I wanted to see him not only via video call, but in person. Even in short meetings, we managed to talk and hug. Dad gave instructions to the children: to help and obey their mother, to be friendly. And the youngest one - to study well, the eldest - to be a support for the girls (Lyudmila and Valeria, - ed.) if something happens,” the wife shares.

Dmytro Voznyuk died on September 12, 2023 near the village of Andriyivka in the Donetsk region.

Information banners with portraits of Dmytro were installed on the Alley of Heroes in the village of Bilozerk and the Alley of Glory in the village of Vysoke in the Kherson region. The soldier was 39 years old. He is survived by his father, mother, brother, wife and two children.

"I have never met anyone who would give himself so sincerely and completely to his family. Dima was the best husband and the best father – and he will remain so for us forever," notes Lyudmila.

GALENKO ROMAN GENNADIYOVYCH



Galenko Roman Gennadiyovych was born in the city of Kherson, Kherson district, Kherson region. He studied at Kherson educational complex No. 56. He graduated from the Kherson Professional Shipbuilding Lyceum (formerly Vocational and Technical School No. 1 of the Kherson Combine Plant named after G.I. Petrovsky), majoring in gas welding. In 2023, he joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He served in the 35th separate marine brigade with the rank of senior sailor. He held the position of rifleman-medic of the landing and assault detachment of the platoon of the landing and assault company of the marine battalion of the military unit A0216. He defended the country in several directions - Donetsk and Kherson. Died on November 21, 2023 as a result of being hit by an enemy guided air bomb while performing a combat mission on the left bank of the Kherson region, near the village of Krynki. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the Geologists' Cemetery in Kherson.

Roman Gennadiyovych was the firstborn of the Galenko couple. His father Gennadiy Volodymyrovych worked at the Kherson Specialized Motor Transport Enterprise - 21062, and his mother, Natalya Mykolaivna, is still a doctor at the Kherson Regional Anti-Tuberculosis Dispensary. As a child, the future defender adored animals, so he had pets and took responsible care of them. And his relatives call his kindness and willingness to come to the rescue, perhaps, as his most important quality. In addition, the guy did not like conflicts, so in any situation he knew how to find a compromise and solve everything peacefully.

During his school years, Roman loved physical education lessons, and therefore he gladly joined various competitions and was engaged in sports sections at school. When his younger sister Anastasia was born, he helped his parents take care of her, and was a caring and reliable brother.

Having received a basic secondary education, the boy entered the shipbuilding lyceum, where he mastered the profession of a gas welder. However, in the future, he connected his work with the sphere of trade. But before starting work, the

12.12.1987 - 21.11.2023

man went to military service, which he served at the Zhytomyr Military Institute named after S.P. Korolev in the reconnaissance troops. After that, he returned to Kherson and got a job in the sphere of trade - as a sales manager in a building materials store. He decided to change jobs a little later, when he learned about the opportunity to work and gain new experience abroad. So Roman ended up in Germany, and later in Belgium, where he learned to install windmills. The man liked this format of work, and the opportunity to travel and see interesting places and picturesque corners of Europe was quite motivating. But a few years before the full-scale invasion, he did return to Kherson and his usual work. It was then that Roman met his civil wife Natalia and started a family. Later, in occupied Kherson, the couple had a daughter, Arina. At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, the man decided that he would stay in the city. But after waiting for liberation, he took his family to a safer area, and he himself went to the front. Previously, Roman underwent basic military training in the city of Rivne, after which he was sent to perform combat duty in the Donetsk region. In particular, he was in positions near Maryinka and Krasnohorivka. Later, the defender and his comrades were redeployed to the south. Despite the fact that the base was determined near Mykolaiv, Roman performed the following combat missions in the Kherson region.

The defender was one of the first to cross the river to the enemy-occupied left bank of the Kherson region and reached the outskirts of the village of Kryнки. However, this mission was the man's last. Then the occupiers met our defenders with fire resistance, during which the soldier died as a result of being hit by a guided aerial bomb.

Roman's brothers managed to return his body to his native Kherson. He is survived by his parents, civil wife, daughter, sister and two nephews.



HLADCHENKO EVHEN VIKTOROVYCH



Hladchenko Evhen Viktorovich, call sign Sponsor, was born on February 11, 1991 in the city of Kakhovka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. He studied at Kakhovka secondary school No. 4. He graduated from Novokakhovka electromechanical technical school, majoring in construction of electrical machines and devices. At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, he voluntarily joined the ranks of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He served as a junior sergeant in the 26th separate rifle battalion, commander of the 3rd rifle department of the 2nd rifle platoon of the 1st rifle company of military unit A4028. He died while performing combat duty on October 29, 2023 near the settlement of Stepove, Pokrovka district, Donetsk region. The defender was posthumously awarded the Order “For Courage” of the 3rd degree, awarded with the gratitude of the Kyiv City Territorial Center for Recruiting and Social Support for conscientious service to the Ukrainian people, exemplary performance of official duty and high professionalism, and the medal of the Kyiv City Council “Honor. Glory. State”.

A true patriot, a reliable comrade and a loving son – this is how Yevhen forever remained in the memory of his relatives, friends and brothers. His fate was not the easiest, but despite all the difficulties he remained a worthy person until his last breath. The future defender was born into an ordinary family of Kakhovka residents Olena Leontiivna Kamasieva and Viktor Yaroslavovich Gladchenko. When the boy was 7 years old, his father left the family, so his mother had to raise her son alone. Yevhen always tried to help her and was an obedient child. In addition, he was worried about his mother, so from an early age he learned to cook so that he could treat her to a delicious dinner at home after work. Olena Leontievna herself notes: “I am happy that I raised such a son. He was bright, sincere and reliable, had a wonderful sense of humor, always took care of everyone he loved. Next to Zhenya, you could feel the warmth and home comfort that is not there now. He had many friends in civilian life, among whom there are well-known personalities

11.02.1991 - 29.10.2023

in our country, in particular, his very good friend was the famous restaurateur and TV presenter Olechka Martynovskaya, there were no less comrades in the ranks of the defenders. Therefore, when he stood up for the defense of the country, all he asked was that if something happened to him, his friends would support me and not leave me alone. And so it turned out, they are all always in touch with me, fulfilling the will of a friend.”

AT SCHOOL, EVGEN STUDIED DILIGENTLY, INDEPENDENTLY DONE HIS HOMEWORK AND CONSTANTLY WANTED TO LEARN NEW KNOWLEDGE. FROM THE AGE OF 8, HE BEGAN TO BE INVOLVED IN JUDO. HE HAD MANY WINNING FIGHTS, AND THERE WERE MANY SPORTS AWARDS HANGING ON THE WALLS OF THE BOY'S ROOM. AND SO IT HAPPENED THAT THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE, EVGEN WAS EVERY TIME FORCED TO FIGHT FOR SOMETHING.

After graduating from 9 grades of school, he entered the Novokakhovskoye Electromechanical Technical School, but he did not limit himself to one study. In parallel, from the age of 16, the young man worked part-time at a construction site in order to have his own money and at least help his mother a little. Having received a specialty, he moved to the Ukrainian capital with his girlfriend Irina, where, thanks to his sociability, he got a job on the very first day and found a place to live together. However, after some time, the couple broke up. Yevhen loved Irina very much, so he was alone for a long time. Later, he met a girl to whom he could not remain indifferent - a participant in the Ukrainian reality show “MasterChef. Professionals” Stella Klymenko. But then the man found out that his Irina had fallen ill with a serious illness and decided to help her with treatment in any way he could. When the COVID-19 pandemic swept the country and the world, Yevhen returned to Kakhovka, worked and donated his earnings to save his ex. Stella was not left out either. She supported her husband, so she also helped Irina. But fate decided otherwise. The disease did overcome Irina, and Stella also died suddenly. Yevgen was left alone again.

The trials did not end there, a full-scale invasion began. And although Yevgen had the opportunity to choose a different path, being a patriot of his state, in early March 2022 the man stood up for the defense of the country. As part of the 26th separate rifle battalion, the junior sergeant, commander of the 3rd rifle detachment of the 2nd rifle platoon of the 1st rifle company of military unit A4028, went to the Donetsk direction. The defender had inherent leadership qualities, so he quickly gained the favor and respect of his comrades. They still send Elena Leontievna thanks on every anniversary of his death for raising Yevgeny just like that.

“Zhenya was a wise and fair commander. He helped everyone, and there were no things that would bypass him. Thank you for such a son. Zhenya fed the guys in the positions and took care of those who worked. That is why we chose him as the main one among us and helped him in everything. I am glad that I was acquainted with such an incredibly bright person. I took a lot from Zhenya, he was wonderful,” – a brother with the call sign Fellini. Yevhen received the Sponsorship Call Sign because he always knew how to provide his unit with everything he needed. His relatives and friends in the rear always came to help him with this. It doesn't matter if he needed food or an evacuation car. Moreover, the man planted potatoes right on the position, which he grew and then cooked for the guys.

When Yevhen received leave, he went to Barcelona. At this time, he started talking to a girl again and, having returned, went to the front again. As it turned out later, this was his last trip and the last meeting with his mother and friends. After all, on October 29, 2023, the defender died while performing a combat mission near the village of Stepove, Pokrovsky district, Donetsk region. He was buried in Kyiv, on the Alley of Glory of the Lukyanivsky cemetery. He is survived by his mother, grandmother, friends and brothers.

In memory of her son, Olena Leontiyevna planted a tree in one of the squares of Kyiv and painted his portrait, which, together with the commemorative exhibition in honor of the fallen Heroes, has been exhibited in many cities of our country since August 24 of this year. Artist Galina Batyushyna also painted Yevgeny's portrait. He is survived by his mother, grandmother, friends, and girlfriend.

MAKSYM OLEGOVICH GOLUB



Golub Maksym Olegovich was born on April 14, 2000 in the village of Stoykan in the Republic of Moldova. In the same year, he moved to Ukraine with his mother to the village of Tomina Balka, Kherson district, Kherson region. After receiving his education at a local school, he entered the Belozersky vocational and technical school No. 6 as an “auto mechanic, mechanic”. He worked as a handyman. At the age of 19, he signed a contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine, served in the 36th separate marine brigade named after Rear Admiral Mykhailo Bilinsky. Participant of the Joint Forces Operation in eastern Ukraine. Died on March 21, 2022 in Mariupol, Donetsk region. He is buried in the same city. Awarded the Order of Courage, III degree (posthumously).

Maksym Golub was the only son of Larisa Anatolyivna. When he was three months old, she left Moldova with him for Ukraine. Despite the fact that the woman was raising her son without his biological father, together with his stepfather, the family had a warm, supportive relationship. The boy considered his husband to be his father.

“WE LOVED HOLIDAYS AS A FAMILY, WE VISITED HIM IN THE ARMY WHEN WE COULD; WE SUPPORTED HIM IN HIS STUDIES. WE HAD A FRIENDLY FAMILY,” REMEMBERS LARISA ANATOLIEVNA.

Maxim was calm and hardworking, loved to joke. According to his mother, the boy was the soul of the company, generous and very hospitable.

“So cheerful and blue-eyed, very kind. He was known and loved in every village,” the woman recalls.

After receiving his education, Maksym Golub worked as a handyman for some time. Then he signed a contract with the 36th separate marine brigade, served as a sailor-gunner. He participated in hostilities in the Donetsk region for 11 months during the Joint Forces Operation. After training in the Kyiv region, he passed a psychological obstacle course and received a marine storm beret.

04/14/2000 – 03/21/2022

“MAKSYM WAS VERY CHEERFUL AND SOCIAL, THE “STARTER” IN THE COMPANY. HE FOUND A COMMON LANGUAGE WITH SMALL CHILDREN WELL, HE LOVED TO PLAY FOOTBALL,” REMEMBERS HIS MOTHER.

Maksym Holub was transferred to Mariupol in December 2021. He tried not to tell his mother about the service and the fighting, so that she would not worry.

The last time Larisa Anatolyivna heard her son's voice was on March 3, 2022. Then he sent greetings through his brothers, because there was no communication in Mariupol.

"ON THE 24TH, MAKSIM CALLED, SAID: 'TAKE THE CHILDREN, GRANDMA, TAKE ALL THE MONEY AND HIDE.' LATER HE CALLED, ASKING TO SEND SOME MONEY SO THAT THEY AND THE GUYS COULD GET SOME FOOD AND WATER. THE SUPPLIES WERE NO LONGER ARRIVING. THEY DRANK WATER FROM PUDDLES. THEY KEEPPED THE DEFENSE IN THE PORT," THE MOTHER SAYS.

Maksym Holub died on March 21, 2022 in Mariupol as a result of an air bomb. The young man was trying to pull his wounded comrade from the battlefield when a fragment hit him in the head.

“While in Mariupol, he called me and said: “Mom, they (Russian military, ed.) are killing our children! We will not take them prisoner!” The guys told me that he was a hero. He carried out a lot of wounded people,” recalls Larisa Anatoliyevna.

Maksym Holub was 21 years old. According to information that his relatives received from his combat comrades, the young man was buried in Mariupol. The guy dreamed of getting married and starting a family, he had a fiancée. The fallen defender is survived by his mother, grandmother, and stepfather.

“When I remember Maksym, I see him walking home through the garden. When he came from Mykolaiv, when we met, we always fooled around, "boxed", made each other laugh. I had a cheerful son," the mother shared.



HUTSAL YURIY VOLODYMYROVYCH



Hutsal Yuriy Volodymyrovych was born in the village of Novovoskresenske, Berislavsky district, Kherson region. He studied at Novovoskresensk secondary school of grades I-III. He received his professional education at the Arkhangelsk school (now the Arkhangelsk professional agricultural lyceum) as a tractor-combine driver. He defended the state in the Donetsk direction (Kurdyumivka settlement) as part of the 28th separate mechanized brigade named after the Knights of the Winter Campaign. He held the position of rifleman-medical of the mechanized detachment of the mechanized platoon of the mechanized company of the mechanized battalion of military unit No. A0666. He died on November 27, 2023 near the settlement of Kurdyumivka, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. Buried in the local cemetery of the village of Novovoskresenske.

Yuriy was born in the picturesque village of Novovoskresenske in the south of the Kherson region into a family of hardworking peasants. His parents, Gutsal Volodymyr Pavlovich and Natalia Kirillovna, were employees of the local collective farm for many years. So while his parents were at work, together with his older sister Anna, the future defender often helped adults with the household chores. His mother remembers her son with tears in her eyes and at the same time with extraordinary warmth: “Yura was a good son, a kind child, always cheerful, sociable and persistent. So it is not surprising that with such a positive nature he had many friends, to whom he was always ready to lend a shoulder of help and support. I miss his sincere smile and our heartfelt conversations so much.”

The boy studied mediocreatly at school. Like all his peers, he loved playing football and physical education lessons. In addition, he adored biology lessons. He was interested in entomology, the science that studies insects. He even collected his own collection of beetles and individual insects native to the south of Ukraine. However, in his later years, Yuriy became interested in technology and transport. The young man gradually mastered the basic knowledge of repairing bicycles,

05/13/1984 - 11/27/2023

motorcycles and cars, which he then repaired himself. This helped him quickly decide on his future profession. After all, after school, he decided to become a tractor-combine driver.

Having received a professional education, Yuriy moved to Kherson. There he got a job at one of the car service stations, and later at the limited liability company “ATB-market” as a freight forwarder. But later the man got the opportunity to work in construction. For this he had to go to neighboring Odessa. Yes, along with the change of work and field of activity, other changes took place in his life. In particular, it was in the new city for him that Yuriy met his wife Anastasia, in marriage with whom his son Philip was born. At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, the man noted that if necessary, he would defend the state, even despite his health. After all, Yuriy did not serve in the military service, as he was considered unfit. Therefore, when in 2023 he was called up for military service under general mobilization, he boldly and decisively packed his things and went to basic military training. After that, the defender was sent to the Donetsk region, where near the village of Kurdyumivka, Yuriy died as a result of an enemy guided air bomb hitting the position where he was. The body of the deceased was returned home. He is survived by his parents, son, common-law wife, and sister, who still can't believe they lost their warrior forever.

“For me, he was the best brother, a person who sincerely supported me in difficult times. I could always count on him. He never refused anyone or anything. We tried to stay close, even though we were far apart. I still keep his correspondence. It's so dear to me... I read it, and it's as if we've talked to him. I miss our Yurko so much. I can't believe he's not with us,” says Anna, Yuriy's older sister.

To honor the memory of the defender, a banner with a portrait and information about him was installed on the Alley of Memory in the center of the village of Novovoskresenske.



DOLMATOV ILLYA OLEKSANDROVICH



Born on December 18, 1993 in the city of Kakhovka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. After graduating from Kakhovka secondary school No. 1, he studied at the Novokakhovka Instrument-Making Vocational College, majoring in “Computer Engineering”. After that, he entered the National University of Food Technologies, faculty of “Automation and Computer Systems”. In 2013, he interrupted his education due to participation in the Revolution of Dignity. Participant of the Maidan in the city of Kyiv. In 2014, he joined the “Volunteer Ukrainian Corps “Right Sector”. Participant of the Anti-Terrorist Operation in Eastern Ukraine. On February 25, 2022, he joined the forces of the Kyiv Regional Office. Over time, he was mobilized to the 3rd Separate Regiment of Special Operations Forces named after Prince Svyatoslav the Brave, then transferred to the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine. He was mortally wounded on August 30, 2023 in the territory of the Russian Federation. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the Forest Cemetery in Kyiv. Awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree, the award of the President of Ukraine "For the Defense of Ukraine", the award of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine "Steel Cross", the medal "For Courage" (during his lifetime) and the Order "For Courage" of the 2nd degree, the award of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine "Cross of Special Operations Forces", the medallion "Silver Wolf" - the symbol of the Special Operations Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (posthumously). The military man was also posthumously awarded the title "Hero of Ukraine" with the award of the Order "Gold Star".

Ilya Dolmatov grew up in a caring family circle, where he was the eldest child. He had younger siblings – a sister Valeria and a brother Gleb. Svetlana’s mother raised the children on her own and ran her own business, like an entrepreneur.

“Ilya had a deep and sincere connection with his mother – they were always best friends. An equally important role in Ilya’s life was played by his grandmother Galina

12/18/1993 – 08/30/2023

Nikolaevna and grandfather Gennady Pavlovich, who loved their grandson immensely, took care of him and supported him in everything,” says Ilya’s wife Oleksandra.

Ilya Dolmatov was a multifaceted personality from childhood, he loved to learn about this world in different areas. So the boy was constantly learning something new and rapidly developed in the chosen direction. This trait remained with him into adulthood. The man read a lot of books, collected music records, was interested in cooking, and was involved in active sports: cycling, motorcycling, and snowboarding.

The events of 2013 in Ukraine radically changed Ilya’s life path. He went to the Maidan in Kyiv and went through all the stages of the Revolution of Dignity with honor and courage, demonstrating his steadfast and dedicated civic position. It was during that period that fate gifted the man a meeting with his future wife, who also periodically joined the protests in the capital.

“Although we are both from the same city, we met via the Internet. At that time, I was studying in Crimea, and he was in Kyiv. Our first meeting was at McDonald’s on Khreshchatyk. It was true love. Ilya was an extraordinary man: wise, strong, cheerful, brave, sincere, and sensitive. Next to him, I always felt calm and warm, because I knew that he was my support, my protection, my love. Ilya was a true friend: he was respected and listened to, because his opinion had weight, and his heart was open to people,” Oleksandra shares.

In 2014, Ilya Dolmatov joined the “Right Sector” Ukrainian Volunteer Corps, participated in hostilities in the zone of the Anti-Terrorist Operation in eastern Ukraine. In particular, in the settlement of Pisky, he was at the “Sky” position, from which he adjusted artillery fire on Russian troops.

“Ilya was very patriotic, he could not stay away from what was happening in the country. Therefore, he decided to leave the university and join the fight for the independence of Ukraine. He said: “I have to make history,” his wife recalls. Returning to civilian life, Ilya spent three months working in Poland, then moved to Kyiv, where he found his place in the culinary business. He quickly made a career, working in various establishments. Colleagues said that he had a natural talent for cooking and saw him as a chef.

In November 2016, Ilya proposed to Alexandra, and in December of the same year they got married. The couple had many plans and dreams that were destroyed by a full-scale invasion.

Initially, Ilya Dolmatov joined the Territorial Defense Forces of Kyiv. Later, the man joined the Special Operations Forces, served as a senior operator. He had the rank of senior soldier and the call sign Batman, which he received because of his love for the actor who played in the film of the same name. The soldier carried out combat missions in the Chernihiv and Kyiv regions, including defending the city of Irpin, as well as in the Kharkiv, Donetsk and Kherson directions.

“Six months before his death, Ilya was transferred to the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine. We maintained constant contact and he did not say anything about the service, he considered war a man’s business and did not want to worry me again. I know that his comrades appreciated and trusted him. He was constantly offered to become the senior in the group, but Ilya refused. The last time we saw each other was on August 3, 2023, we communicated on August 5. Then the group went on an operation, which they carried out on Russian territory. They covered more than 600 kilometers and neutralized three TU-22 aircraft,” says Oleksandra.

Ilya did not return from this mission. On August 30, 2023, while leaving the territory of the Russian Federation, the group came under fire from Russian soldiers who ambushed Ukrainian fighters. Ilya Dolmatov was mortally wounded. The man was 29 years old. He is survived by his grandmother, mother, sister, brother and wife.

Ilya’s military path is partially described in the book “2024 kilometers. With native stars through hostile nights”. Authors: Eric Van Torn, Ostap Lazutchyk, Nora Shedow. Year of publication – 2025.

“Ilya was never afraid and was extremely motivated. He said: “I know where I’m going and why I’m doing this,” and also: “Until I liberate Kherson and Kakhovka, I won’t give up.” But he never de-occupied his hometown, nor did he see his grandmother, who was still there at the time. And after the Victory, Ilya wanted to become a sapper engineer and demine the country,” says his wife.

DENYS VIKTOROVYCH EZHKOV



Denys Viktorovich Ezhkov, nickname Joker, was born on May 7, 1996 in the city of Kherson, Kherson region. After studying for four years at a boarding school in the village of Lvov, Beryslav district, the boy returned to Kherson, where he received his education at comprehensive schools № 8 and № 33. After military service, he returned to Kherson. He worked as a handyman. In 2022, he joined the 63rd separate mechanized brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He died on April 2, 2023 near the urban-type settlement of Drobysheve, Kramatorsk district, Donetsk region. Buried in Kherson.

Denis Ezhkov was the youngest of four children in the family. When he was three years old, his father died, so his mother Larisa Mykhailivna raised them alone. To provide for the family, the woman worked at an oil refinery in Kherson. The eldest of the children, Iryna, took care of the youngest, Denis. When the boy was about to go to first grade, he and his sister were sent to study at a boarding school in the village of Lvov, in the Beryslav district. Four years later, the children returned to Kherson, where the boy finished 11 grades.

“THEY WERE VERY CLOSE WITH THE YOUNGEST SON. SOMEHOW IT CAME OUT THAT HE REPLACED THE FATHER. WE COULD TALK TO HIM ABOUT FOOTBALL AND PLANES, WE EVEN JOKINGLY ARGUED. DENIS FOLLOWED SHAKHTAR, AND I FOR DYNAMO. MY SON SHARED EVERYTHING WITH ME,” SAYS THE MOTHER, LARISA MYKOLAIVNA.

Denys had a talent for drawing since childhood, attended a relevant club, loved to play tank battles on the console.

Since childhood, Denis Yezhkov adored the sea, dreamed of traveling, and was especially fond of Turkey and its culture. After school, he was going to study to be an architect, but it didn't work out. After military service, he returned home and worked for a year at the Kiev-Pechersk Lavra.

07.05.1996 – 02.04.2023

“DENYS HAD A KIND HEART, HE WAS ALWAYS THE FIRST TO COME TO HELP. HE WAS VERY COURAGEOUS AND BRAVE, I CALLED HIM “BRAVE SPARROW”. WHEN I HAD CHILDREN, MY BROTHER TRYED TO DEVOTE ALL HIS FREE TIME TO THEM. THE CHILDREN LOVED THEIR UNCLE VERY MUCH,” SISTER IRYNA STEPANYUK REMEMBERS.

The young man tried to be an example for his godchildren in everything, did not smoke or drink alcohol. He was polite and responsible.

On February 24, 2022, Denis Yezhkov told his sister that he had completed his military service, so he was obliged to defend the country and went to the military registration and enlistment office. According to Iryna, his brother received a weapon and participated in the battle for Antonivskyi Bridge.

When Russian troops occupied Kherson, the man began volunteering at one of the Protestant churches: he delivered food and water to large families, lonely elderly people and the sick.

After the liberation of Kherson, Denis Yezhkov left for Odessa and joined the ranks of the 63rd separate mechanized brigade. Together with his unit, he fought in the Donetsk direction: he participated in the battles for Soledar and Kramatorsk. His mother and sister learned that he was at the front when the defender called them from the Donetsk region.

“THE BROTHERS REMEMBER THE SON AS CHEERFUL, KIND. HE EVEN HELPED THE PRIEST TO SAY MEMORIALS FOR THE FALLEN, BECAUSE BEFORE THE WAR HE ALMOST DIDN'T CONNECT HIS LIFE WITH THE CHURCH. AND THEY AND THE GUYS HAD A DOG. DENYS FOUND THIS DOG AND NAMED IT RED, AS THE TANK WAS NAMED IN THE POLISH FILM “FOUR TANKERS AND A DOG”. IT WAS HIS FURRY FRIEND. THEY DIED THERE ALL TOGETHER,” THE MOTHER SAYS.

The man never told his family where he was and what he was going through, so that they wouldn't worry.

“He once told me that there was no water in the positions and it was very cold, that he wanted to go home to his native, warm Kherson,” recalls Iryna Stepaniuk.

Soldier Denys Yezhkov died on April 2, 2023 near the settlement of Drobysheve, Kramatorsk district, Donetsk region.

“At 12 o'clock my brother sent his photo, and at 14 o'clock their car was blown up by a mine. The first car drove by quickly, and his crew was following and the mine went off,” the sister said.

The family learned about the defender's death two days later. The deceased was buried at the Geologists' Cemetery on the Alley of Glory in Kherson. He was 26 years old. Denis Yezhkov is survived by his mother, sister, and brother. His second older brother, Anton, was also a defender, and the soldier died of a heart attack in hospital in 2024.



ZHOGLO MYKOLA LEONIDOVYCH



Zhoglo Mykola Leonidovych, call sign Nikon, was born on August 12, 1974 in the village of Chaplynka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. He graduated from 9 classes of Chaplynka school No. 2, after which he received a specialty of tractor driver-mechanic at the Rural Polytechnic School No. 30 of Chaplynka village. He defended the state as part of the 23rd separate mechanized brigade (military unit A4741) as a combat vehicle mechanic-driver of the 3rd tank platoon of the 3rd tank company of the tank battalion. He took part in hostilities in the territory of Polohivskyi district of Zaporizhzhia region. Died on October 9, 2023 as a result of a mortal wound received while repelling enemy assault actions near the settlement of Robotyne, Polohivskyi district, Zaporizhzhia region. Buried at the local cemetery of the village of Bilozerka in the Kherson region. Posthumously awarded the honorary badge “Combatant's Cross” and the badge “Honor and Memory”. Mykola grew up in a large, friendly family of hardworking Chaplin residents. His father, Leonid Mykolaevich, was a tractor and combine operator, and his mother, Halyna Semenovna, was a good housewife. The boy sought to adopt the best from his parents, so he helped them and tried to learn all their lessons. Most of all, Mykola loved to go to work with his father, where the world of large agricultural machinery opened up for him. He could watch for hours how his father cultivated the field, mowed wheat, or repaired machinery. So it is not surprising that he chose this kind of work in the future.

At home, Mykola, together with his older sister Irina, helped his mother take care of the younger ones, Oleksiy and Vitalina. They remember their brother with warmth and sadness at the same time: “For me, he was the best brother. He loved me very much as the youngest, so he always protected me, treated me to goodies, and when I grew up, he took me to the sea. Even when I got married, Mykola always supported me with a kind word and gave wise advice. I miss him very much,” says his sister Vitalina.

08/12/1974 - 10/09/2023

Mykola studied mediocly at school, because his dreams were to work with machinery. After graduating from 9 grades, the young man entered the long-awaited training at SPTU No. 30, where he mastered the profession of a tractor operator. He was eager to start working in his specialty as soon as possible, so he gladly went to work at the local state farm, where he was even awarded several times for hard work. Later, Mykola was called up for military service, which he served in the Mykolaiv region. It was there that the man learned to work on an excavator, which also came in handy. Returning to Chaplynka, the future defender married for the first time. But, unfortunately, he failed to build a long married life. A few years later, his wife Svitlana became seriously ill and passed away. In the 90s, Mykola decided to move to the regional center - the city of Kherson, where he got a job and continued to work. Having recovered from the loss of Svitlana, the man met and began to communicate with a girl named Olena. Soon the couple got married and gave birth to a son, Oleg. But this marriage was also not successful. Soon the couple divorced. Mykola's third love smiled a little later. Then he came to work on the dismantling of a small shopping center in the village of Dudchany, Beryslavsky district, Kherson region. Having learned that specialists had arrived in the village who could help dig holes for the water supply, a woman named Valentina immediately asked for help. Thus began a relationship that finally grew into happy years of married life, because in 2012 the couple got married and moved to Belozerka, where they built a house together. It was there that they were when the full-scale invasion began. Under the conditions of occupation, Mykola could no longer work for the limited liability company "OLENTRANS", as well as be in the conditions of the occupation vacuum. Therefore, together with his wife, he left for the city of Kryvyi Rih, where he got a job at the joint-stock company "KryvorizhGaz". To earn money, Valentina temporarily went to work in Poland. It was then that the man began to look for opportunities to join the ranks of the Ukrainian army. He wanted to serve in one of the repair brigades. He told his wife that his skills in repairing

large equipment would be useful there. But due to his health, Mykola received refusals. But when Valentyna returned from abroad, the man did get what he wanted at the next medical commission. On March 3, 2023, Mykola joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, underwent training and ended up in the dream repair brigade. But soon he was transferred to the 23rd separate mechanized brigade. His comrades and the military leadership respected the defender for his high level of responsibility, discipline, and professional skills and abilities. He really liked everything to be perfect, even on the position. But, to his great regret, in October 2023, Mykola died. When his crew arrived at the position and reported on it, the connection suddenly disappeared. It was cut off by an enemy drone during the Russian assault. Now, fellow soldiers and relatives can only pay their respects to the soldier by visiting his grave at the Belozerka cemetery. A poster with the defender's portrait will also be placed on the Alley of Memory in Belozerka.

Mykola is survived by his wife, son, sisters, and brother.



ZAPORIZHETS ARTEM VALERIYOVYCH



Zaporizhets Artem Valeriyovych was born on July 20, 1989 in the village of Gvazda, Voronezh region, Russian Federation. But in his early years he lived with his family in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a few years later they moved to Kherson region - to the village of Gladkivka, Goloprstan district. He studied at school in this settlement, after which he entered Belozersky Vocational School No. 6, where he received a qualification as a locksmith-auto mechanic. He went to Russia to earn money, worked as a welder at a shipyard in Kherson, a logger at a forestry enterprise. In 2014, he first went to defend Ukraine from Russian aggression - he served in the 92nd brigade in the Kharkiv region. In 2022, he fought as a grenade launcher in the 411th rifle battalion. He died on July 1, 2023 near the village of Terny in the Donetsk region. He is buried in the village of Ulyanivka, Vinnytsia region.

Although Artem's birthplace is listed as the Russian Federation, his family did not live there - he spent his first years in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. When the boy was three years old, the family moved to the Kherson region to the village of Gladkivka. Artem's parents were working people: his mother initially worked in agriculture, and his father was a combine harvester. Artem had an older brother, Denis, and an older sister, Khrystyna. He studied at the Gladkivka comprehensive school, and after that he independently chose a working profession, entering Belozersk Vocational School No. 6 as a locksmith-auto mechanic. After graduating in 2006, he immediately began to travel to Russia to earn money in his specialty, working as a welder. Later, he worked briefly as an auto welder at a shipyard in Kherson.

- HE NEVER SIT AT HOME WITH HIS HANDS COVERED, - HANNA'S WIFE REMEMBERS HIS RESTLESS CHARACTER.

Artem was interested in cars, but his real outlet was fishing, says his wife about her husband's hobby. The story of their love began at a disco in 2008.

07/20/1989 – 07/01/2023

Despite the fact that Artem was constantly away, they kept in touch: he called, came to her in Kherson.

- WE MEET AND FELL IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER QUICKLY. ARTEM TOOK ALL MY PROBLEMS ON HIMSELF, JUST SOLVED EVERYTHING FOR ME, LIKE A REAL MAN. WE HAVE A SMALL DIFFERENCE IN AGE, BUT HE SOMEHOW IMMEDIATELY WAS MORE SERIOUS, HE PERCEIVED EVERYTHING AS AN ADULT, - SAYS HANNA.

They started living together in 2008, and on March 25, 2010 they got married. The Lord gave them two daughters: Evgenia and Veronika. Artem was the ideal father and husband for them.

- HE WAS VERY GOOD. THE CHILDREN LOVED HIM VERY MUCH. ARTEM WAS A REAL FATHER TO HIS GIRLS, - THE WIFE SHARES. - WE OFTEN WENT TO THE SEA TOGETHER, MET WITH FRIENDS, ARTEM WAS VERY SOCIAL AND OPEN.

In 2014, he received a summons and immediately went to defend Ukraine. He served in the 92nd Brigade from 2014 to 2015 in the Kharkiv region, near Kupyansk, was an APC driver. After returning home, he worked at the Gladkivka Forestry Farm. A full-scale invasion caught the family in the village of Gladkivka. They fell into occupation, where they stayed for seven long months. In August 2022, the family decided to leave. It was a risky journey, especially for Artem, as a former soldier. With the help of the village headman, they managed to arrange an evacuation flight. The family left for Vinnytsia region. There,

Artem immediately decided to go to the military registration and enlistment office.

- I simply understood that he would not be able to sit at home, understanding that other men had gone to defend their native land, - says Anna.

First there were trainings, then Artem was sent to the 411th Rifle Battalion. In Donetsk region, he participated in the battles for Lyman and Terny.

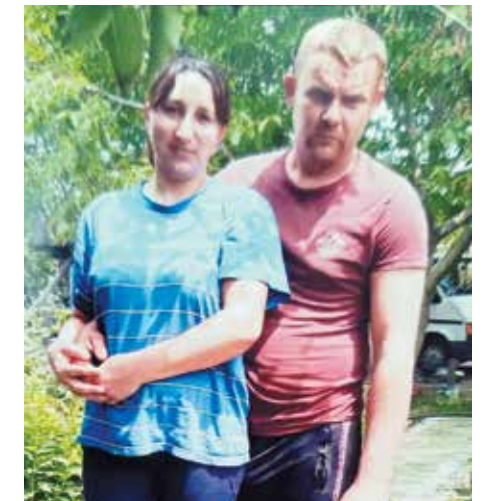
The last conversation between Anna and Artem took place on June 30, 2023. The very next day, July 1, 2023, the Hero's life was cut short.

- IT WAS THE "ARRIVAL" OF A MINE IN THEIR BULLDOG. AS SOON AS THEY SET UP THEIR POSITION, THERE WAS A "ARRIVAL" OF MINES, AND MY HUSBAND AND TWO MORE GUYS DIED THERE, - ANA TELLS.

Artem Zaporozhets was buried on July 7, 2023 in the village of Ulyanivka, Tulchyn district, Vinnytsia region.

For his family, he remained not just a soldier, but a true Hero and a loving father who fulfilled his duty to the end. The children, Yevheniya and Veronika, although they wished their father was around, are proud of him.

In memory of her husband, the wife visits his grave every month, on the first of every month, to preserve the memory of her beloved person, the Warrior, who could not sit idly by when his home and his country were in danger.



ZVONARIEV DANILO VALERIYOVYCH



Zvonariyev Danylo Valeriyovych was born on July 15, 1998 in the village of Chornobayivka, Kherson region. He first studied at the Chornobayivka sanatorium-comprehensive boarding school until the fifth grade, then transferred to Chornobayivka secondary school No. 1. After the ninth grade, he entered the Polytechnic College for a mechanical engineering specialty. He continued his studies at the Kherson Maritime College of the Fishing Industry. He worked in several companies, was engaged in sales. In August 2022, he went to defend Ukraine as part of the 79th separate airborne assault brigade. He died on July 23, 2023 near the city of Maryinka in the Donetsk region. Buried in Chornobayivka.

Danylo grew up in love, although not in a complete family - his mother, Iryna Nikolaevna, and father, Valery, managed to maintain warm and friendly relations for the sake of their son. Danylo's childhood was full of family traditions, among which a special place was given to meetings with his paternal family. The moment of his birth was significant, which his grandfather, according to his memories, called the appearance of an "heir". Aunt Victoria, his mother's sister, was for the boy both a second mother and a sister and a friend. Danylo also had an older half-sister Ira, a younger half-brother Igor, and another half-brother Sasha. Danylo also found a common language with his stepfather Igor - they built a good and warm relationship.

After the ninth grade, Danylo was looking for his own path – first he continued his studies at the Polytechnic College, then he entered the Kherson Marine College of the Fishing Industry, but he dropped out. Danylo was always more attracted to the humanities and philosophy, he read a lot.

- HIS SON CHOSEN A PATH SIMILAR TO HIS FATHER'S, – TRADE. HE WORKED AS A SALES REPRESENTATIVE IN THE "SHCHEDRO" COMPANY, WHERE HE HAD GREAT SUCCESS, OPENING EVEN THOSE RETAIL POINTS THAT WERE CONSIDERED HOPELESS. LATER HE SWITCHED INTO THE SPHERE OF PLUMBING EQUIPMENT SALES, WHERE HE ALSO DID GOOD, - IRINA MYKOLAEVNA TALKS ABOUT HER SON.

07/15/1998 – 07/23/2023

At the age of 19, Danylo began to live separately in Chornobayvka, in a house that his father built for him. When a full-scale war began in February 2022, Danylo moved from his home in Chornobayvka to his grandmother in Stepanivka, but he visited his mother every day. Later, they decided to leave the occupation. Danylo moved to Ternopil, where he got a job. There he was given a summons, at that time the guy was 23 years old. Although he could have refused to serve, he told his mother: "Mom, who will protect you if not me?"

- HE WANTED TO FIGHT IN THE KHERSON OR DONETS DIRECTIONS. AFTER HE GRADUATED, DANILO WAS JOINED IN THE 79TH SEPARATE AIRBORNE ASSAULT BRIGADE. HIS SON FIGHTED IN THE DONECHT REGION, WAS INVOLVED IN MINE DEPLOYMENT AND EVACUATION. HE OFTEN WENT BEHIND THE ENEMY, COVERING UP TO EIGHT KILOMETERS, INSTALLING STRIPES.

THE GUYS WHO SERVED WITH HIM SAID THAT HE HAD MANY DESTROYED ENEMIES AND SAVED BROTHERS WHOM HE CARRIED OUT OF THE BATTLEFIELD – BOTH ALIVE AND, UNFORTUNATELY, DEAD, - HIS MOTHER TELLS ABOUT DANILO'S SERVICE.

He had the rank of senior soldier and the position of senior sapper. In almost a year of service, Danylo had two vacations. During one of them, before the new year 2023, there was a short visit to Kherson to pick up and repaint his father's car for the needs of the unit. There was also an unscheduled vacation in July 2023. He arrived on the night of July 5 to visit his mother, who had injured her leg. And he drove one of the military vehicles that his father was repairing for repair. Then, on July 6, they went to the city together. During this visit, he talked to all his friends, as if he was in a hurry to say goodbye. On July 15, on his birthday,

Danylo congratulated his mother with a bouquet and went to visit friends in Odessa.

The last long conversation took place on July 19, 2023. Then Danylo first told his mother about the horrors of war.

On July 23, 2023, Danylo left for his last combat mission. Late that same evening, around 11 p.m., Irina Mykolaivna received a call from her son's brother.

- I TAKE THE PHONE AND THINK AT THIS MOMENT: "SOMETHING HAPPENED, BUT AT THE MOST, MAYBE HE WAS WOUNDED." THAT'S THE MOST I COULD THINK. AND HE TELL ME: "AUNT IRA, DANI IS NOT HERE, DANI IS DEAD." THEN I FIND OUT THAT DANILO HAD WENT ON A RECONNAISSANCE PATH WITH ANOTHER GROUP OF THREE MEN. WHEN THE MORTAR SHOOTING BEGAN, HE COVERED TWO BROTHERS WITH HIS BODY AND SAVED THEIR LIVES AT THE COST OF HIS OWN, - IRINA TELLS ABOUT HER SON'S FEELING.

The farewell to Danylo Zvonarev took place in Chornobayvka. Many of his brothers, friends, and acquaintances came to the funeral.

- THERE WERE SO MANY PEOPLE THAT WHEN I WATCHED THE VIDEOS AND PHOTOS, I UNDERSTAND HOW MANY PEOPLE CAME TO SAY FAREWELL TO THEIR SON, - IRINA SAYS.

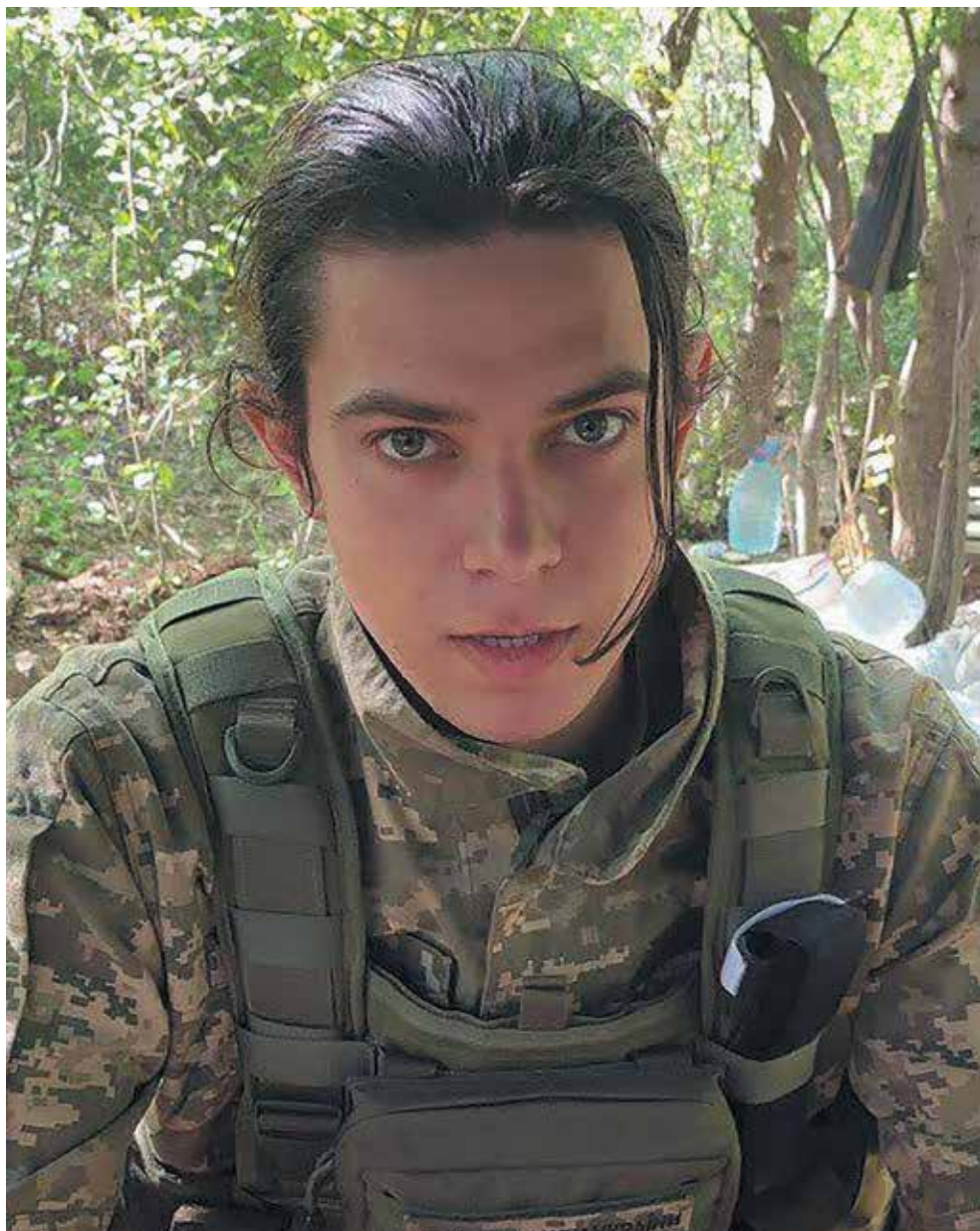
The memory of Danylo Zvonarev, who went to war to protect his family and sacrificed himself for his brothers, will remain forever in the hearts of his family and in the history of Ukraine. He became one of those who kept his promise, challenging fate.

On November 21, 2024, by Decree of the President of Ukraine

№556/2024, Danylo Zvonarev was awarded the title of Hero of Ukraine (posthumously) with the award of the Order of the Gold Star.



IGOSHIN ANTON YURIYOVYCH



Born on July 17, 1996 in the city of Kherson, Kherson region. After 9 grades of Kherson comprehensive school No. 24, he continued his studies at the Kherson Physical and Technical Lyceum, where he completed 11 grades. Then he entered the National University "Odessa Polytechnic" with a degree in "Computer Science", but interrupted his education due to work abroad. On February 25, 2022, he voluntarily joined the 123rd separate territorial defense brigade, which is deployed in the Mykolaiv region. He died on September 22, 2023 near the village of Dniprovske, Kherson district, Kherson region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the Geologists' Cemetery in Kherson. Awarded the badge "For Military Valor" (during his lifetime) and the distinction of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - the badge "Combatant's Cross" (posthumously).

Anton Igoshyn grew up in a loving family, where a warm atmosphere prevailed. He was the eldest son, had a younger brother Yegor. The boy's father worked in a mobile communications company, his mother was a specialist at the Khersongaz Joint Stock Company.

In Anton and Yegor's childhood, the parents divorced, but maintained good relations and continued to raise their children together, providing them with care, support, and stability.

"ANTOSHKA WAS THE SUN OF OUR FAMILY: SINCERE, BRIGHT, SENSITIVE. FROM THE VERY BIRTH HE WAS ACTIVE AND RESTLESS, AND ALSO EXTREMELY EMOTIONAL AND POSITIVE. I REMEMBER HOW IN CHILDHOOD I SAID TO HIM: "ARE YOU A SEWER?" AND HE ASKED: "AND WHERE IS A SEWER?" AND ZVINKO LAUGHED. ANTOSHKA WAS A MIRACLE WHO FILLED EVERY DAY WITH ENERGY AND JOY." IT'S NOT FOR NO REASON HIS LIFE MOTTO IS: "LIVE - HAVE A FUN!". IN THESE WORDS - THE WHOLE ESSENCE OF ANTOSHKA," TELLS HIS MOTHER OLGA GENNADIEVNA.

07/17/1996 – 09/22/2023

From the first grade, Anton Igoshyn began to engage in trampoline sports. This hobby quickly became an integral part of his life. For the boy, training was not just a means of physical development, but also a form of self-expression. Thanks to his perseverance, discipline and constant desire for improvement, Anton received the title of “Master of Sports of Ukraine” in trampoline jumping. His high level of skill and successes did not go unnoticed - the athlete was talked about in professional circles. And he himself repeatedly represented his city and his country at competitions of various levels, winning prizes.

At the age of 18, Anton Igoshyn decided to temporarily leave the university and go to work as a circus artist. Together with the troupe, he visited many countries, including China, Israel, and Australia. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the boy returned home and found himself in a new field - visual art. He began to photograph, shoot and edit videos. Anton's plans were to finally settle in Kyiv, where he already lived, and to connect his life with creativity.

“THE SON WAS A CREATOR AND EXPERIMENTATOR, HE KNEW HOW TO FIND BEAUTY IN THE LITTLE THINGS. FOR EXAMPLE, HE LOVED SHOOTING SUNRISES. ANTON'S PROJECTS CLEARLY SHOWED THAT HE HAD FOUND HIS CALLING. AND ALTHOUGH THE SON HAD A LOT OF ORDERS, HE CONTINUED TO DEVELOP: HE PURCHASED EQUIPMENT, TAKE COURSES. BUT HE WAS ALWAYS LIKE THIS: IF HE HAD A GOAL, HE ACHIEVED IT WITH MAXIMUM RESULTS,” SHARES MOTHER.

In addition, Anton kept diaries, wrote poems and dreamed of creating children's books. He even managed to publish an author's book for children in English abroad. It tells about the adventures of an astronaut who is looking for housing on other planets.

A full-scale war found Anton Igoshin in Kherson. On the same day, his father took him and his brother Yegor to Mykolaiv. The next day, February 25,

2025, Anton, together with his father and half-brother Konstantin, volunteered to join the ranks of the local 123rd separate territorial defense brigade. Later, Anton transferred to the special aerial reconnaissance unit, where he served as a UAV operator. He had the rank of soldier and the call sign Multik. He participated in combat operations in the Mykolaiv and Kherson directions.

“So much has happened this year... I would never have thought that I would find myself in this environment, especially that I would be able to find my place in it. I feel immense gratitude every day and for every day. I am happy and full of life. I am young. Love lives in me. I am ready to move forward, work and show results. And there is still a lot I want to try and achieve. And all this has a place in the next, big and informative chapter. And this one was wonderful... I know that I am following my own path. I wonder what awaits me next,” wrote Anton on his 27th birthday on his page on the social network. Anton Igoshyn was mortally wounded on September 22, 2023 near the village of Dniprovske in the Kherson region. The military man was 27 years old. He is survived by his father, mother, brother Yegor, half-brother Konstantin, and his fianc e Oleksandra, whom he was to marry 10 days after his death.

An information banner with Anton's portrait has been installed on the Alley of Glory in Mykolaiv. Also in Lviv, his fianc e planted a tree in his memory. “I saw my son three days before he passed away. He had a very tired look, but his eyes were always burning with fire for life. Then we talked for several hours – about everything in the world. Anton had so many plans... Among them: to travel all over Ukraine after the Victory. We even bought a map to put “Were here” marks on it. And he really wanted me to see the Coral Islands in Australia in person. He “fell in love” with this place during his work there: he showed the landscapes on video many times and talked about them. Now I dream of making this trip, as well as realizing Antoshka's other plans. Our whole family lives in his memory. We miss our little sunshine very much,” says Olga Gennadiyevna.

IOZHYTSYA ANATOLIY IVANOVYCH



Iozhytsia Anatoliy Ivanovich was born on August 19, 2002 in the village of Makarivka, Skadovsky district, Kherson region. After nine grades of Vadim school, he studied at the Kherson Higher Vocational and Technical School № 2 as a “mechanic, bulldozer operator, excavator operator”. At the age of 18, he went on conscription into the army. In 2021, he signed a contract, served in the 79th Kherson border detachment of the State Border Service of Ukraine. He died on February 24, 2022 at a checkpoint near the village of Chaplynka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. He was buried in the village of Makarivka, Skadovsky district, Kherson region. At the time of writing, the defender’s native village was under temporary Russian occupation. Awarded the Order of Courage, 3rd degree, the Order of Bohdan Khmelnytsky, 3rd degree, and the Cross of the Hero (posthumously).

Anatoliy Iozhytsya was the eldest son in the family. The boy was very friendly with his sister Daria, who was a year younger than him. The boy’s parents grew vegetables for sale, his mother later went to serve in the State Border Service, worked as a cook.

“THEY AND MY SISTER WERE VERY FRIENDLY. SOMETIMES HE GOES TO THE SHOP WITH ME, GIVES ME CANDY, AND HE STILL ASK FOR DASHA. HE WAS A GOLDEN CHILD, HE NEVER SAID A BAD WORD, HE ALWAYS TRYED TO HELP,” SAYS HIS MOTHER ALYONA ANATOLIEVNA.

Anatoly studied at the Makarivskaya school for the first two years, and finished 9 grades at Vadimskaya. After receiving a vocational education, he joined the army, later signed a contract with the 79th border detachment. He had the rank of junior sergeant. Alena Ivanovna served with her son in the same unit.

“When Tolya came to our unit, the guys said: “You have a very good son, a good one,” the mother recalls.

08/19/2002 – 02/24/2022

According to the woman, her son loved machinery, especially cars and tractors. In his free time, he was interested in motorcycles and loved to draw.

“HE WAS THE BEST FOR ME. HE TEACHED ME TO RIDE A MOTORCYCLE, SUPPORTED ME IN STUDYING. WE COULD ALWAYS LISTEN TO EACH OTHER, GIVE ADVICE. WHILE WORKING IN THE FIELD, HE EARNED HIS FIRST LAPTOP ON HIS OWN. HE LOVED PLAYING COMPUTER GAMES. THAT’S WHY I LIKED MILITARY SERVICE,” REMEMBERS SISTER DARYA.

At the time of the full-scale invasion, Anatoliy was the number of the mortar service section of the firing department of the mortar outpost of the Kherson border detachment of the State Border Service, that is, he served mines. As part of his unit, he was at the Chaplynka checkpoint.

The last time Alena Ivanovna spoke to her son was on February 23, 2022. “We only managed to exchange remarks on the phone that everything was fine, he sent his photos,” the woman recalls.

On February 24, 2022, at 04:50, Anatoliy Iozhytsia, together with his brothers, were among the first to take up battle with the Russian occupation troops when they advanced on Chaplynka. The positions where the boy was located came under heavy fire from a “hail” machine gun. Anatoliy received a mine-explosive injury and a crushed chest, as a result of which he died.

“At 03:00 we passed our shift and went to the dugout to rest. We started turning off the lights, we heard the hum of enemy equipment moving from the direction of “Titan” in Armyansk. No one explained anything, there were no orders. At 04:45 we saw “stars” in the sky — that’s what the shells that were flying at us looked like. A

comrade with experience in the SSO gave the order to lie down. The first shelling lasted 2–3 minutes, but the forces were unequal. We got into the “Cougar” and prepared to leave. Anatoliy was next to me. But he remembered that he had left his mobile phone in the booth, and ran after him. I rushed after him. But the flight had already arrived. I fainted. When I came to my senses — everything was in smoke, I could smell a terrible smell of sulfur. Someone grabbed my leg and dragged me back to the dugout. We ran out to cars, shouting, asking: “Where is Anatoliy?” He was not there... I learned about his death only a few days later from his relatives. And only then did I understand: he covered me with himself: a fragment hit him,” recalls the brother of the deceased Andriy Bondar.

“AS SOON AS THEY LEARNED ABOUT HIS DEATH, EVERYONE CONTACTED US, SUPPORTED US, TOLD US WHAT A CHEERFUL AND BRIGHT PERSON HE WAS. HIS BROTHERS EASILY THEY GET ON WITH HIM, CAME TO US AS GUESTS AT THE HOUSE,” TELLS ANATOLIY’S SISTER DARYA.



The family of the deceased defender was able to evacuate to the territory controlled by Ukraine six months after the beginning of the Russian occupation. Anatoliy Iozhytsia was buried in his native Makarivka. The boy's body was found by local residents of Vadym, who knew him well. The deceased was brought home by volunteers from the Ukrainian Red Cross. Anatoliy Iozhytsia was only 19 years old. He was survived by his father, mother and sister. "My child was a very bright person, he never offended anyone, he always came to the aid of everyone who needed it. He was a golden child for me. He dreamed of a family," said the defender's mother, Alena Anatoliyevna.

KASHTANYUK YURIY VASYLOVYCH



Kashtanyuk Yuriy Vasylovych was born on May 2, 1995 in the village of Knyazivka, Vysokopilsky district, Kherson region. He studied in Knyazivka until the fifth grade, then continued his studies at the Vysokopilsky school. After the 11th grade, he entered the Kryvyi Rih Vocational Mining and Technological Lyceum, where he studied as an assistant locomotive driver. He worked in his specialty in Mykolaiv, Mariupol. In the spring of 2022, he went to defend Ukraine at the front as part of military unit 4698. He died on July 27, 2023 in the village of Pershotravneve, Kharkiv region. Buried in Knyazivka.

Yuriy was the middle child in a large family - his father worked as a builder, and his mother worked on a farm. He grew up with his two older sisters, Oksana and Inna, and the youngest, Yulia. Four children, but a special, unbreakable bond was formed with his younger sister. As a child, they were like a single whole.

- IN CHILDHOOD WE ALWAYS PLAYED TOGETHER. I EVEN PLAYED WITH GIRLS, BUT I DIDN'T PLAY WITH MY FRIENDS AS I PLAYED WITH HIM. WE CONSTANTLY PLAYED FOOTBALL AND VOLLEYBALL, - YULIA REMEMBERS THOSE BRIGHT TIMES.

Yuriy received his primary education at a rural school in Knyazevka, and from the fifth grade he continued his studies at the Vysokopil school. After the 11th grade, he chose a path related to technology - he went to Kryvyi Rih, where he entered the Kryvyi Rih Professional Mining and Technological Lyceum to master the profession of assistant locomotive driver. He began his professional career in Mykolaiv, but later moved to Mariupol, because he dreamed of being closer to the sea.

- MY BROTHER WAS LUCKY TO FIND A JOB THAT BROUGHT HIM REAL SATISFACTION. HE JUST LOVED IT. YOU KNOW, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WORK TO EARN MONEY, AND HE WAS HAPPY AT THIS JOB, - SHARES HIS SISTER.

02.05.1995 – 27.07.2023

Yuriy wanted to start his own family. Although he was single at the time of his death, he was dating a girl. The main mission that guided his life was taking care of his loved ones.

- HE WANTED HIS PARENTS TO LIVE IN PROSPERITY, AND HE ALWAYS HELPED, ALWAYS SOMEHOW WANTED TO HELP US AND HIS PARENTS, YULIA REMEMBERS.

Yuriy's life changed when he was laid off in Mariupol and returned home to Knyazevka. He had only been home for about a month, helping his parents, when the full-scale invasion began. The Kashtanyuk family found themselves under occupation in their native village, going through difficult times without electricity and gas. When Knyazevka was released, the military helped the family leave for Kryvyi Rih, where they settled with their older sister.

Yuriy did not stay in Kryvyi Rih for long, about two weeks. He immediately went to the military registration and enlistment office.

- HE SAID THAT HE WANTED TO GO AND PROTECT HIS FAMILY SO THAT HIS FAMILY COULD LIVE IN PEACE AND HIS RELATIVES WERE NOT AFRAID OF THESE EXPLOSIONS, - THE SISTER SAYS.

Yuriy Kashtanyuk was mobilized in late spring 2022 and began his military career in military unit 4698. First, he was trained in Poland, after which he was sent first to the Dnipropetrovsk direction, and later he ended up in the Kharkiv direction as an artilleryman.

During his service, he had only two short vacations, each lasting two days. The last time he came was in the spring of 2023. This meeting became a difficult testimony to what Yuriy was going through at the front. He came to work at Yulia, who worked in a supermarket.

- I didn't even know, I was at work, he just came to work at me. Yura was crying, standing in the store and saying that it was very scary there, at the front. He said: "I don't even want to tell you what's happening there." This was our last meeting, - recalls the sister.

The last conversation with Yulia took place on July 26, 2023 - the day before his death. There was a deep sadness and some kind of foreboding in this conversation.

- HE CALLED, I FELT HE WAS VERY SAD. HE SAID: "I FEEL THAT IT'S SOON...". I TOLD HIM NOT TO MAKE UP THE REASON THAT EVERYTHING WOULD BE OK, I WANTED TO CALM HIM, - SAYS YULIA.

The next day, July 27, 2023, soldier Yuriy Kashtanyuk died during the shelling of positions in the village of Pershotravneve, Kharkiv region. As the family later learned, he came under artillery fire together with his comrades.

On August 2, 2023, the family managed to say goodbye to their Hero - Yuriy was buried in his native Knyazivka.

The defender, who gave his life for the peace of his family and the peaceful sky of his country, was awarded the badge "For Merit to the City" of the 3rd degree from the city of Kryvyi Rih



KOVALENKO MYKOLA SERGIYOVYCH



Kovalenko Mykola Sergiyovych was born on August 25, 1991 in the village of Radensk, Kherson district, Kherson region. After receiving his education at a local secondary school, at the age of 18 he went to military service, which he served until November 2010 in the city of Simferopol in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. After returning from the army, he studied at the Kherson Law Institute of the Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs. After receiving his education, he served as a police officer in the Oleshkiv police department of the Main Directorate of the National Police in the Kherson region. He received his higher education in absentia at the International University of Business and Law in Kherson. In November 2021, he signed a contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He served in the 57th separate motorized infantry brigade named after the kosh ataman Kostya Hordienko. Died on October 4, 2022 near the village of Davydiv Brid, Berislavsky district, Kherson region. Buried in the city of Dnipro, Dnipropetrovsk region.

Mykola Kovalenko and his brother Anatoliy, who was 10 years younger than him, grew up in a friendly and hardworking family. The boys' parents were engaged in vegetable growing, had many greenhouses, livestock and poultry. That's what the family lived on.

"We always had good relations with children. Everything was positive. We loved to fish. Sometimes we get together with the boys, I say: "Well, go to mom's, ask to go fishing." Then they first make their wife laugh, and then they ask. And of course she let them go," recalls her father, Serhiy Anatoliyovich.

Mykola Kovalenko was fond of cooking since childhood, his signature dish was kebab, he invented new sauces, in his free time he loved to fish. But he decided to combine his life with service in the police, where he worked until November 2021.

Then the man signed a contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He served as a grenade launcher in the 17th battalion of the 57th separate motorized infantry brigade. Together with his unit, he was in Lysychansk in the Donetsk region. There, the man was caught by a full-scale invasion.

08/25/1991 – 10/04/2022

On March 22, 2022, the man was wounded. After long-term treatment, he returned to the front in the Donetsk region.

“My son was always joyful. Even when he was wounded, he said not to worry, that everything would be fine. He never talked about his problems, did not complain. While he was in the hospital, I persuaded him not to join the army again. And he told me: “Mom, I’ll go back to my 57th brigade. The guys helped me, pulled me out. I have to help them too,” says the mother.

In September 2022, Mykola Kovalenko’s unit was transferred to the Kherson region. The last time the soldier called home was a few days before his death: he said he was going on a mission and there would be no contact for two days. But the parents never waited for a call from their son.

“He said: ‘Mom, there are landings everywhere here, it’s raining. We’re sitting in a trench.’ My husband and I tried to figure out where Mykola was on the map, and looked for some landings nearby so that he and the guys could hide there. He kept saying: ‘Mom, wait a little longer. We’ll soon reach Kherson, and Radensk is not far away,’” recalls Oksana Mykolaivna.

Mykola Kovalenko died on October 4, 2022 near the village of Davydiv Brid, in the Kherson region, while performing a combat mission. The parents received a death certificate a year later, when they left temporarily occupied Radensk for Kherson.

“When my son died, it was impossible to even go to the store. People asked where they would bury him, when they would bring the body. It was difficult to hide his death. Everyone in the village knows about everyone. 5 of them went to the position. We learned about Kolya’s death from the group where our Radensk guys were sitting. They dropped his photo. That’s how we recognized him,” the mother shares.

Mykola Kovalenko was buried in the city of Dnipro. The defender dreamed of marrying his fianc e, raising children, and starting his own business. But unfortunately, it was not to be. The deceased was 31 years old. Now in Radensk there are two empty houses: one his parents' and the other, which was built for Mykola.

The deceased is survived by his parents, daughter and younger brother.

“Mykola was the best eldest son, brother, beloved and loving father, who always helped and supported. His brothers remember him with warm words and call him brother. For his friends and relatives, Mykola is a pride and a Hero,” said Oksana Mykolaivna.



KOVTONIUK VLADYSLAV OLEKSANDROVICH



Kovtoniuk Vladislav Oleksandrovych, call sign Zoloty, was born on September 18, 1997 in the village of Kostyantynivka, Gornostayivskiy district (now Kakhovskiy district) in the Kherson region. He studied at Kostyantynivka comprehensive school of I-III levels (1-2 grades) and Gornostayivka comprehensive school of I-III levels No. 2 (3-11 grades). He received his higher education at the Odessa State Academy of Construction and Architecture, majoring in "Hydrotechnical construction, water engineering and water technologies". At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, he voluntarily joined the ranks of the Armed Forces and defended the state as part of the 53rd separate mechanized brigade in the Donetsk region. He held the position of sapper of the motorized infantry battalion of military unit A0536. Died in the area of the settlement of Avdiivka, Pokrovsky district, Donetsk region, on October 15, 2023, as a result of numerous injuries received during the detonation of ammunition for mining fields, which occurred due to the hit of an enemy shell. Buried in the local cemetery of the village of Stari Mayaki, Bereziv district, Odessa region.

Bright, kind, sincere, smart beyond his years, responsible and talented. This is how Vladislav was remembered by his family and friends. He was born in the picturesque village of Kostyantynivka, Kherson region, in a friendly and loving family. His parents, Oleksandr Mykolayovych and Inna Ivanivna, are engineers-technologists in the food industry. They dreamed of raising their son as a worthy person, so they made every effort to do this.

"Vladyk was a wonderful child. He had many friends with whom he loved to play board games. He was always happy to help around the house, studied well and was very creative. He started drawing from an early age and never stopped until the very end. Even on the front line in the dugouts, he created beautiful works. Even as a child, his drawings featured war and knights, which turned out to be prophetic. He also loved drawing and reading. He later combined all of this in his profession. And he was also a loving and caring brother," says his mother Inna Ivanovna.

09/18/1997 – 10/15/2023

When Vladyslav was 5 years old, his sister Daryna was born. He protected her and took care of her. Since the girl loved music, before the war the guy collected money for a piano, which she received on her 23rd birthday, but as a gift from her parents in memory of her brother. Dasha notes that Vlad was the only one who instilled total faith and absolute peace in her, so she named her second daughter in honor of her brother. After graduating from the second grade of the Konstantinivka school, Vladislav moved with his family to Gornostayivka, where he spent his youth. In the junior grades of the school, he became interested in karate, but later left the sport. His creative nature always won out. And after graduating from local school No. 2, the guy went to Odessa. There he entered a university to become a professional civil engineer. He studied successfully, so he often helped his classmates with exams and tests. In his senior years, he also started working in one of the Odessa construction companies. Together with other colleagues, the guy was engaged in drawing projects, thinking over the design of buildings and making plans. With his first salary, he bought a guitar and taught himself to play. He had excellent prospects for career growth and creativity, but the full-scale invasion changed everything. Two months after the occupation of the Kherson region, Vlad went to visit friends in western Ukraine, and it was there that he made an important decision - to go to the defense of the state in order to liberate his native home. He was limitedly suitable for military service, so at first he received refusals. But later the future defender was sent to undergo basic military training. So Vladislav became a sapper and went to perform combat duty in the Donetsk region. The guy quickly gained favor among his comrades, because he was reliable and sociable. Many of them still maintain contact with his family. Thus, the brothers with the call signs Balu, Kardan and Brodyaha told Vlad's parents that they were ready to go on any task with their son. The guys admired his courage and ability to see and understand more than others, his analytical abilities and high level of intelligence.

In April 2023, while performing one of the tasks, the defender received a gunshot wound from shrapnel, so he was transported to Lutsk for surgery. It was

there, in the hospital, that he met his soul mate - the girl Kateryna. Her father was treated in the same medical facility as Vlad. She still remembers the boy with sadness and warmth at the same time:

“His call sign completely reflected reality. Vlad had a heart of gold, thoughts, desires... People like him were worth their weight in gold in the whole world. Boundless tenderness and at the same time incredible strength and courage were in him.”

But, unfortunately, their story turned out to be short. Later, the defender returned to the front line, where he died while performing another task. He was survived by his parents, grandmother, sister, nieces and girlfriend. As a sign of respect and memory of the sapper, a granite plaque with his name was installed on the wall of the Staromayakiv Lyceum, and a banner with his portrait was installed on the Alley of Memory of the Staromayakiv Community.



KOLESNICHENKO SERGIIVANOVYCH



Born on December 24, 1984 in the village of Nadiivka (formerly Nadezhdiivka, - ed.) of the Kherson district of the Kherson region. After graduating from a local school, he worked as a builder. In the winter of 2015, he joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine, served in the 59th separate assault brigade of unmanned systems named after Yakov Handziuk. Participant of the Anti-Terrorist Operation in eastern Ukraine. On February 24, 2022, on his own initiative, he joined the forces of the local TRO, defending the city of Kherson. In the spring of 2023, he voluntarily joined the 22nd separate mechanized Mykolaiv brigade, had the rank of soldier. He died on August 15, 2023 near the village of Klishchivka, Bakhmut district of the Donetsk region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the cemetery in Nadiivka. Awarded the distinction of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - the "Combatant's Cross" breastplate (posthumously). The soldier also had thanks for service in the ATO zone, which the family was forced to destroy during the temporary Russian occupation of the village.

Serhiy Kolesnichenko grew up in a loving family with his twin brother Oleksandr and older sister Tatyana. His mother raised the children on her own. In different years, the woman worked as a librarian, postwoman, and school technician.

"Serhiy and Sasha were inseparable from childhood, nowhere without each other. And even as adults they remained just as close. They were together everywhere in their lives: at school, at work, in the army... Until Sasha fell ill after the battles in Lilac Park near Kherson. Both sons were calm in character, sensitive, kind, affectionate and caring. The boys studied well at school, and in their free time they loved fishing. And they also loved me and Tatyana very much, who babysat them while I was at work. They were our strong support and reliable protection," says mother Myroslava Hnativna.

After studying, Serhiy, together with his brother, organized a small construction team. They specialized mainly in roof repairs. But, according to their mother, the sons had golden hands – there was no job they could not do.

12/24/1984 – 08/15/2023

In addition, the men farmed on their own plot – 15 acres near the house. They grew vegetables: tomatoes, radishes, cucumbers, potatoes. To do this, they built a greenhouse and mastered the tractor - they did everything themselves. And Myroslava Hnativna helped: she went to the market to sell the harvest. Later, the brothers started an apiary: hives, bees, honey - this became another of their own business. Oleksandr was especially enthusiastic, and Serhiy supported him.

In February 2015, Serhiy Kolesnichenko joined the 59th separate assault brigade of unmanned systems named after Yakov Handziuk, performing combat missions in the zone of the Anti-Terrorist Operation in eastern Ukraine.

A full-scale invasion caught the family at home. At 4:45 a.m. Serhiy went to his mother's room with the words: "The war has begun." The brothers did not hesitate for a minute, immediately began to gather and a few hours later set off for the nearest military registration and enlistment office, joining the ranks of the local territorial defense.

“THE SONS WERE PART OF A GROUP THAT ENTERED A HEAVY BATTLE WITH THE RUSSIAN MILITARY, WHOSE FORCES WERE SIGNIFICANTLY OUTREACHED, ON THE TERRITORY OF THE KHERSON REGIONAL LYCEUM. THEY WERE READY TO STAND UNTIL THE LAST, BUT THEY RETREATED FOLLOWED THE COMMAND. THEY REACHED HOME ON FOOT, THROUGH BUSHES AND SWAMPS, ONLY ON THE THIRD DAY - TIRED AND EXHAUSTED. AFTER TWO MONTHS OF HIDE IN CONDITIONS OF TEMPORARY RUSSIAN OCCUPATION, THEY WERE MANAGED TO BE TAKEN TO THE CITY OF TERNOPOL,” THE MOTHER SHARES.

After what he had experienced, Oleksandr became very ill and ended up in the hospital. Meanwhile, Serhiy could not sit on the sidelines: he was eager to go to war and defend the country even more. His brother asked to wait for his recovery so that they could go to serve together, as always, side by side. However, the illness did not recede, so Serhiy decided to mobilize on his own.

In April 2023, Serhiy Kolesnichenko joined the 22nd separate mechanized Mykolaiv brigade. The soldier was trained as an infantry fighting vehicle driver, but due to the lack of vehicles, he was in the infantry, and had the call sign Kol.

“Serhiy was in the Bakhmut direction, one of the most difficult at that time. He didn't talk much, he just asked not to worry if he didn't get in touch for two or three days and promised that everything would be fine. I only know that they were heavily shelled each time and they lacked weapons. This was the third time his group had gone out to the positions. 12 of them set out – only two returned alive. One of the comrades said that he had never met a guy like Serhiy: loyal, reliable, honest, sincere, kind. He shared the last cork of water and did not drink from it until everyone had a few drops. And my son had a keen sense of justice, always supported the truth and spoke it under any circumstances,” recalls Myroslava Hnativna.

Serhiy Kolesnichenko was mortally wounded on August 15, 2023 near the village of Klishchiivka in the Donetsk region. The last time his family saw him was in April 2023, they communicated – on the day of his death.

An information banner with a portrait of Serhiy has been installed on the Alley of Glory in the village of Nadiivka (the memorial complex in Nadiivka was temporarily dismantled due to an attack by Russian drones, - ed.). The soldier was 38 years old. He is survived by his mother, brother, sister, and nephew Nazar.



KOLESNICHENKO IHOR KOSTYANTYNOVYCH



Born on August 23, 1983 in the city of Kherson, he grew up in the village of Posad-Pokrovske, Kherson district, Kherson region. Here he graduated from Posad-Pokrovske secondary school and entered the Higher Vocational School No. 2 of the city of Kherson as a builder. On February 24, 2022, he joined the local territorial defense forces. On May 2, 2022, he volunteered to join the 34th Kherson Regiment of the National Guard of Ukraine. He was mortally wounded on October 24, 2023 near the village of Kryнки, Kherson district, Kherson region. Buried at the cemetery in Posad-Pokrovske. Awarded the Order of the President of Ukraine "For the Defense of Ukraine" (posthumously).

Igor Kolesnichenko was the eldest child in the family, he had a younger sister on his mother's side, Tatyana. The boy was raised by his mother and stepfather. He did not maintain a relationship with his biological father - his parents divorced when Igor was three years old. At different times, his mother worked at the local state farm and as a saleswoman, his stepfather at the Kherson Oil Refinery and as a security guard.

“As a child, Igor was cheerful, cheerful, and active. There was a lot of him - he was everywhere, had many friends, and brought good mood with him. I look at my son Mark - he is his copy, just as lively and mischievous. Igor treated his family with special respect. He sincerely loved his mother, maintained good relations with his stepfather, and was a real protector for his sister. Tatyana was always proud of her older brother,” says Igor’s wife, Alena.

IGOR AND HIS LOVED ONE WERE ROOMMATES, STUDIED AT THE SAME SCHOOL. SO ALON Y REMEMBERS WELL HOW HIS PORTRAIT HANG ON THE BOARD OF HONOR. THE MAN PLAYED SPORTS, WENT TO ALL-UKRAINIAN HANDBALL COMPETITIONS, WHERE TOGETHER WITH THE TEAM HE WON PRIZE PLACES.

The couple met at a local club at a disco. At that time, Igor was 19 years old, and Alyon was 15. He invited her to dance, they talked, and from then a

08/23/1983 – 10/24/2023

relationship began between them. In 2007, the couple got married. The marriage produced two children: the eldest daughter Angelina and the youngest son Mark.

For a long time, the family lived in rented apartments. Later, the Posad-Pokrovskaya village council provided them with a plot of land, where Igor built a house for his family with his own hands. And after the liberation of the right-bank Kherson region, he repaired a house damaged by shelling.

Igor Kolesnichenko had a natural talent for construction. After receiving a vocational education, he worked in his profession all his life. Before the full-scale invasion, almost every third house in the village had traces of his hands. Somewhere he built from scratch, somewhere he repaired, someone built a barn or a kitchen. The man's skill was impressive, he knew absolutely everything: bricklaying, welding, decorative finishing, etc.

"Work was his hobby. He constantly planned, developed and implemented what he had in mind. That's why he said that the best rest is to lie down at home, hug your relatives and just be there. Igor was the best husband and father: loving, kind, caring, foresightful. For him, our happiness and prosperity were the main thing, and he did everything for this. And I have never seen anyone play with children like that. He was loved not only by our children, but also by everyone around him - he found a common language with any little one," recalls Alena.

A full-scale war caught the family at home, their village was on the front line. On March 15, 2022, Igor convinced his wife and children to evacuate abroad, but he himself stayed. As part of the local territorial defense, he equipped shelters and repaired damaged communications. He also fought in the partisans: he transmitted information about the positions of the Russian army and provided our soldiers with a warm basement with a generator, a supply of water and food. At the end of March, Igor left for the city of Mykolaiv.

On May 2, 2022, Igor Kolesnichenko voluntarily mobilized himself to the National Guard of Ukraine, serving in the 34th Kherson Regiment. Alena learned about this decision after the fact when she received a photo of him in uniform from her husband. After all, he knew that she would refuse.

At first, the soldier was an armored personnel carrier driver, and after training in the UK, he was transferred to the infantry, to an assault unit. He had the rank of senior soldier and the call sign Engineer. He received it thanks to his golden hands. He did not sit idle at the places of deployment: he quickly and easily built the necessary structures for everyday life and defense.

"IGOR IS OUR PRIDE. THIS IS THE DEED OF A REAL MAN: NOT TO HIDE, BUT TO COURAGEOUSLY GO TO DEFEND THE FATHERLAND. HE WAS RELIABLE AND COURAGEOUS, JUST AND HONEST. DURING THE FIRST EXIT TO THE LEFT BANK, THEIR GROUP CAME UNDER SHOOTING BY RUSSIAN MILITARY. THERE WERE MANY WOUNDED AND HE WAS DRAGGING THE GUYS ON HIM. THEIR BROTHERS STILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US AND COME TO HIM AT THE CEMETERY," THE FAMILY SHARES.

Igor Kolesnichenko died on October 24, 2023, while performing a combat mission in the area of the village of Krynyky on the left bank of the Kherson region. This happened the day before Mark's second birthday. The last time his family saw him was on October 15, 2023, and they spoke on October 17.

ON THE ALLEY OF HEROES IN THE VILLAGE OF CHORNOBAYIVKA AND THE ALLEY OF GLORY IN THE VILLAGE OF POSAD-PO-KROVSKE IN THE KHERSON REGION, INFORMATION BANNERS WITH THE MILITARY'S PORTERS WERE INSTALLED. HE WAS 40 YEARS OLD. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS STEPFATHER, SISTER, WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN.

"Igor is forever with us, in our hearts and memories. We even hung his photo so that it would always be in our sight. The daughter remembers her father well, but the son only learns over the years what he was like. However, he already tells everyone that his father is a Hero. Mark often approaches the photo and asks: "Where is my dad?" Then I answer: "Dad is in the sky, looking at us from the clouds, are you listening to me and helping me." "I believe that from now on he is our guardian angel," says Alena.

KOLOMIYETS SERHIY MYKOLAYOVYCH



Kolomiyets Serhiy Mykolayovych was born on June 30, 1980 in the city of Kherson, Kherson district, Kherson region. He studied at the Shyrokobalkivsk comprehensive school of grades I-III. He graduated from the Bilozersk vocational school No. 6, where he mastered the specialty of tractor driver-machinist of agricultural production. In 2023, he voluntarily joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and defended the state in the Pokrovsky direction as part of the 79th separate airborne assault Tavria brigade. He died on November 3, 2023 while performing a combat mission near the village of Novomykhailivka, Pokrovsky district, Donetsk region. He was buried at the local cemetery of the village of Shyroka Balka in the Kherson region. He was posthumously awarded the Order “For Courage” of the III degree.

Serhiy Mykolayovych had a difficult fate. When he was only 4 months old, his father, Kolomiets Mykola Vasilyevich, died in an accident. So, having lost his husband, his mother, Olena Alekseevna, decided to move from the city of Kherson to the village of Shyroka Balka. It was there that she married for the second time. The boy’s stepfather was Serhiy Volodymyrovych Yuda, who replaced Serhiy’s father, raised him as a worthy man should be and taught him the best that he could.

After some time, the future defender had a sister, Natalya, and a brother, Oleksandr. Therefore, he often helped his parents look after the younger ones or do the housework. The adults really had a lot to do, because each of them worked: the father - in the field, the mother - as a gardener in the vineyards of the local communal enterprise “AGROFIRMA RADGOSP “BILOZERSKY”. Recalling the childhood and youth of her eldest son, Olena Alekseevna notes: “Sergiy was a quiet and polite child. I never received any remarks, neither from kindergarten nor from school. He was a sociable boy, so he had many friends, with whom he often liked to play football or simply spend his leisure time at the local stadium. And he also adored fishing and large agricultural machinery. In particular, like

06/30/1980 - 11/03/2023

his father, he wanted to work on a tractor.” In order to master the profession that the young man was so passionate about as quickly as possible, after graduating from the 9th grade of school, he enrolled in training. Immediately after graduating from the educational institution, Serhiy went to work as a tractor driver at the Kommunar state farm. And after a few years, he began working in vineyards, then in temporary jobs. He also gained experience as a gas station attendant at a local gas station. In early March 2022, the village of Shyroka Balka was under Russian occupation. At the first opportunity, Serhiy’s family left with him for the territory controlled by Ukraine. Even then, the man occasionally told his relatives that if necessary, he would go to help our defenders. But when, returning home after the liberation of Shyroka Balka in November 2022, he saw that there were few survivors left of the place he loved so much, he made a fateful decision. The man helped the family to restore the survivors in the yard and in the house, where the Russians had set up a makeshift hospital and simply stolen many belongings, and then found the contacts of the brigade, which he decided to join. He said that he could not just stand aside when the enemy mercilessly and shamelessly destroyed his country, so he had to be among those who would put an end to it. So, Serhiy ended up in military unit A0224, underwent basic military training in Zhytomyr and went to the Donetsk direction. However, the soldier, unfortunately, was not destined to see the victory he dreamed of. During his last combat mission, Serhiy came under enemy fire and received shrapnel wounds incompatible with life. He was survived by his mother, sister and brother.



KORNIYCHUK VLADYSLAV YURIYOVYCH



Korniychuk Vladislav Yuriyovich was born on January 16, 1997 in Kherson. He studied at Kherson comprehensive school No. 47. He received higher education at Kherson National Technical University, majoring in “accounting and auditing”. He worked in the field of trade, then as a carrier. He served in the National Guard from 2018 to 2019. After the start of the full-scale invasion, he fought as part of the 24th separate mechanized brigade named after King Danylo. He died of his wounds on July 27, 2023 in a hospital in the city of Dnipro. He was buried in Lviv on the Field of Mars.

Vladislav was a native of Kherson, the only and long-awaited child in the family. His parents met at the Semiconductors plant. Since childhood, Vladislav was captivated by technology. He collected models of military aircraft and cars, knew all the anti-aircraft missile systems and the principles of fighter jet operation by heart. His wife remembers him as a “walking encyclopedia”.

- HE UNDERSTOOD THIS VERY WELL, HE WAS ADDRESSED WITH THIS ALREADY AFTER HE SERVED IN THE ARMY, HE COULD CONSULT ANYONE, - SAYS KATERYNA, VLADYSLAV’S WIFE.

He spent his teenage years at a dacha on the Dnieper River, where he himself drove a large boat with a powerful motor. He went to the Kherson Young Sailors Club, where, while still a student, he got a job.

Vladyslav’s biggest civilian dream was to become a truck driver. He entered Kherson National Technical University to study accounting and auditing, but later regretted not choosing logistics. He met his future wife in 2017 at a driving school. Vladislav came to improve his truck driving category, and Kateryna came to get a “B” driver’s category. Their acquaintance quickly grew from friendship into a relationship.

01/16/1997 – 07/27/2023

In 2018, when Vladislav was 21 years old, the couple got married. That same year, he went on conscription, which he served in Kherson in the ranks of the National Guard. Shortly after starting his service, Kateryna found out that she was pregnant. In 2019, their daughter Anya was born. Due to family circumstances, Vladislav was released early, and he returned to civilian life.

After the army, he worked in the trade sector, then moved to the medical company "Taurt", where he got a job as a carrier, where he worked until the very beginning of the full-scale war between Russia and Ukraine. On the morning of February 24, 2022, he found his family in Chornobayvka, where they lived. Vladislav saw with his own eyes how a missile hit the territory of Chornobayvka airport.

- THE HUSBAND THEN QUICKLY MADE A DECISION, HE RAN OUT AND SAID: "GET PACKED UP AND THAT'S IT, WE'RE GOING". AND IMMEDIATELY IN THE MORNING, ON FEBRUARY 24, MY DAUGHTER AND I LEFT, WITH A MINIMUM OF THINGS. AND THAT'S HOW WE FIND OUT IN THE LVIV REGION, - THE WIFE REMEMBERS.

After leaving, the man almost immediately went to the military registration and enlistment office, wanting to defend Ukraine. At first, he was refused - he was sent to work at the military registration and enlistment office in the guard company. Already in March 2023, Vladislav was transferred to military unit A 0998.

Vladislav performed combat missions in the Kostyantynivka area and near the settlement of Druzhba in the Donetsk region.

- HE DIDN'T TELL ME EVERYTHING. HE WROTE A LOT, TALKED ABOUT WHAT HE COULD, WHILE BEING IN THESE "HOT" SPOTS. WE LAST COMMUNICATED ON JULY 22. AND AFTER THAT I RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM MY HUSBAND: "I LOVE YOU, ANYA" AND THAT'S ALL. AND THIS

MESSAGE STILL BREAKS MY HEART. IT SEEMS TO ME HE FELT, SAW HOW HARD THE FIGHTS WERE AND UNDERSTOOD THAT EVERYONE COULD BE THE LAST, - SHARES KATERYNA.

The tragedy occurred due to an emergency situation. Although Vladislav was supposed to rest after his shift, he was urgently sent to hold his position due to the enemy's attack. On July 24, 2023, in the village of Druzhba, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region, he was seriously wounded. While the battle was going on, evacuation was extremely difficult. He was taken to a stabilization point, then to Druzhkivka, and finally to a hospital in Dnipro.

Vladislav's parents managed to come from Kherson and see their son in intensive care, although he was unconscious. Kateryna arrived the next day, but she didn't have time.

- I ARRIVED THE NEXT DAY IN THE MORNING AND I ALREADY DIDN'T MAKE IT. THEY DIDN'T EVEN LET ME IN TO SEE HIM. THE DOCTOR CAME OUT AND TOLD US THAT HE DIDN'T SURVIVE. THAT HE WASN'T SAVED, - THE WIFE SAYS.

Death occurred on July 27, 2023. Vladislav Korniychuk was buried in Lviv on the Field of Mars, on the Alley of Honorary Burials.

The hero was posthumously awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously), the 24th Brigade's "Hero's Cross" and received the honorary badge of St. George.

The family remained to live in Lviv. Daughter Anya remembers Vladislav as a kind, sensitive, attentive father who always found time for joint leisure and travel. Vladislav Korniychuk, a man with a big heart and a dream of the road, defended his family and Ukraine until his last breath.

KUTSYURUBA VOLODYMYR VOLODYMYROVYCH



Kutsyuruba Volodymyr Volodymyrovych was born on January 18, 1983 in the village of Velyka Oleksandrivka, Beryslavsky district, Kherson region. After graduating from 9 grades at a local school, he entered the Arkhangelsk vocational and technical school, where he studied to be a machine operator. He served in the State Emergency Service in the Kharkiv region, then in Kyiv. He worked as a handyman, and since 2020 he has been a migrant worker. He joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine on March 5, 2022. He served in the 129th separate heavy mechanized brigade. He died on June 29, 2022 in the village of Ivanivka, Vysokopil village community, Beryslavsky district, Kherson region. He is buried in the city of Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region. Awarded the Order of Courage, 3rd degree (posthumously).

Volodymyr Kutsyuruba was the eldest son in the family. His sister Svetlana grew up with him. The family was friendly and hardworking. His father was a driver on a collective farm, his mother was a confectioner. Both children willingly helped their parents: they looked after rabbits.

“A NORMAL BOY, BUT HE WAS SO CRAZY: HE WAS NEVER AFRAID OF ANYTHING. VOVA LOVED FISHING VERY MUCH. IN HIS CHILDHOOD HE EVEN RAN FROM SCHOOL TO THE RIVER. AS AN ADULT, HE BECAME A PASSIONATE HUNTING. HE OFTEN WENT OUT WITH HIS FAMILY TO NATURE,” REMEMBERS HIS MOTHER LYUDMYLA MYKOLAEVNA.

After returning from military service, Volodymyr went to the city of Dnipro, where his fiancée was waiting for him. Having married, the man stayed there and worked at an automobile plant for five years.

When his eldest son turned 6, Volodymyr moved with his family to Velyka Oleksandrivka. In the village, the man got a job as a collector at a bank. After some time, the family had a younger daughter.

01/18/1983 – 06/29/2022

In 2018, Volodymyr decided to go and work abroad. Unfortunately, he divorced his wife, but he maintained a close and warm relationship with his children.

“HE LOVED HIS CHILDREN VERY MUCH. AFTER WORKING, HE ALWAYS CAME TO THEM. THAT WAS THE FIRST THING. HIS WIFE DIDN'T EVEN APPLY FOR ALIMONATION – VOVA ALWAYS SUPPORTED THE CHILDREN,” REMEMBERS LYUDMYLA MYKOLAIVNA.

In 2020, Volodymyr got a job as a security guard at the Dniproshyna plant near the city of Dnipro, where his children had moved by then. When the full-scale invasion began, he took his children and ex-wife from the city to Velyka Oleksandrivka. There he became a member of the self-defense formed by local residents.

“AT THE END OF THE MONTH, MY GRANDCHILD FELL, HER KNEE SWELLED, THERE WERE NO DOCTORS HERE. MY SON TOOK HIS FAMILY AND LEFT TO THE DNIPR. HE LEFT THEM THERE. HE HAD WENT TO HIS SISTER IN KRYVY RIG AND TOGETHER WITH HIS FRIENDS ON MARCH 5, WENT TO THE MILITARY UNIT. WHEN HE LEFT THE HOUSE, HE SAID: “I WILL NOT SIT. MOM, THIS IS NOT NEGOTIABLE. WHO WILL PROTECT MY CHILDREN?” - LYUDMYLA MYKOLAIVNA REMEMBERS.

Volodymyr Kutsiuruba served as a rifleman in the first detachment of the second platoon of the counter-sabotage company of the Arey battalion in the 129th separate heavy mechanized brigade (previously, until 2025, it belonged to the territorial defense, ed.). During his service, he received the call sign Kutsy — an abbreviation of his surname.



Volodymyr participated in battles in the Zaporizhia, Luhansk and Kherson directions. The last time his mother communicated with him was on June 23, 2022: his son was going to leave on a mission.

“He wrote to his daughter, Svitlana: “I’m on my way home.” These were his last words. On Friday, the commander, Svitlana’s husband, came and said that Vova was no more. 10 people went on a mission, they came under artillery fire. Two died and three more were wounded,” the mother recalls. Volodymyr Kutsyuruba died on June 29, 2022, during the liberation of the village of Ivanivka, Berislavsky district, Kherson region, 20 kilometers from his native Velyka Oleksandrivka. Due to heavy shelling, the bodies of the fallen were only able to be collected two days later.

The defender was buried in Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region. The street in the village of Ivanivka, where Volodymyr Kutsyuruba and his brothers died, was renamed Vyzvolytelyov Street, and his relatives installed a memorial plaque in their honor on the road to Volodymyr’s native village. The deceased is survived by his parents and two children. He was 39 years old. He dreamed of traveling with his children, showing them a different life.

“The brothers told them, told them: “Guys, let’s just go to Velyka Oleksandrivka, father who will immediately slaughter a pig and grill kebabs”. When we were released on October 4, 2022, we slaughtered a pig and fed everyone. And now we treat the military. As soon as we slaughter a pig, we carry it: “Eat, children, and remember our son”, - shared Lyudmila Mykolaivna.

Opposite his parents' house, a house built for Volodymyr stands empty. His mother and father go to his cemetery every month and are still waiting for his return.

LYSENKO IVAN MYKOLAYOVYCH



Lysenko Ivan Mykolayovych was born on October 7, 1958 in the village of Veletenske, Belozersk settlement community, Kherson district, Kherson region. He studied at Veletenske secondary school. He graduated from the Odessa Polytechnic Institute with a degree in “Radio equipment design engineer”. At the beginning of the full-scale invasion in February 2022, he joined the 1st company of the 194th battalion of the 124th separate brigade of the Kherson Regional Directorate, military unit A7360. He held the position of a rifleman. He died on March 1, 2022 during the defense of the city of Kherson in a battle in the territory of Lilac Park. He is buried in the village of Veletenske, Kherson region. By Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 747/2023, he was posthumously awarded the Order of Courage, 3rd degree. For patriotism, personal courage shown in the defense of the territorial integrity of Ukraine, and heroism during the Kherson resistance to the Russian invaders, he was posthumously awarded the title of “Honorary Citizen of the Kherson City Territorial Community”.

Ivan Mykolayovych was born into a family of workers, Mykola Stepanovich and Valentyna Ivanivna Lysenko, in the picturesque village of Veletenskoye in the Kherson region. His parents were employees of the local state farm “Gorodniy Veleten”, and they always taught him to love his native land, appreciate everything it gives and be a worthy person. So the boy grew up polite, hardworking, kind and sincere. He was always happy to help his parents with housework, loved to have fun in the company of his younger brother Oleksandr, and was a diligent student at school. It was during his school years that Ivan Mykolayovych showed remarkable abilities in radio engineering during his studies in the radio club. In addition, he adored mathematics lessons and was successful in mastering it. In view of this, his parents sought to provide their son with all the opportunities for development in exactly what he was so passionate about. After graduating from school, Ivan Mykolayovych worked for some time at the Kherson Shipbuilding Plant, and then entered higher education. Thus, the man became a radio

07.10.1958 – 01.03.2022

equipment design engineer. He loved this job for his whole life. After graduation, as a young specialist, he was sent to work at the Novokakhov Instrument-Building Plant “Sokil”. But then the years of perestroika began, as a result of which the plant was closed, so Ivan Mykolayovych got a job as the head of the club at the “Young Technicians” station in the city of Nova Kakhovka. In 1979, the man got married. In marriage with his wife Olga, he had two sons - Sergey and Ivan. Mrs. Olga, remembering Ivan Mykolayovych, notes that he was a model of a caring husband, father, grandfather, whom everyone misses immensely. When the family moved to the city of Kherson, Ivan Mykolayovych went to work as a leading engineer in the “Delta-Lotsman” branch of the state enterprise “Sea Ports Administration of Ukraine”. The man worked there for the next 23 years of his life. During this time, he did not abandon his favorite business and continued to engage in radio engineering. In particular, he annually participated in all-Ukrainian and international competitions and championships in radio sports, in which he often became a winner. In order to best prepare for such events, he went on expeditions with his team to the islands in the Black Sea. He even had and constantly improved his personal amateur radio station. In 2014, having a clear civic position, the man was determined to join the anti-terrorist operation and was refused due to his age and health. However, when the invaders carried out a full-scale invasion of the territory of our country and were approaching Kherson, Ivan Mykolayovych went to the military registration and enlistment office without hesitation. This time he was allowed to join the ranks of the Teroboronivtsi. When he received a call with this news, the man was at work, just letting ships enter the Dnieper from the estuary. He called his son and asked to take him to the location. That was the last meeting between son and father. After all, the man was not destined to return home. Soon, on March 1, 2022, Ivan Mykolayovych went on a combat mission to the Kherson Lilac Park. There, the Kherson Teroboronivtsi met the occupiers with machine guns and Molotov cocktails, but the enemy had much greater advantages in weapons and armored vehicles. The battle turned out to be unequal, so the Teroboronivtsi died. Tragically, but proudly and courageously. In

the conditions of the occupied city, the townspeople managed to secretly bury the fallen at the Geologists' Cemetery. Only after the deoccupation of Kherson were the bodies exhumed and a forensic examination carried out, after which the relatives were finally able to rebury Ivan Mykolayovych with dignity. The Teroboronivtsi is survived by his wife, children, and 4 grandchildren. A banner with a portrait of the defender was installed on the Alley of Memory of the Belozersk community.



LYTVYN LEONID YURIYOVYCH



Lytvyn Leonid Yuriyovych was born on April 25, 1987 in the village of Tyahynka, Beryslav district, Kherson region. He studied at Tyahynka secondary school of grades I-III (now Tyahynka lyceum). He graduated from Kherson Agrarian and Economic State University, receiving the qualification of an ecologist. He defended the country in the Kupyansk direction of the Kharkiv region as part of the 41st separate mechanized brigade (military unit A4576). He held the position of sniper. He died on October 18, 2023 in the area of the settlement of Synkivka in the Kharkiv region as a result of enemy artillery fire during assault operations against the enemy. He is buried in the local cemetery of the village of Knyazivka, Vysokopil community, Kherson region.

Leonid was the eldest son of Yuri Leonidovich and Olga Anatolyevna Litvin. They were a friendly and hardworking family, in which they tried to give their children the best and raise them as worthy people. His father worked first as a driver on a local collective farm, and then as an ambulance driver. His mother was an accountant for the Tyagin village council, and before the full-scale invasion began, she worked in a local hospital. In her free time, they tried to pay attention to their children. After all, Leonid also had a younger sister, Olena. The children had a fairly good relationship with each other, which remained in their adult lives. While his sister was helping his mother, he willingly prepared hay for the winter with his father or helped him with the household chores, or went fishing.

“SINCE CHILDHOOD, LONYA WAS AN INQUIREROUS BOY, HE LEARNED TO READ EARLY, SINGED AND LOVED TO LISTEN TO ADULTS’ STORIES. HE TOOK THE BEST FROM HIS PARENTS – HONESTY, DILIGENCE, KINDNESS. AND HE WAS ALSO VERY PURPOSEFUL,” REMEMBERS HIS BROTHER OLEN.

During his school years, the boy was a very diligent student, never misbehaved or skipped classes. His favorite subjects were mathematics, physics, literature

04/25/1987 – 10/18/2023

and history. In his free time from studies and household chores, he liked to sit down with books. He knew all the works of art from the school curriculum and was interested in various legends. He especially liked to chat with old-timers on this topic. In addition, the boy had a talent for artistic reading, so he recited poems and humorous stories quite artistically. Leonid was also very sociable, easily found a common language with his peers and always treated girls with respect. No one heard a single bad word from him in his life, which was the result of a good upbringing. He retained all these qualities in himself in the future.

While studying at the university, the guy met his future wife, Tatyana. On August 18, 2012, the couple got engaged. In order to provide a good future for the newly created family, the man worked hard. First, as a specialist of the State Environmental Inspectorate of Ukraine of the Southern District, later he tried to gain experience working at the Danone company plant, as a gas station operator and abroad. And wherever Leonid worked, his organizational skills, sociability and wit, and his ability to find a way out of the most difficult situations were appreciated everywhere.

EVERYTHING WAS GOOD UNTIL THE MAN LEARNED THAT HIS FATHER WAS NO LONGER HERE. LEONID SURVIVED THIS LOSS VERY HARD, BUT AT THE SAME TIME HE PROMISED THAT INSTEAD OF HIS FATHER, HE WOULD BE A SUPPORT FOR HIS MOTHER AND SISTER. HE REMAINED TRUE TO HIS WORDS UNTIL HIS LAST BREATH.

At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, the man was in the Kherson region with his wife, so he fully experienced all the subtleties of life under Russian occupation. But when he managed to leave, he received a summons, which did not scare him at all. All that Leonid said: “We must – we must! We must protect our own”. And already on March 14, 2023, he was mobilized. First, the defender underwent basic military training and mastered the basics of the sniper profession.

Then he was sent to perform combat missions in the territory of the Kupyansky district of the Kharkiv region.

In the fall of 2023, the defender decided to take a vacation to finally see his family, but he never managed to do this. After all, he soon took part in the assault on enemy positions near the village of Synkivka in the Kharkiv region under dense artillery fire, where he died. Leonid was 36 years old forever.

The sniper was buried in the village of Knyazivka, Vysokopil community, Kherson region, where Leonid lived and worked before the war with his wife Tatyana. A poster with a portrait of the defender was placed on the Alley of Memory in Vysokopillya, and a memorial sign was installed on the Alley of Heroes in the Tyahynska community. The soldier is survived by his mother, wife, sister, and nephew.



LYTVYNNENKO OLEKSII STANISLAVOVYCH



Lytvynenko Oleksii Stanislavovich, call sign Skif, was born on June 18, 1997 in the city of Kakhovka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. He studied at the Kakhovka educational complex “Gymnasium - specialized school of the 1st degree with in-depth study of foreign languages” of the Kakhovka city council. He received his higher education first at the Odessa State University of Internal Affairs, and then at the National Academy of Internal Affairs, where he mastered the educational program “Managers and professionals in the field of law and law enforcement activities”. He volunteered to defend the state as part of the 2nd battalion of the 1st company of the fire support platoon of the 79th separate Tavria assault brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as a senior gunner of the grenade launcher section. Died on October 16, 2023 while performing a combat mission in the village of Novomykhailivka, Pokrovsky district, Donetsk region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the Berkovets cemetery in Kyiv. Posthumously awarded the Order “For Courage” of the 3rd degree.

“Knocked down – fight on your knees, you can’t walk – attack lying down”. These words became Alexey’s life credo, to which he remained faithful until his last breath. The future defender was born in the family of Kakhovka residents Lytvynenko Stanislav Grigorovich and Lytvynenko Svitlana Nikolaevna. His father worked as a gas engineer, his mother as a doctor in one of the local health care institutions. The boy also had a younger sister, Daria, whom he always protected and protected.

From an early age, Alexey absorbed the best qualities from his parents and listened to every wise advice of his parents. While studying at the Kakhovka gymnasium, he loved lessons on the history of Ukraine. Therefore, he was well-versed in the dates and significant events of Ukrainian history. He was especially interested in the days of the Cossacks. He was even the ataman of the Kakhovka kuren “Skyf” for several years in a row, the name of which in the future served as his call sign.

06/18/1997 – 10/16/2023

“MY SON WAS ALWAYS VERY ACTIVE. HE LOVED SPORTS, SO HE NEVER MISSED ANY SPORTS COMPETITIONS IN HIGH SCHOOL. HE HAD MANY HOBBIES, SKILLS AND SKILLS - HE SHOT A BOW, PULL A BAR, THROW DARTS AT A TARGET, OFTEN PLAYED VOLLEYBALL, FOOTBALL, EASILY TUGGED ROPE, WENT HIKING. HE ALSO ATTENDED THE JUDO SPORTS SECTION AND HAD MANY AWARDS FOR WINNING FIGHTS. OVERALL, OUR OLEKSII CAME FROM A DEFENDER ON THE FOOTBALL TEAM TO DEFENDER OF THE COUNTRY”, - SVITLANA MYKOLAIVNA’S MOTHER SAYS.

Excellent physical training and knowledge of the history of Ukraine came in handy for the young man when he entered his dream university in 2015. There, the guy made every effort to fully master the curriculum and gain the necessary experience. As a result of his hard work, he received the distinction “Best Cadet”. After completing his studies at the next university in 2021, Oleksiy got a job in the operational group of the Kakhovka police department. He was pleased that he had chosen such a profession, so he worked with enthusiasm and willingly mastered new, already practical, experience. This continued until February 24, 2022. The territory of the Kherson region was rapidly occupied by the enemy, so the guy began to actively look for opportunities to leave in order to defend Ukraine. And he did succeed. Even when he was entering college, his parents recall, he emphasized that if he did not pass the exam, he would go to defend the country as part of an anti-terrorist operation.

On November 16, 2022, Oleksiy voluntarily joined the 2nd battalion of the 1st company of the fire support platoon of the 79th separate Tavria assault brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, taking the position of senior gunner of the grenade launcher detachment. The defender was sent to carry out combat missions in the Donetsk direction.

Sdrfn



LILISON EVHEN VIKTOROVYCH



Lilison Evhen Viktorovych was born on August 13, 1990 in the village of Novo-Oleksiyivka, Genichesky district, Kherson region. He graduated from a local school, after which he searched for his path, and stopped working as a security guard. In November 2022, he joined the army - he served in the marines, in military unit A 2613. He was wounded, after which he returned to military service. He died on June 9, 2023 near the village of Storozhevo, Volnovakha district, Donetsk region. Buried in Lviv.

- I don't know his family at all, - admits his wife Alena. - We never had time to meet my father, because he lived separately, and my mother died when Zhenya was 18. I saw her only once, when we were just starting to meet

- I was fourteen then, he was sixteen. Then he found out that she had died, and he was going through it very hard. For him, this topic was taboo.

Yevgeny spent his childhood in Novooleksiyevka. Alena knows little about his school years, but she remembers her husband's stories about his childhood hobbies – he loved to work on cars and fish. In his youth, fate threw Yevgeny many trials, but he found the strength to get back on his feet and start a decent life. For several years, he worked as a security guard at various facilities, helping his father in any way he could.

A full-scale war caught him in his native village. While under occupation, Yevgeny resisted – he was engaged in partisan activities. Later, he decided to go to the controlled territory of Ukraine – he walked to the Berislavsky district, swam across the Dnieper, and reached Kryvyi Rih. It was then that he proposed to Alena to start a family. They got married in November 2022 in Lviv. The next day, her husband went to the front.

Alena has four children from a previous marriage. In a few months, Yevgeny became a real father to the children.

- THE ELDER SON SOMETIMES SAID TO HIM: "THANK YOU FOR SHOWING ME WHO A REAL FATHER IS." AND THE YOUNGEST WAS TWO YEARS OLD AT THE TIME,

08/13/1990 – 06/09/2023

BUT HE STILL SAYS: “MY DAD IS ZHENYA,” – REMEMBERS ALYONA ABOUT THEIR SHORT MARRIAGE.

Yevgeny served in the Marine Corps, in military unit A 2613, underwent training in Lviv, then ended up in the 35th brigade, 88th battalion. He survived his first wound in December 2022 — shrapnel hit his face. After treatment, he returned to service. From that moment on, he changed a lot, says his wife:

- THE PERSON I LET GO OF AND THE ONE WHO RETURNED WERE DIFFERENT. HE HEARD EVERY RUST, WAS ON THE GUARD. I ASKED HIM TO TELL ME TO MAKE IT EASIER, AND HE SAID: “I DON’T WANT YOU TO KNOW WHAT WAR IS LIKE.” SOMEHOW HE COULDN’T HOLD IT IN AND SAID: “DO YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU HOW I ATE ICE IN THE TRENCHES? HOW I LEFT MY BROTHER BECAUSE I COULDN’T TAKE IT UNDER SHOOTING?” AND THEN I UNDERSTOOD THAT IT WAS BETTER NOT TO ASK.

On June 9, 2023, at about 9 p.m., Yevhen sent his wife a voice message with information that he was preparing to leave, after which he promised to get in touch. He never came back...

- I FELT SOMETHING, – SAYS ALYONA. – AT TEN-THIRTY-ELEVEN I WAS ATTACKED BY A COLD PHONE. AND THEN THE PHONE WAS SILENT. IT WAS ONLY ON JUNE 12 THAT THEY CALLED ME AND TOLD ME THAT ZHENYA WAS ON THE LISTS OF THE “TWO HUNDRED”. I DIDN’T BELIEVE IT. I THOUGHT IT WAS A MISTAKE.

Her husband was killed that same evening, June 9, 2023, during a battle near the village of Storozhevo, Volnovakha district, Donetsk region. While carrying out the task, the Russian military hit a helicopter missile on a car carrying 12 Ukrainian soldiers, including Yevgen.

His body was only recovered a year later – in April 2024, Alena was informed of the DNA match. The Hero was buried on June 28, 2024, on the Field of Mars

in Lviv. During his lifetime and after his death, Yevgeny Lilison was awarded state and local awards: the Order of the Minister of Defense of Ukraine

“For Wounds” and the Honorary Badge of St. George for Heroism and Sacrifice from the Lviv City Council.

Alena keeps his photo and voice messages. In the latter, there is his favorite phrase:

“Everything will be clear.” That’s what he always said – even when war was raging around.



LISOVY OLEKSII VOLODYMYROVICH



Oleksii Volodymyrovych Lisovy was born on June 25, 1980 in the city of Smila, Cherkasy region, a few years later he moved to Zhytomyr, and since 2005 he has lived in the Nizhnyosirohoz district. He graduated from school in Zhytomyr, continued his studies at the Korolev Zhytomyr Military Institute, majoring in radio electronics. Since 2002, he began to build a military career. He was injured and continued to work first at the military registration and enlistment office, then at the tax inspection. In 2015, he was mobilized to the military registration and enlistment office. In 2019, he participated in the Joint Forces Operation – he served in the 28th separate mechanized brigade in Maryinka. After returning from the mission, he continued his service in the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Later he was sent to the Operational Command "South" in Odessa to the missile forces. He died on July 13, 2023 in Odessa.

At the age of five, Alexey moved with his mother and sister to Zhytomyr. Alexey's youthful dreams were far from the barracks: after school he studied at the Polytechnic Lyceum and wanted to be a programmer. However, his parents saw his future differently. Therefore, he continued his studies at the Zhytomyr Military Institute named after Korolev. This gave him not only a military rank, but also a civil engineering education, which was later needed.

In 2002, Alexey began serving in the 3rd separate special forces regiment. His career as a professional soldier seemed to be going uphill, but in 2005, during military exercises in Crimea, he was seriously injured.

- AFTER THE INJURY, THE MAN SPENT HALF A YEAR IN THE ODESSA HOSPITAL, AFTER WHICH HE HAD TO BE RELEASED FROM THE SERVICE FOR HEALTH REASON. HE COULD NO LONGER SERVE IN THE AIRBORNE-ASTROOPER TROOPS, EVEN THOUGH HE HAD MADE MORE THAN 50 PARACHUTE JUMPS, - SVITLANA'S WIFE SAYS ABOUT OLEKSII.

06/25/1980 – 07/13/2023

In 2005, Oleksii moved to her mother's homeland - in the Nizhnyosirohoz district of the Kherson region. First he worked as a civil servant in the military registration and enlistment office, later he headed the informatization department in the tax inspection. It was a time when his engineering skills and dream of IT finally came together.

- HE WAS AN ELECTRONICS ENGINEER, HE DREAMED OF BEING A PROGRAMMER, SO IT WAS INTERESTING TO HIM. EVEN AFTER HIS RELEASES FROM THE TAX OFFICE, TWO DISTRICTS WERE CALLING HIM TO REPAIR SERVERS, BECAUSE ONLY HE HAD THE NEEDED KNOWLEDGE, - SAYS HIS WIFE.

In 2007, Oleksiy met Svitlana. She immediately felt that he was special.

- HE WAS VERY SMART, IT WAS VERY INTERESTING TO TALK TO AND LISTEN TO HIM. HE WAS VERY EDUCATED - HE KNEW A LOT, HE KNEW A LOT. SOMETIMES MY HEART IMMEDIATELY FELT THAT HE WAS THE ONE PERSON WITH WHOM I COULD LIVE A HAPPY LIFE, - THE WIFE SHARES.

Two years later, they began living together in Nizhny Syrogozy, and in 2010 they officially got married. In February 2011, their son Yaroslav was born. For Alexey, his son was the center of the universe. He took care of the child's development, sent him to karate, and hired tutors in mathematics and English. The family also had common traditions: fishing with his son and annual trips to the Arabatskaya Spit and hot springs.

In 2015, against the backdrop of cuts and events in the east of the country, Oleksiy was mobilized to the military registration and enlistment office of the Nizhnyosirogozhsky district as a personnel officer. And in 2019, it was his turn to go to the ATO: for almost a year he served in the 28th separate mechanized brigade in Maryinka as the head of intelligence. It was a time of constant danger from snipers.

- He didn't talk much about those events, he was protecting me. There was a story when a mobile phone saved him from a sniper bullet, - Svitlana shares the details. - The phone, pierced through, lay in his pocket, protecting his heart.

In December 2019, the old injury worsened, and after the operation, Oleksiy returned home, where he was promoted to military commissar, later appointed head of the first department of the Genichesk district territorial center of recruitment and social support of the Kherson region.

The morning of February 24, 2022 began at 4:30 with a call from the duty officer. Oleksiy immediately gathered the personnel. At 14:00, he arrived home with the words: "Gather, you have 15 minutes." The column of the TCK from the Nizhnyosirohoz, Novotroitsy and Genichesk districts, together with their families, moved north. After being refused admission in Energodar and Vasylivka, they reached Zaporizhzhia. Oleksiy and his comrades were immediately sent to positions near Orekhov.

Near Kropyvnytskyi, where he formed territorial defense, Oleksiy wrote applications three times to be transferred to a combat unit. In the summer of 2022, he was sent to the OK "South" in Odessa to the missile troops. He quickly mastered a new specialty, even underwent training in Germany. His duties were critically important.

In the winter of 2022, on New Year's Day, the family escaped for the last time on a joint vacation - five days in Lviv.

Overload, stress and exacerbation of old injuries inevitably brought a tragic end closer. On duty in Odessa on July 13, 2023, while performing a combat mission, Oleksiy felt sick and lost consciousness. Doctors fought for his life for six hours, but were unable to save him. Lieutenant Colonel Oleksiy Volodymyrovych Lisovoy remained on guard forever. His devotion and courage were posthumously awarded the Order of Bohdan Khmelnytsky, 3rd degree, as well as lifetime awards: the Honorary Breastplate of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine "Steel Cross" (December 2022), the Breastplate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine "For Exemplary Service" (May 2023) and the Decoration of the Commander of the OK "South" (2022).

Oleksiy was cremated, and his ashes remain with Svetlana in Odessa.

- This was my conscious decision. We hope that someday we will return and take Oleksiy's ashes home, - says his wife.

LOZKO MAKSYM VASYLOVICH



Born on December 26, 1990 in the village of Trudolyubivka, Beryslav district, Kherson region. Here he graduated from 9 grades of a local school and entered the technical school of the city of Nova Kakhovka, where he studied information technologies. He interrupted his education due to military service, which he served as a sailor. Since February 24, 2022, he has been volunteering in the city of Kryvyi Rih. On March 17, 2022, he volunteered to join the 129th separate territorial defense brigade. Later, he joined the 253rd battalion "Arei" of the 129th separate heavy mechanized brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. On the night of September 27-28, 2023, he was seriously wounded near the villages of Staromayorske and Urozhayne, Volnovakha district, Donetsk region. On October 3, 2023, he died from injuries received in the Dnipropetrovsk Regional Clinical Hospital named after I.I. Mechnikov. He was buried in the honorary burial sector of the Central Cemetery in Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region. He was awarded the medal "For the Defense of the City of Kryvyi Rih", the medal "For Bravery in Battle", the breastplate "War Veteran", the commemorative badge of the 129th Separate Brigade of the Kryvyi Rih Regional Military District (during his lifetime) and the Certificate of Honor of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the decoration of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - the breastplate "Golden Cross" (posthumously). Maksym Lozko was the youngest child in the family, he had two older brothers, Denis and Viktor. The boy's mother was a housewife, his father was a beekeeper. Even in his youth, Maxim became interested in the IT sphere, he wanted to connect his life with this direction. However, due to personal circumstances, after the army he returned home and began to help his father with the family business - beekeeping. But his interest in computers remained: in his free time he was engaged in repairs and programming.

"As a child, Maxim was a real savant: he participated in everything around him and strove to be the first. Such activity and perseverance remained with him in adulthood, he boldly tried his hand at various fields. And he was responsible, kind, cheerful, responsive, intelligent," says Maxim's wife Olga.

12/26/1990 – 10/03/2023

The man had known his future wife since school. In 2010, the couple got married. Two sons were born to the couple: Yaroslav and Timur. At first, the family lived in Trudolyubivka, and in 2011 they moved to Novaya Kakhovka. Here, the husband worked as a manager in a construction and household supermarket. In 2015, they returned to live in Maksym's native village.

"Maksym was the best father who wanted to raise his sons to be good people – to instill in them the right principles and moral guidelines. He knew how to find a common language with the children: he played with them, helped them with their studies, and taught them to play sports. They were engaged in hand-to-hand combat, and at every competition he was their most ardent fan. Maksym was a beloved husband who always found time and a way to please me. There were always flowers in our house, even during a full-scale war. When he returned from a combat mission, he ordered the delivery of flowers and jewelry," recalls Olga.

Since 2019, the family has lived in Kryvyi Rih. Here Maksym found himself in a new activity – he worked as a colorist at the enterprise, mixing paints by shades. The family had its own tradition – to spend weekends together outside the house. They walked in the park, rode rides or went to nature.

On the first day of the full-scale invasion, the man became a volunteer, helping with the preparation of defensive structures in the city. In mid-March, he joined the ranks of the 129th Brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. Later, he joined the 253rd Battalion

"Arey" of the 129th Brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He was the commander of a mechanized detachment, commander of a combat vehicle, and a machine gunner. He had the rank of junior sergeant and the call sign Matros, but his comrades often called him Moryachok. The soldier participated in the liberation of the Kherson region, in particular the village of Arkhangelske and the village of Myrolyubivka in the Beryslav district. He also had rotations in the Donetsk and Zaporizhia directions.

"You could rely on him in battle, he never left his men and, despite everything, went to the goal together, he was not afraid of anything. During the last task, Maksym was first wounded in the back, they wanted to evacuate him and he refused. Because he wanted to be with his guys. And then the second wound happened..." - shares the wife.

On the night of September 27-28, 2023, during an assault between the village of Staromayorske and the village of Urozhayne in the Donetsk region, Maksym Lozko received a complex shrapnel wound to the head. The soldier was evacuated and operated on in the city of Pokrovsk, after which he was hospitalized in the intensive care unit of the Dnipropetrovsk Regional Clinical Hospital named after I.I. Mechnikov in the city of Dnipro, where doctors fought for his life for three days. All this time, the man was in a coma. On October 3 at 5 am, his heart stopped.

"We last spoke on September 26. We agreed that after leaving the positions, I would come and we would go home. He was supposed to be given a 5-day leave. In general, whenever possible, I would come to him, bring his favorite dishes: my baked duck and my mother-in-law's potato pies. I wanted to envelop him with warmth and comfort, support him with care," says Olga.

Stands of honor with portraits of Maksym Lozko have been installed: on the Alley of Glory in the village of Trudolyubivka and the Alley of Heroes in the village of Novovorontsovka in the Kherson region, the Memorial of Heroes "Cubes of Memory" and the Alley of Glory in the Dovhyntsivskiy district in the city of Kryvyi Rih in the Dnipropetrovsk region. Information about the soldier is also posted in the Kryvyi Rih Museum of History and Local Lore and on the electronic scoreboard of the Kyiv Central Railway Station.

Maksym Lozko was 32 years old. He is survived by his father, two brothers, wife and two children. Maksym's siblings made commemorative pendants for Yaroslav and Timur. They received them as a symbol of honor and gratitude for their father's feat.

"He went to serve to protect his home, his family, his children. He is forever our hero," Olga notes.

LUTSYSHYN SERHIY ANATOLIYOVYCH



Born on April 7, 1981 in the village of Vynohradovo, Kherson district, Kherson region. After graduating from Vynohradovo secondary school, he went to work. In March 2023, Serhiy Lutsyshyn joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine, joining the 80th separate airborne assault Galician brigade. He was mortally wounded on September 19, 2023 between the settlements of Mala Tokmachka and Verbovye, Polohiv district, Zaporizhzhia region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the cemetery in the city of Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region. Awarded the breastplate "For Services to the City" (Kryvyi Rih) and the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

Serhiy Lutsyshyn grew up in a large family, where he was the second child among four: he had an older brother, a younger brother, and a younger sister. The boy's parents worked as laborers on a local collective farm for some time, and after it closed, they took up farming. The family cultivated their own fields, where they grew watermelons, sunflowers, and various grain crops.

"As a child, Serhiy was a mischievous boy. However, he quickly outgrew that. At the age of 16, he began working as a tractor driver, helping his relatives. He greatly respected and loved his family – he constantly took care of both his parents and his brothers and sisters. Serhiy was purposeful, persistent, fair, a "truth seeker." If he didn't like something or thought it was wrong, he would speak about it directly and openly," says Serhiy's wife Marina.

Serhiy had a special deep connection with his father. It was from him that he inherited his passion for technology. Since his youth, Serhiy was fond of motorcycles, both driving and repairing them: he disassembled, assembled, and improved them. In adulthood, this hobby spread to cars. He could also repair various devices, including computers and laptops. He devoted his free time from his main job to this business. And later taught his son everything he knew.

Serhiy Lutsyshyn met his wife in 2006 thanks to mutual friends who organized their meeting. Later, the couple communicated by phone, because

07.04.1981 – 19.09.2023

at that time Marina lived in Kherson, and Serhiy lived in Vynohradiv. A week later, the man said that he would come to her, and he really did. That meeting ended with a marriage proposal, to which Marina answered without hesitation: “Yes.”

“WE MET AT THE END OF APRIL, WE HAD A MATCHING PARTY IN JUNE, AND WE WERE WEDDING IN AUGUST. WE MET QUICKLY, BUT FOR LIFE. YOU KNOW WHEN YOU MEET A PERSON AND WITH YOUR WHOLE SOUL YOU FEEL THAT HE IS YOUR PERSON. THAT WAS HOW IT WAS WITH US,” REMEMBERS THE WIFE.

In 2007, the couple had a son, Ilya. At first, the young family settled in Serhiy’s native village, where they worked in their fields. Then, in 2013, they moved to the village of Khreshchenivka, Beryslavskiy district, Kherson region, where Maryna is from. Over time, Serhiy Lutsyshyn found a job as a security guard in the city of Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk region. He went there to work in shifts. Despite the distance, he always remained a caring husband and father.

“SERGIY WAS A GOOD HOUSEHOLDER, HE HAD GOLDEN HANDS. SEW SOCKS, FIX A WARDROBE, COOK BORSCH - I DON’T KNOW WHAT HE COULDN’T DO. HE WAS ALSO VERY EASY ON HIKING, QUICKLY MADE DECISIONS, LOVED TO TAKE SUDDEN TRIPS. FOR EXAMPLE, I’M CANNING CUCUMBERS, AND HE COMES AND SAYS: “DROP EVERYTHING. WE’RE GOING TO SKADOVSK AT THE SEA”. AND IN A FEW HOURS WE WERE THERE. IN GENERAL, WE OFTEN SPONTANEOUSLY CHOSEN THE WHOLE FAMILY SOMEWHERE: CAFE, NATURE, ATTRACTIONS. IT WAS OUR OWN TRADITION,” SAYS MARINA.

The beginning of the full-scale invasion found the family apart. After two and a half months under temporary Russian occupation, Marina and Ilya were able to evacuate to Serhiy in Kryvyi Rih.

Since March 22, 2023, Serhiy Lutsyshyn has served in the 4th detachment of the 2nd platoon of the 12th company of the 3rd battalion of the 80th separate airborne assault Galician brigade. At first he was a detachment commander, and after training, he was an infantry fighting vehicle mechanic-driver. Over time, he was transferred to the position of senior rifleman. He had the rank of soldier and the call sign KHERSON. Since August 2023, he was in the Zaporizhia direction.

According to his wife, his husband’s decision to join the army was influenced by the death of his father in December 2022. Serhiy was not able to say goodbye to him, since the left-bank Kherson region is still under temporary Russian occupation. “The guys are there, and I’m sitting here. I can’t do this. I want to return home as soon as possible,” he told Marina then. The last time his family saw the soldier was on July 24, 2023, they talked on September 18.

“Serhiy called me at 11:15 p.m., their group was going to leave for positions. I’ve never heard him so worried. He had a developed intuition, he felt something, but he didn’t want to worry me. Then he called his older brother and said that he probably wouldn’t return from there. And so it happened. While carrying out the task, their crew was killed in battle,” the wife shares.

Serhiy Lutsyshyn was killed on September 19, 2023, between the villages of Mala Tokmachka and Verbovye during the Ukrainian counteroffensive in Zaporizhia. For some time, the man was considered missing. The soldier’s body was identified based on the results of two DNA examinations conducted on December 6 and 25, 2024. Serhiy was buried on January 2, 2025.

Information banners with portraits of Serhiy Lutsyshyn were installed on the Alley of Glory in the village of Khreshchenivka and the Alley of Glory in the city of Kryvyi Rih. The man was 42 years old. He is survived by his mother, two brothers, sister, wife, and son.

“What is the first thing I remember about my Seryozha? That’s all. His voice, his gaze, his steps. I think about him all the time. When I visit places where we used to walk together, I can even talk to him. It’s hard without him. He was my biggest support. I miss him very much,” says Marina.

MAZUN VADYM ANATOLIYOVYCH



Mazun Vadim Anatoliyovych, call sign Sukharka, was born on March 26, 1972 in the city of Kherson in the Kherson region. He studied at the Kherson secondary school of I-III grades No. 47. He graduated from the Kherson Ship Engineering College, majoring in “Assembly and Adjustment of Machine Tools with Numerical Program Control” and the Kherson National Technical University, majoring in “Engineering Technology”. He voluntarily joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the large-scale invasion and defended the state as part of the 41st separate mechanized brigade, military unit A4576 with the rank of junior lieutenant as a machine-gun platoon commander. He took part in hostilities in the Kupyansk direction of the Kharkiv region. Died on October 17, 2023 while performing a combat mission in the village of Synkivka, Petropavlovsk community, Kupyansky district, Kharkiv region. Buried in the city of Kherson on the Alley of Glory of the Geologists' cemetery. Posthumously awarded the Order of Bohdan Khmelnytsky, III degree. Vadim Anatolyevich was born in the south of Ukraine - in the city of shipbuilders Kherson. His parents are hardworking Kherson residents, who from an early age were an exemplary example for him and his brother Gennady. His father, Anatoly Ivanovich Mazun, worked as a senior engineer at the central laboratory of the Kherson Plant of Semiconductor Devices, and his mother, Larisa Volodymyrivna Mazun, was a chief specialist at the Main Department of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Kherson Regional State Administration. She notes:

“VADYM WAS A WONDERFUL CHILD. HE WAS LOVED BY HIS TEACHERS, FRIENDS AND EVERYONE HE COMMUNICATED WITH. HIS CHILD’S SINCERITY AND CHEERFUL NATURE COULD NOT LEAVE ANYONE INDIVIDUAL. HE WAS ALSO VERY SMART, INQUISITIVE AND TALENTED. BESIDES, HE ADORE ANIMALS, AND THEY ALWAYS CAME TO HIM WITH TRUST, AS IF THEY FELT THAT THIS CHILD WOULD NEVER OFFEND.”

03/26/1972 – 10/17/2023

In the first grade, Vadim learned that Kherson Music School No. 1 was located near his mother's work, so he decided to sign up for an audition. Without telling his parents, the boy did it. Within a few days, together with his mother, he successfully passed his first audition and became a student of the music school. His abilities and diligence later resulted in a virtuoso playing of the accordion. However, after 4 years, the schoolboy changed musical art to a new hobby – modeling airplane models.

In a regular school, Vadim was a very diligent student who had outstanding abilities in mathematics and physics. He always carefully prepared for each lesson, so he was successful in other subjects as well. In the 6th grade, he combined his thirst for science with creativity and began writing his own science fiction stories. Unfortunately, none of the drafts have survived.

But when talking about his future profession, the guy did not mention either a musical career or a writing career. After undergoing an appendectomy, he dreamed of becoming a surgeon. But even that turned out differently. After the 8th grade, the young man entered the Kherson Ship Engineering College, and in 1991 he became a student at the Kherson National Technical University.

1993 was marked by an important event for Vadim and his family - the young man got married. In marriage with his wife Natalia, they had two daughters - the eldest, Olena, and the youngest, Anna. They remember their father as kind, infinitely loving, and caring.

In 1995, the man successfully completed his studies at the university and with honor went to serve in the air defense troops in the city of Berdyansk, Zaporizhia region. A year later, with the rank of sergeant, Vadim was discharged to the reserve, returned to Kherson and went to work. So Vadim became a senior lieutenant of the Main Department of the Kherson Region Police. The man liked the work. He could have fought for justice forever, but when difficulties arose with the payment of wages, he had to resign.

The man's next place of work was the Limited Liability Company "Amalteya". There he worked as an extruder driver.

Colleagues still speak well of Vadim, because in addition to the responsibly performed work, he helped others, always knew how to cheer up the team, and even after work he often helped colleagues and relatives with household chores. According to Larisa Volodymyrivna, her son had golden hands, which is why everyone asked him to help, whether it was repairing something or simply making something. In his free time, Vadim liked to go with his younger brother Gennady, who unfortunately died in 2008 due to an accident, to his parents' dacha near the river. There, his passion was night fishing. Therefore, in the morning, the female part of the family had work in the form of fishing. Like many Kherson residents, he himself dried, salted and cooked fish quite deliciously. This was his life until the full-scale invasion. But after long months of occupation, and then merciless shelling, Vadim made a difficult decision - to defend the state. He told his family that he could not just sit around while his city was being destroyed to the ground and left. On March 9, 2023, the man became the commander of the machine gun platoon of military unit A4576. The man performed combat missions in the Kupyansk direction of the Kharkiv region. In the rear, he was supported by his family, acquaintances and friends. For example, his half-sister helped raise funds and purchase a car for his platoon, and one of his comrades donated his own car so that Vadim could safely evacuate his comrades from the battlefield.

In early September 2023, Vadim took a vacation and came to his relatives to congratulate his eldest daughter Olena on her engagement. But it so happened that this was his last meeting with his relatives. Later, the man was informed that he could soon become a happy grandfather, but fate had a different scenario. On October 17 of the same year, Vadim died while performing a combat mission near the settlement of Synkivka in the Kharkiv region. His comrades considered him the best commander, whom one could always rely on. The defender managed to return and be buried in his native Kherson. He is survived by his parents, wife, daughters, and grandson.

MAKAROV PAVLO VITALIYOVYCH



Makarov Pavel Vitaliyovych, call sign Hannibal, was born on July 9, 1995 in the urban-type settlement of Askania-Nova, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. After graduating from local school, in 2011 he entered the Kherson Professional Shipbuilding Lyceum as a mechanic. Then the family moved to Kherson. In 2014 he entered the Kherson State Maritime Academy and began working at sea in parallel. In June 2022 he joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine as a volunteer. Since September he has served in the 47th separate mechanized brigade "Magura". He died on June 15, 2023 in the village of Mala Tokmachka, Polohiv district, Zaporizhzhia region. He is buried in the city of Kherson.

Pavel Makarov was her only son, says his mother, Tetyana Volodymyrivna. She raised the child together with her parents – Pasha’s grandparents, who put a lot of soul and love into their grandson.

The boy was fond of martial arts from an early age. In Askania-Nova he was engaged in freestyle wrestling, after moving to Kherson, he began to go to pankration (ancient Greek martial art, ed.), then – he took up fighting without rules, became the champion of Ukraine in this direction.

“I ALWAYS HAVE MY SON’S SMILE IN FRONT OF MY EYES. WHERE WE MEET, UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS IT WAS - HE ALWAYS SMILE. PAVLO WAS VERY CALM AND RELIABLE. HE WAS MY PROTECTOR, A "WALL" ON WHICH I COULD ALWAYS RELY ON, - REMEMBERS TETIANA VOLODYMYRIVNA.

While studying at the university, Pavlo began working as a mechanic on a ship. He liked the profession: he loved the sea and traveling. While abroad, he always looked forward to returning, he called Ukraine his home. The man dreamed of improving his qualifications over time, but a full-scale invasion began.

07/09/1995 – 06/15/2023

February 24, 2022, Pavlo Makarov was found abroad, on a flight. He terminated the contract with his employer, returned to Ukraine and in June 2022 joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, telling his mother that he was working at sea. The woman found out six months later that her son was serving in the 47th separate mechanized brigade “Magura” when she heard her brothers say during a telephone conversation: “Pasha, let’s go change the armor.”

During his service, the man was trained in Great Britain, Germany, and Slovakia. He received the call sign Hannibal in honor of the ancient commander – Pavlo was courageous, stocky, 1.88 meters tall, and was fond of ancient history.

“WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT HE WAS CONSCRIPTED, I KNEELED AND ASKED HIM NOT TO GO TO WAR. AND PASHA SAID: “MOM, I WENT TO PROTECT YOU, YOUR GIRLS, AND THEIR GRANDCHILDREN.” SHE CALLED HER WORK COLLEAGUES “MY GIRLS,” - TETYANA VOLODYMYRIVNA SAYS.

Pavel Makarov fought in the Zaporizhzhia direction. He was an operator-gunner of the Bradley infantry fighting vehicle.

The last time the defender spoke with his mother was on the day of his death - June 15, 2023. When she did not receive any news from her son for a week, Tetyana Volodymyrivna sounded the alarm: she called the brigade, turned to the Kherson CCC. For eight months, Pavel Makarov was considered missing. Then she learned: his son died in battle in the village of Mala Tokmachka in Zaporizhzhia.

“The guys told me that they came under fire: they were hit from helicopters, everything was mined. Pasha’s Bradley was destroyed in the very first battle. He could have stayed and waited for a new vehicle, but he went by attack aircraft. My son died trying to take two wounded men from the battlefield. He saved his friend, and he stayed there himself,” says Tetyana Volodymyrivna.

Pavel Makarov was buried on February 20, 2024 in Kherson at the Geologists’ Cemetery on Heroes’ Alley. He was 27 years old. The fallen defender is survived by his mother and grandmother.

“Brothers say he was more than a brother to them. Courageous, determined, reliable. He created the brigade’s flag. When a combat vehicle caught fire after the shelling, he was the only one to climb up and pull it out. This flag was given to me along with his belongings,” said the mother.



MALAKHOV ANDRIY VOLODYMYROVYCH



Malakhov Andriy Volodymyrovych was born on July 19, 1981 in the city of Kherson, Kherson district, Kherson region. He studied at Kherson secondary school No. 49. He graduated from Kherson vocational school No. 4 (the institution was reorganized), having mastered the profession of carpenter. After the liberation of Kherson, he joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He defended the state as part of the 35th separate marine brigade named after Rear Admiral Mykhailo Ostrogradsky, first in the Donetsk region, and then in the Kherson direction. He died as a result of a clash with the enemy in the village of Krynki on the left bank of the Kherson region. He is buried on the Alley of Heroes in the village of Shyroka Balka, Kherson district, Kherson region.

Andriy Volodymyrovych was the firstborn of the Malakhovs. His father, Volodymyr Vasylevich, worked as a car mechanic, and his mother, Raisa Ivanovna, was an employee of a kindergarten at the Kherson Shipbuilding Plant. Recalling their son's childhood, the parents note that Andriy was a quiet, calm and polite boy. He remained so in adulthood. Even in school years, he became interested in historical subjects, so history lessons became his favorite, and his evenings were often spent reading books, a love for which remained for life. After all, even in adulthood, he loved to read. It was impossible not to notice this. He always knew something interesting to tell and how to keep a conversation going. Also in his older years, he loved to spend his leisure time in the company of his younger brother Mykola and sister Natalya, who remembers his brother with warmth and sadness at the same time:

“HE ALWAYS SMILE, NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT LIFE WAS. HE PLAYED SO NICELY WITH ME, BUYED SOMETHING TASTY. AND EVEN THOUGH WE HAD A DIFFERENCE OF 22 YEARS, IT WAS EASY AND FUN WITH HIM. HE ALWAYS KNEW SOMETHING LIGHT IN EVERYTHING. AND HE ALWAYS CARED ABOUT ME, WAS INTERESTED IN MY LIFE, STUDIES, WAS A TRUE FRIEND AND BROTHER. HE WAS MY SUPPORT AND REJOICE. EVEN AFTER ALL

07/19/1981 – 11/04/2023

THE HORRIBLE MOMENTS OF THE WAR AND OCCUPATION, THERE WAS SO MUCH LIGHT IN IT. IT WAS SO NOT ENOUGH”.

Andriy always spent his school summer holidays with his grandmother in the village of Vitrove in the Kherson region. There, he not only enjoyed the beauty of his native land, but also had the opportunity to pay more attention to another hobby - repairing equipment, in particular motorcycles. However, the man associated his future profession and work with carpentry. After studying at the school, he immediately went to work. The future defender worked most of his time in the construction sector. Every time after a hard day's work, Andriy liked not only to sit down with books, but also to solve crossword puzzles.

Another characteristic feature of the man was patriotism. Therefore, when the Revolution of Dignity was going on in the country, the man not only supported social activism in Kherson, but also intended to join the events on the main Maidan of the country. However, a number of family reasons forced him to change his decision. But in 2022, everything was different. When the occupiers approached Kherson, Andriy's determination knew no bounds. Together with his acquaintances and employees, he prepared the so-called "Molotov cocktails" and actively prepared to defend his hometown. But the enemy had an advantage in both strength and weapons, so he quickly occupied the regional center. But the man steadfastly stuck to his principles and boldly, together with all the Kherson residents, chanted to the enemy that Kherson is Ukraine. His pro-Ukrainian position was quickly noticed, and soon representatives of the enemy's special services came for Andriy and took the Kherson resident to the basements. For some time he was interrogated and beaten, but it did not frighten him.

“ANDRIY IMMEDIATELY TOLD THEM NOT TO BE AFRAID AND TO LET IT GO, TO STAY WITH HIS OPINION, WHICH HE ALSO VOICED TO THEM REPEATEDLY AND RECEIVED ABUSE IN RESPONSE. HE REPEATED TO THEM THAT NO ONE CALLED A RUSSIAN IN KHERSON OR IN UKRAINE IN ENTIRETY! HE TOLD THEM TO GET OUT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT MIRACLE IT IS, BUT THEY LET HIM GO AWAY ALIVE,” REMEMBERS RAISA IVANIVNA'S MOTHER.

All this did not break Andriyev, but only gave rise to a thirst for justice, so after the de-occupation of Kherson, he decided to join the ranks of the defenders. Since the man had problems with his heart and eyesight, he had to undergo more than one military medical commission in order to achieve his goal. In 2023, he went to basic military training and, together with his comrades from military unit A0216, went to the Donetsk direction. After some time, he was seconded to his native Kherson direction. But, unfortunately, the defender was not destined to see victory. While performing a combat mission, Andriyev died in the village of Krynki on the left bank of the Kherson region. He was survived by his parents, brother and sister.



MARCHAK MYKOLA MYKOLAYOVYCH



Marchak Mykola Mykolayovych, call sign Kum, was born on March 17, 1982 in the village of Zmiivka, Beryslav district, Kherson region. After receiving his education at a local school, he entered the Kharkiv National Automobile and Road University. He worked as a driver. In 2017, he went abroad to work. On April 17, 2022, he joined the ranks of the 28th separate mechanized brigade named after the Knights of the Winter Campaign of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, a volunteer. He died on March 21, 2023 near the village of Kurdyumivka, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. Buried in the village of Zmiivka, Kherson region. Awarded the distinction "For Service to the State" (lifetime). In memory of the fallen soldier, Liliya Lyashko founded the Mykola Marchak Charitable Foundation, which helps the Armed Forces of Ukraine and victims of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation. The petition for the award of the title "Hero of Ukraine" collected 25,478 thousand signatures on the website of the official online representation of the President of Ukraine. At the time of recording the interview, it was under consideration.

Mykola Marchak, together with his older sister Natalia, grew up in a complete loving family. From childhood, the boy was distinguished by honesty and sincerity, always came to the aid of those in need.

"HE LOVED NATURE, ANIMALS, AND MOST OF ALL, PIGEONS. NIKE WAS A TIRELESS, RELIABLE ASSISTANT TO HIS PARENTS IN HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT," - SAYS SISTER NATALIA.

After his military service, Mykola Marchak started working as a taxi driver in Nova Kakhovka. Almost the whole city knew him. According to his sister, Mykola had the gift of finding a common language with people.

"He was a very kind person. I remember how he drove my special son for free and didn't ask for any documents, but simply smiled at him. And few people smile at us, believe me," recalls Valentyna, a resident of Nova Kakhovka.

Mykola Marchak met his wife Anna in the minibus he was driving. The couple got married in 2018, and in 2020 the couple had a son, Myroslav. The family where Mykola grew up respected Ukrainian traditions and customs. The husband and wife tried to instill this love in their son.

In 2017, Mykola Marchak went to Poland to work. He worked as a pump driver at a construction site. At his new job, the man was appreciated for his professionalism, responsibility, and punctuality, he was respected by his management, and he had loyal friends. Mykola constantly followed the events in Ukraine, communicated with his family, and missed home very much.

When a full-scale war with Russia began in February 2022, he could not stay away and decided to return to protect what was most dear to him. Mykola called his wife from Poland and told her to go there with his son. He explained his plans that he planned to engage in volunteer activities, would help the military, and would not cross the border.

Instead, on April 17, 2022, Mykola became a soldier of the 28th separate mechanized brigade. At first, he was a reserve sergeant, then a rifleman-medic. On May 15, 2022, Anna learned that her husband was now a soldier. Beloved Mykola said: “The war will end. How will I look my son in the eye?”

“When I asked my brother on the phone why he decided to return from Poland to the war, he replied: “How can I be here when my wife and child are hiding in the basement from shelling, when my mother is crying from fear and helplessness?” - recalls sister Natalia.

Mykola came to the new unit with his godfather Vitaly. That's how he received the call sign Kum. “I said that this is my godfather. My son's godfather. The brothers looked at each other, smiled and replied: “So you will be our godfather too.” He was a loyal friend,” says Vitaliy.

The brothers remember Kum as responsible, a man of his word and strong in spirit. Marchak told his wife that he had a very beautiful and friendly unit.

“When Snihurivka was liberated, ancient icons were found in the ashes. Together with the boys, Kolya took them to Mykolaiv to the priests for restoration.

The man was a very religious man. They also saved animals there. They built a small barn and sheltered a calf, a duck with chicks,” recalls his wife Anna. Together with his unit, Mykola Marchak participated in the liberation of the right-bank Kherson region.

“People just came out and thanked them. One by one they ran ahead of the other.

“Guys, I made you dumplings!” And another woman ran: “Guys, I made you borscht!” The children were treated to sweets,” the wife recounts her beloved's memories of the day Kherson was liberated.

From there, Mykola's unit was sent to the Bakhmut direction. Anna last saw her husband on July 6, 2022 in Lviv, where he and his brother-in-law had come to pick up a car for the unit. “Bring me my son, maybe I'll see him for the last time,” the defender told his wife.

The man was on the front line from the first days near Bakhmut. Mykola Marchak died on March 21, 2023 in the Kurdyumivka area of the Donetsk region while performing a combat mission. Together with his brothers-in-law, they captured Russian positions and two enemies. When they were returning, they came under mortar fire. At 12 noon, Anna learned about the death of her beloved. “I asked him to write every morning at 5 o'clock that he had returned from the mission. Kolya always wrote a short text message: “I'm back, everything is fine.” In moments of silence, he tried to contact his son via video call. He said: “I would like to just watch the child play.” The last message that came on the day of his death was: “Good morning. Have a good mood.” The last time I heard from him was on March 20,” his wife recalls. “I'm fine. Save the “Shturman”,” were Mykola's last words. Even at the last minute, he wasn't thinking about himself,” says his best man and brother Vitaly. “Kolya was one of the best I knew in the war. A very fearless fighter,” recalls the commander Mykola Marchak. The fallen soldier was buried in the village of Zmiivka. During the farewell, Russian drones tried to attack the procession, so everything happened very quickly, his relatives recall.

MAKSYM SERGIYOVICH MATSYUTA



Maksym Serhiyovych Matsyuta, call sign Matsyk, was born on June 26, 1980 in the city of Kakhovka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. He studied at Kakhovka secondary school No. 4 for grades I-III. After receiving basic education, he began his working life. At the beginning of the full-scale invasion, he voluntarily joined the 128th territorial defense brigade “Dyke Pole” (now the 128th separate heavy mechanized brigade “Dyke Pole”). As part of the 1st rifle division of the 2nd platoon of the 2nd company of military unit A7408, he defended the state in the Kurakhiv direction in the Donetsk region. As a result of an enemy attack, while saving a comrade in position, he was seriously injured and died of internal bleeding during medical evacuation. Buried on the Walk of Fame in the city of Vyshgorod in the Kyiv region. During his lifetime, he was awarded the Order of National Honor “For Courage and Bravery”, the Order of the Knight’s Cross presented by the charitable foundation “Vertep. The Power of the Common Good”, the Medal of the Commander of the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine “For Faithful Service” of the 3rd degree and the Medal of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine “For Wounds”. Maksym Serhiyovych was born into a friendly family of Kakhovka residents, Serhiy Grigorovych Matsyuta and Kateryna Semenivna Matsyuta. His father worked at a subsidiary of “BMU-96”, a private joint-stock company “UKRVODBUD”, and his mother was a builder, but she often devoted time to singing, for which she had a remarkable talent. And while his parents worked, Maksym spent his leisure time in the company of his older brother Roman and younger sister Maria. They remember him as a sincere, open and very kind person who was always ready to lend a helping hand.

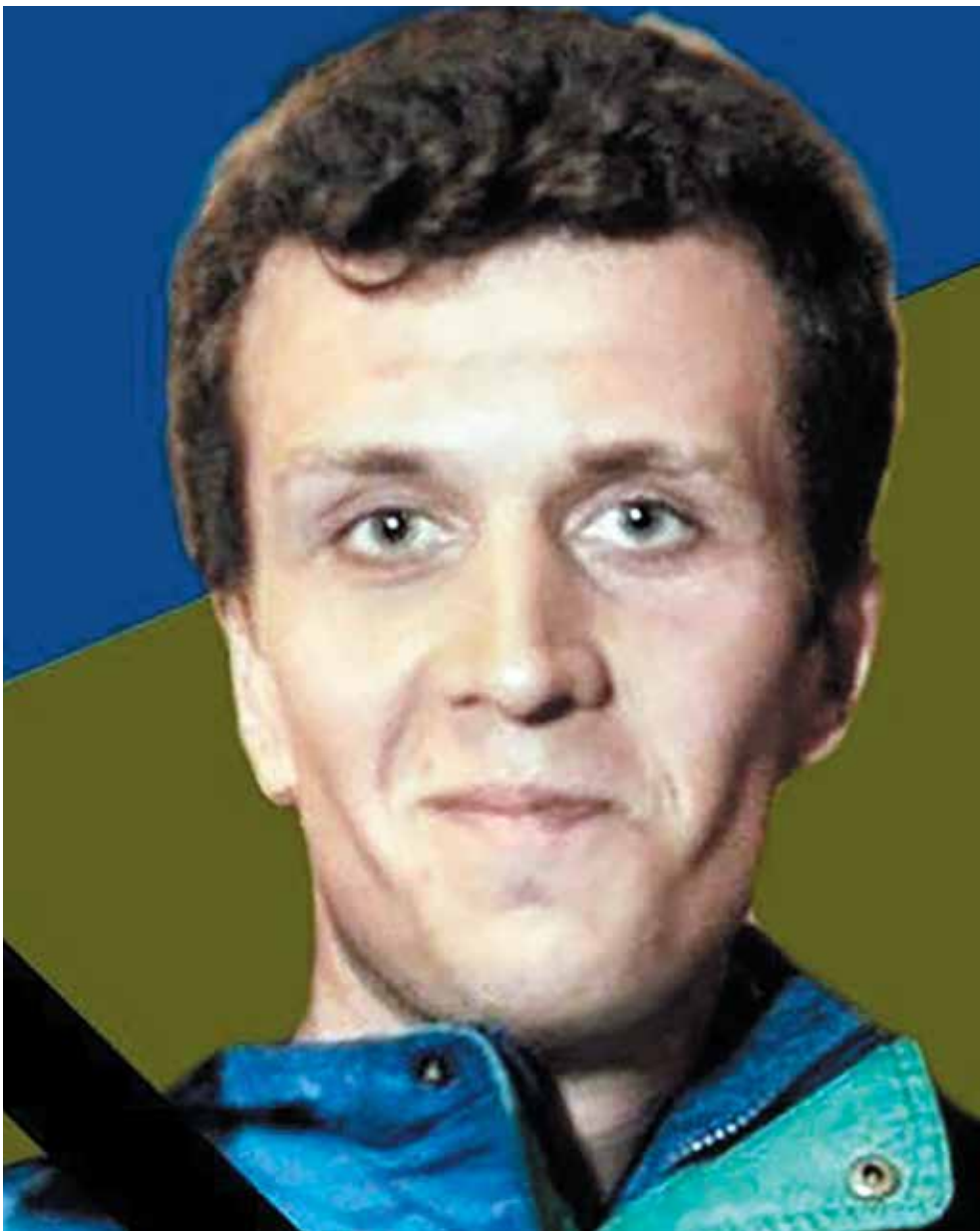
“Our Maksym was calm, very decent and surprisingly patient, he did not like conflicts, so he always tried to find a compromise. When he was little, he was a little chaotic, but when he grew up, everything became the opposite. He had golden hands, knew how to fix absolutely everything, understood engines and whatever he took on, he always did it properly. And he was also very kind and reliable,” notes the brother of the deceased, film actor Roman Matsiuta.

06/26/1980 – 10/12/2023

When Maksym was at school, he really stood out among his peers for his good behavior and decency. He already had such a temperament, and parental upbringing played a significant role here. In addition, the schoolboy had a dream related to sports, and therefore discipline was an important factor. After all, he was fond of football and diligently trained at the children's and youth physical training club of the city of Kakhovka (now the Children's and Youth Sports School of the Kakhovka City Council). But, to his great regret, the boy was not destined to become a football player. One day he suffered a meniscus injury, so training had to be postponed for a while. And because of this, he could not get into military service. After graduating from school, the young man decided to go to work immediately. He gained his first work experience at the Kakhovka fish farm. Later, his older brother Roman suggested that Maksym move to the city of Donetsk, where his older brother continued to receive a musical education. Together with Roman in 2000, the future defender moved to Kyiv, where he found a job that captivated him - he became a bartender. In the capital, he also managed to return to football. Every weekend, the man played for the amateur team of the football club "Livyi bereg", which he loved very much. In 2010, Maksym got married for the first time. In marriage with his first wife Iryna, a daughter, Milana, was born. He was a wonderful father who always paid enough attention to his daughter, took care of her and surrounded her with parental love from all sides. Even after the couple divorced, little changed in his relationship with the child. Milana loved her father, so she was always in touch with him. Already in 2018, Maksym decided to change his profession, so he went to work as a trucker in neighboring Poland. It was there, in 2022, that he heard the news about the beginning of a full-scale invasion. Having called his brother, the man said that he was quitting his job, getting on the train and going to Ukraine to defend it. And so it turned out. Soon he was in Lviv, where he immediately went to the military registration and enlistment office. There were endless lines everywhere, and when he finally got there, he was refused because he did not have basic military training. But that did not stop him. Together with other guys, Maksym boarded the Lviv-Dnipro train, reached the city of Dnipro, and there joined the newly formed

128th Territorial Defense Brigade "Wild Field". Although the man was enlisted as a soldier-driver, he also performed a number of other duties and gained combat experience in some of the most difficult areas of the front. It could not be otherwise, because he was one of the grandsons whose grandfathers bravely defended their homeland during World War II, and one of them, Grigory Andriyovych Matsyuta, even reached Berlin. Maksym defended the country in the Kurakhiv direction in the Donetsk region. And there he dreamed of returning to his native Kakhovka and rebuilding his region. When the defender received his first vacation, he decided to take an important step - he gave himself a second chance at love and married Olena Trofymchuk on August 9, 2022. The couple met in 2020, symbolically on the Independence Day of Ukraine. His wife Olena remembers her husband with warm words: "Maxim will forever remain in my memory and heart with his radiant smile, which radiated so much warmth and sincerity. In peacetime, it never left his face. He was the soul of the company, a bright person who could always comfort and cheer up. He was very cheerful. He had a beautiful timbre of voice that I will never forget... He loved his friends, and his friends loved him. So even on vacation, we spent almost every day with friends, because everyone wanted to see him. He was loved and respected by his brothers no less. He often cooked for them and showed me everything via video link. That's how caring our Maxim was." But the couple were not destined to be together for long, because in October of the following year, Maxim was performing combat missions at a position that was under constant enemy fire. The day before, the soldier called his brother Roman and said goodbye, although he didn't say it outright, he only noted that things were bad, the guys were tired, and the enemy still had strength. This, as Roman notes, was their last conversation. Soon, relatives and friends learned that Maksym was no more. During the combat sortie, his brother was wounded, so the man rushed to his aid and began to apply a tourniquet, but at that moment the Russians dropped a VOG ammunition from a drone. As a result, the right side of Maksym's body was hit by shrapnel, one of which got under his body armor and pierced one of his organs. The defender died of internal bleeding on the way to the hospital in a medevac.

MEDVID DMYTRO LEONIDOVYCH



Born on January 5, 1990 in the city of Kherson, Kherson region. There he graduated from Kherson secondary school No. 31 and entered the Kherson Law Institute of the Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs, interrupted his education due to personal circumstances. Later he returned to study at the Faculty of History and Law of Kherson State University, where he received a bachelor's degree. He then studied at the Faculty of Biology, Geography and Ecology of the Kherson State Agrarian and Economic University, but did not complete his master's degree due to the full-scale war. Participant of the Maidan in Kherson and activist of the Ukrainian Volunteer Corps "Right Sector". On July 12, 2023, he was drafted into the 9th separate motorized infantry battalion. Died on August 30, 2023 between the settlements of Selidove and Tsukuryne, Pokrovsky district, Donetsk region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the Geologists' Cemetery in Kherson.

Dmitry Medvid was the only child in the family: long-awaited and infinitely beloved. The boy's mother worked in the State Tax Administration in the Kherson region and raised her son on her own. They were united by a warm and trusting relationship, full of deep emotional closeness.

“From early childhood, Dima was distinguished by wisdom that was not typical of his age. He constantly strived for development, read a lot of various literature. His curiosity knew no bounds, and his thirst for knowledge amazed everyone around him. I remember how, already in adulthood, I offered to give him a large children's encyclopedia, and he objected with the words: “There is still so much interesting stuff there! I still have to reread and reread it.” If I didn't know something, I would ask him and he would explain it to me,” recalls his mother, Olga Dmytrivna.

The woman's family, especially her parents, helped her son grow up. For a while, Dmitry even lived in the city of Feodosia, in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, with his grandparents, in whose honor he was named. He became

05.01.1990 – 30.08.2023

a real example of a man for the boy – a model of strength of spirit, unshakable principles, and a sensitive heart.

Since his school years, Dmitry Medvid was fond of history – a subject that later became a guide for him to law. The man planned to work in the field of ecology, so he additionally mastered this direction in a higher educational institution. There was a year left before he defended his diploma. All the intended goals and plans were destroyed by the full-scale invasion.

“Dima was a sincere patriot. He could never stay away when the fate of the country was being decided, and always stood up for the rights, values, and freedom of the state. My son was a participant in the Maidan in Kherson and an activist of the Ukrainian Volunteer Corps “Right Sector”. And during the temporary Russian occupation of the city, Dima was part of the partisan resistance, helping our army from the rear. Once he returned home badly beaten, he was detained at a checkpoint by Russian soldiers and held for several hours with a gun to his temple. Fortunately, he was released, because he was walking around with a push-button phone, on which they found nothing. In general, my son told me little about this side of his life: he was very protective and did not want to worry anyone again,” shares Olga Dmytrivna.

After the liberation of the right-bank Kherson region, Dmytro Medvid sought to join the Joint Assault Brigade of the National Police of Ukraine

“Lyut” and even submitted the relevant documents. However, he did not have time to realize his intention. In July 2023, the man was mobilized into the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, served in the 9th separate motorized infantry battalion. He was a sniper of the mechanized detachment of the mechanized platoon of the mechanized company and had the rank of senior soldier.

On August 30, 2023, Dmytro Medvid was mortally wounded between the city of Selidove and the village of Tsukuryne in the Donetsk region. The last time his mother saw his son was on July 12, 2023, she communicated with him on August 29. The soldier was 33 years old. He is survived by his mother.

“The son was a multifaceted personality. He often attended literary events in libraries, was fond of music and had a subtle sense of it – he had a wonderful ear and understood all styles well. He also played football at an amateur level, adored animals that matched his, and traveled a lot. Dima was always the center of attention in any company, had many friends and acquaintances. They repeatedly told me: “Everyone knew Medvidya.” I was always surprised by this phrase, but I realized how true it was during my son’s funeral. So many people came to say goodbye to him... For me, Dmitry was everything: a close soul, a best friend and advisor, a reliable support. I loved him infinitely – and I will always love him,” says Olga Dmitrievna.



MENSHOV OLEKSANDR VOLODYMYROVYCH



Menshov Oleksandr Volodymyrovych, call sign Tavrik, was born on March 13, 1977 in Kherson. He studied at Kherson secondary school No. 25 and general education school of I-III levels No. 53. He graduated from the Kherson Industrial Institute with a professional specialization in engineering mechanics. He received a full higher education in the specialty "Mechanical Engineering Technology" at the Kherson State Technical University. He became a Ukrainian writer, activist, researcher of the history of the national liberation movement of the Kherson region and a volunteer of the Kherson national scout organization "Plast". After leaving the occupied Kherson region, he defended the state as part of the 22nd separate mechanized brigade. He performed combat missions in the East of the country. Died on November 17, 2023, while performing a combat mission near the village of Klishchiivka in the Donetsk region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the Sabarivskoye cemetery in Vinnytsia. Posthumously awarded the "Combatant's Cross" breastplate.

Oleksandr Volodymyrovych was born in the city of shipbuilders Kherson. From an early age, his parents Volodymyr Borisovich and Liliانا Leonidivna devoted a lot of time to the upbringing and development of their son, so he grew up as a polite and erudite boy who respected his elders, was a wonderful brother to his sister Zinaida, helped with the household and studied well. In addition, he loved books very much. During school holidays, he spent a lot of time in local libraries. Reading not only opened up a new world for him, but also a thirst for writing. It was during his school years that Oleksandr wrote his first works, which he allowed only the closest people to read. He made his next attempts at writing during his student years. However, after studying, he went to work as a process engineer at the Kherson Combines Joint-Stock Company.

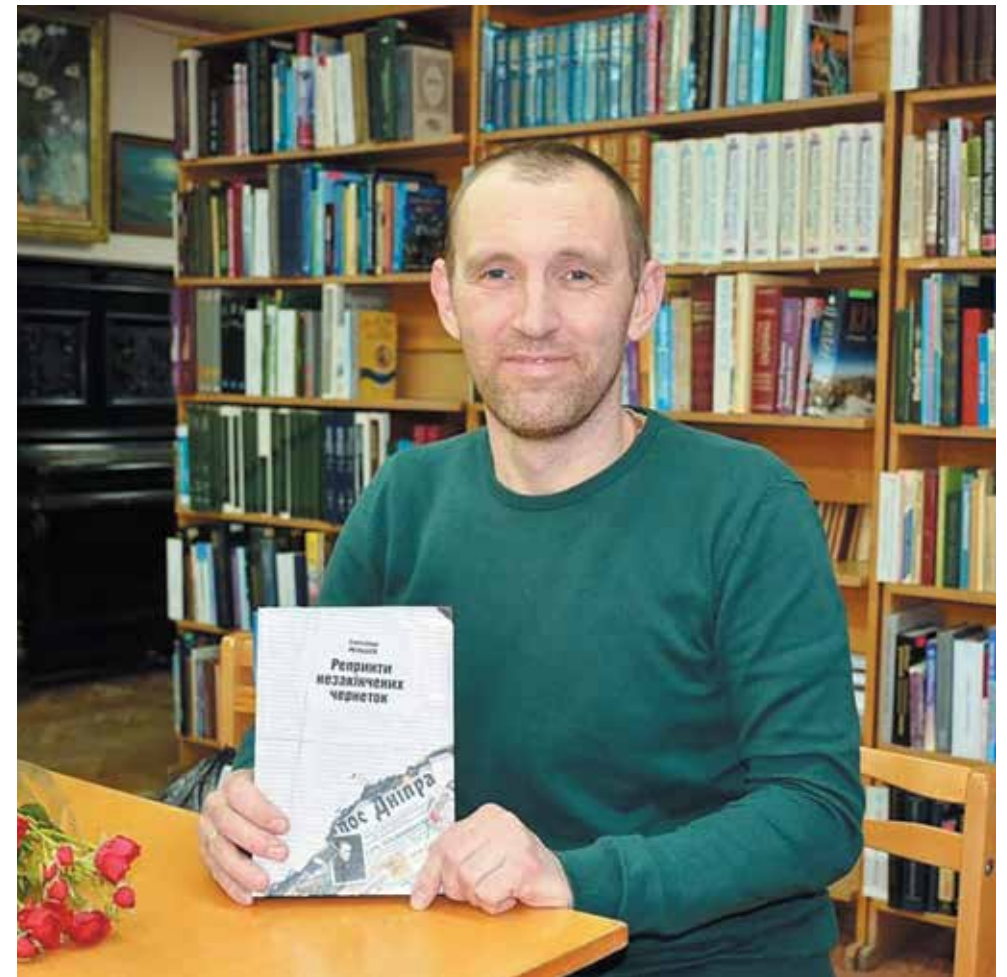
In 2003, the man got married. The couple became an example of an exemplary family, in which their son Vladislav and daughter Polina were later born. Wife Lyudmila, remembering her husband, notes: "Sasha was a wonderful person. It

03/13/1977 – 11/17/2023

was always cozy and warm around with him. There are very few like him. He loved all of us, our region and our country, for which he died.”

From 2003 to 2016, the man worked as an agent in the commercial department of the limited liability company Yuzhspetsgidrokomplekt. In October 2016, Oleksandr changed jobs. Now the future defender designed furniture, worked as a sales consultant for electrical goods, and wrote books in the detective and alternative history genres. So in 2017, the writer took part in the “Literary Hope of the Dnieper” competition with excerpts from the story “Verification of Eternity”. The book became one of the best in the “Prose” nomination and inspired the man to write more. So in 2019, he made his debut at the annual Book Arsenal with the novel “Third Tertiary”. And later he wrote the spy detective “Reprints of Unfinished Drafts” and the story “The Trigger Principle”, for which he received the All-Ukrainian Literary Prize named after Igor Fedorov in 2021. In the same year, in “Debut Newspaper”, and a year later - as a separate edition - Oleksandr Menshov’s philosophical story in the fantasy style “Formicarium” was published. And this is only a part of the author’s creative output. The Kherson branch of the scout organization “Plast” also played an important role in the man’s life, and his daughter became a member of it. He told the scouts about the real, non-Russified history of Kherson and his books. He conducted classes online even in the conditions of the occupied city, helped his pupils’ families with food and everything they needed. Given the security situation, he and his family later decided to evacuate. Having overcome the dangerous path, the writer moved to Vinnytsia region with his family and cat Fox. There he created the Diary of a Kherson: photos and texts about life in Kherson, which he posted on Facebook, and later wrote a collection of stories “I, Fox and the Occupation. Diary of a Kherson”. In addition, as soon as he got to the controlled territory, he immediately registered for military service and waited for the opportunity to join the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Six months later, the moment came, he finally received a call from the military enlistment office. So the

man underwent military training in Ukraine, then in Germany. He dreamed of liberating his native South, but he ended up on the Eastern Front. It was there that the writer's life ended. He is survived by his parents, wife, children, sister, and a large number of readers and admirers. Since 2024, the Kherson Ukrainian Cultural Center has been named after him.



MENYAYLOV ARTEM PAVLOVYCH



Menyaylov Artem Pavlovych on April 19, 1999 in the village of Primorske, Skadovsky district, Kherson region. After receiving an education at a local school, he entered the Skadovsky technical school of the Kherson State Agrarian and Economic University as an agronomist. In 2019, he went on compulsory military service, later signed a contract with the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He served as a driver in the 137th separate battalion of the Marine Corps. He died on March 18, 2022 in the city of Mykolaiv, Mykolaiv region. Buried in Vinnytsia, Vinnytsia region. Awarded the Order “For Courage” of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

Kind, cheerful and sociable, - this is how his mother Lyudmila Mykhailivna remembers Artem Menyaylov. Artem was the youngest son in the family. He had a sister Alena, who was 12 years older than him. His parents were farmers. Later they divorced. In his native Primorsk, everyone respected the boy very much, even his father's older comrades gladly shook his hand, and his godfather jokingly called him "Kumchik". Growing up, Artem became a skilled hunter, got a cocker spaniel, which he named Archie.

"Everyone called him Tyoma, and I called Tyomochka. Since childhood, he rode with his father on a tractor, helped him in the field. In addition to cars, he was fond of hunting. He was a very skilled shooter, had his own rifle," says his mother.

After receiving his education, the boy went to military service, then signed a contract, was a driver in the 137th separate battalion of the Marine Corps. In the unit, he was remembered as sociable and very generous.

“WHEN MY SON WAS IN THE ARMY, I BAKED 5 CAKES AND BROUGHT THEM AS A HOTEL. HE ALWAYS ASKED FOR HOMEMADE BRYNZA. I TOLD MY BROTHERS: “GUYS, YOU’VE NEVER TRYED THE SAME AS MY MOTHER MAKES”. WE ALWAYS SHARED IT WITH EVERYONE”, - REMEMBERS LYUDMYLA MYKHAYLIVNA.

04/19/1999 – 03/18/2022

In 2022, Artem Menyailov was transferred to serve on the administrative border with the temporarily occupied Crimea. On February 24, the man called his mother and said: “Mom, take Dasha (the defender’s former fiancée, ed.) and go to Alena. The war has begun”.

“I HEARD HORRIBLE EXPLOSIONS ON THE PHONE AND BOYS SCREAMING ON THE OTHER SIDE,” SAYS THE MOTHER.

Due to the superior forces of the occupation troops, Artem’s unit was taken to Kherson, and then to Mykolaiv, where he took part in the defense of the city. Artem was very worried about his parents, especially when they cried into the phone, he never talked about the service so that they would worry less, he said that everything would be fine.

“ON HIS LAST VACATION, MY SON FORGOT THE REFRIGERATOR WITH GAME. HE SAID SO THAT WE WOULD NOT GO STARVING. IT WAS THANKS TO THIS KILLED BIRD THAT WE SURVIVED DURING THE OCCUPATION,” REMEMBERS LYUDMYLA MYKHAYLIVNA.

Artem Menyaylov died on March 18, 2022 in Mykolaiv as a result of a rocket strike. His sister was the last person to communicate with him.

“Tyoma Yakraz Surrendered His Guard. He Wrote to His Eldest Daughter: “SISTER, EVERYTHING IS OK-



WELL, WE ARE QUIET. I'M GOING TO SLEEP". AND THEN TWO RUSSIAN ROCKETS HIT THE BARRACKS. THEY FOUND HIM ON THE 5TH DAY. THE LAST OF ALL",- THE MOTHER SHARES.

Menyailov's body was recognized by a fellow villager who served in the Mykolaiv territorial defense. His sister took the deceased on the ninth day after the missile strike.

Artem Menyailov was buried on March 26, 2022 on the Alley of Glory in the city of Vinnytsia. A photo was placed on the monument, in which he is with his beloved dog. The young man's grave became the first in the city of the final resting place of the fallen defenders.

Artem Menyailov is survived by his mother, father, sister and nieces. He was 22 years old. The soldier believed in the end of the war, dreamed of marrying his beloved girl. “If I have a boy and a girl, I will name them the same as my sister and I—Tyoma and Alena,” he told his family.

In May 2022, his older sister finally managed to persuade her mother to leave the temporarily occupied Primorske for the territory controlled by Ukraine.

“Tyoma was everything to me. I lived for him. He was always there. I knew who I was living for. When the war began, he kept telling Alena: “Sister, take care of my nieces. And we will not let the enemy in here. We will stand to the last,” Lyudmila Mykhailivna shared.

MIN SERHIY GEORGIYOVYCH



Min Serhiy Georgiyovych, call sign Chorny, was born in the village of Velyka Oleksandrivka, Velykoleksandrivskyi district (now Beryslavskyi) in the Kherson region. He studied at Velykoleksandrivskyi comprehensive school No. 1. In 2015, he voluntarily joined the anti-terrorist operation in the East of the country. On the eve of the full-scale invasion, he joined the 80th separate airborne assault brigade of the Galician army (military unit A0284). He held the position of gunner of the 3rd airborne assault detachment of the 1st airborne assault platoon of the 3rd airborne assault company of the 1st airborne assault battalion. Died on November 6, 2023 as a result of an explosive injury and shrapnel wound near the settlement of Klishchivka, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. Posthumously awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree. Buried at the local cemetery of the village of Velyka Oleksandrivka.

Serhiy was born into a large, friendly family. His father, Georgy Andriyovich, was a local collective farm worker and an experienced fisherman, and his mother, Rita Pavlovna, was a housewife. The boy had an older brother, Volodymyr, and three sisters, Tatyana, Svetlana, and Yulia. The family house is located near the river, so Serhiy loved to fish with his father. This was one of the few activities when he could be quiet and calm. As a child, he was often called a little mischievous.

But despite this, the boy was very kind and caring. Although not the eldest, instead of playing with his peers, he still chose to help his mother. He took care of the household, looked after the pets and looked after his youngest sister.

At school, the young man was very sociable, so he had many friends. However, schooling was not his main interest. He wanted to do adult things, so after graduating from 9 grades of school, Serhiy went to work. His father taught him to repair and build roofs, which the boy liked. So in the future he was engaged in this business.

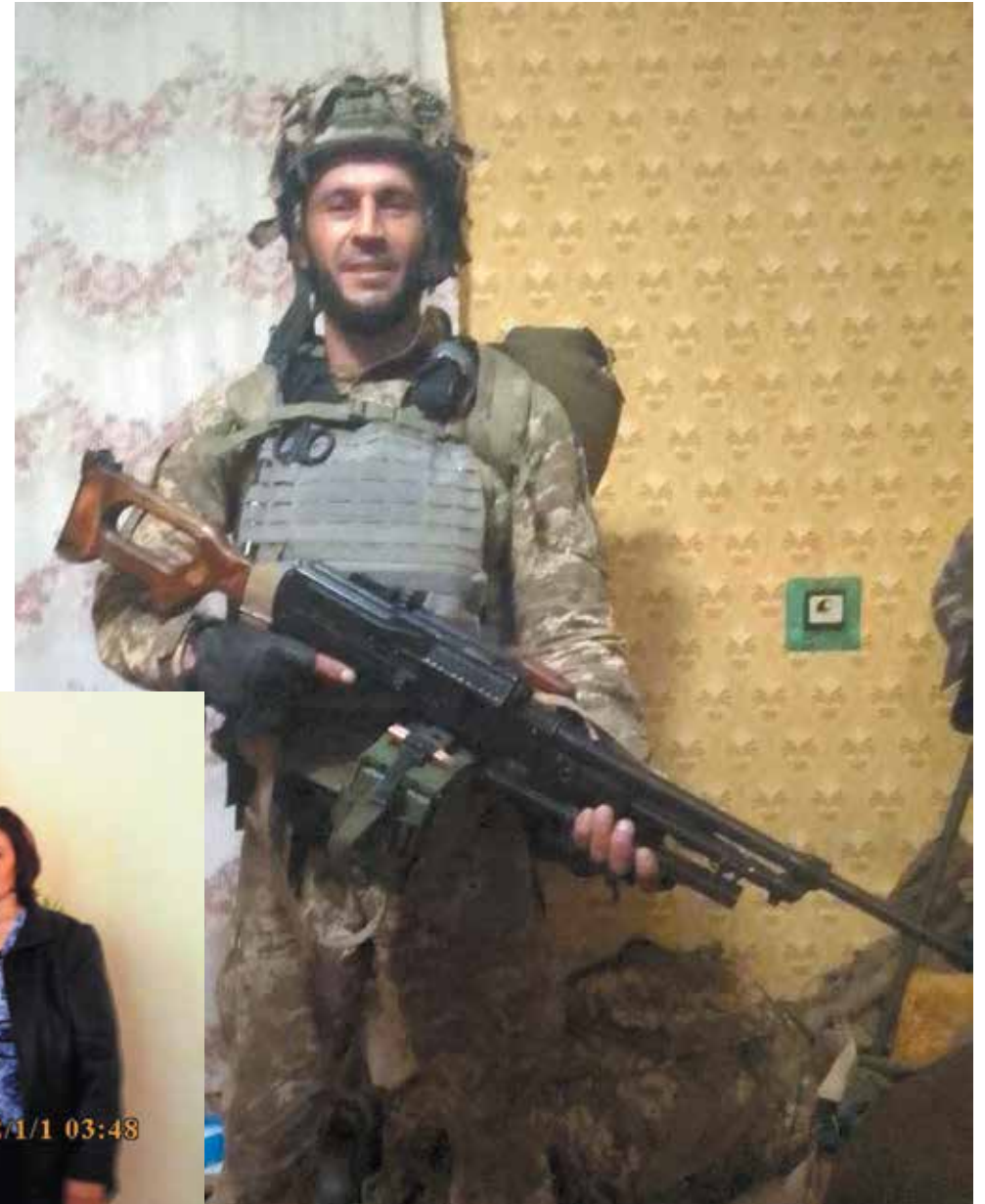
Later, Serhiy met his future wife Anna, whom he married in 2015. After some time, the young couple had a daughter, Kamila. But soon the couple

11/27/1982 – 11/06/2023

divorced and the man decided to join the anti-terrorist operation. So he ended up in the East of the country, visited both the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. From time to time, the defender returned to civilian life, and just on the eve of the full-scale invasion, he joined the 80th separate airborne assault Galician brigade. So during the full-scale invasion, the soldier bravely defended the territories of our state. Sister Tatyana notes:

“SERGIY WAS NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING OR ANYONE, HE DID NOT SCARCE ANY WORK. THAT IS WHY HE NEVER TOLD US THAT IT WAS HARD OR DIFFICULT, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS IN THE MOST HELL OF THE WAR. HE WAS A BRAVE AND COURAGEOUS MAN UNTIL THE LAST.”

Just before his death, the man called home, noting that his next combat mission would be to a place from which people almost never return alive, so he said goodbye and asked where to bury him. And so it happened, on November 6, Serhiy died while performing a combat mission near Klishchiivka in the Donetsk region. He is survived by his parents, sisters, ex-wife, and daughter. A banner with a portrait of the defender is located on the Alley of Memory of the Velikooleksandrivska community.



NADTOCHIY OLEKSII OLEGOVICH



Nadtochiy Oleksii Olehovych, call sign Rambo, was born on November 26, 1986 in the city of Kherson. He lived with his family in the village of Borozenske, Berislavsky district, Kherson region. In 2004, he graduated from a local school and entered Kherson State University, majoring in "Vocational training. Mechanization of agricultural production and hydro-melioration works", in 2009 he received a specialist diploma in "Engineer-pedagogue". In 2009-2011, he worked as a master of industrial training at the Kherson Professional Shipbuilding Lyceum. From 2011 to 2012, he served in the internal troops - the 48th regiment of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine (as of 2025 - the 27th Pechersk brigade of the National Guard of Ukraine, ed.). From November 2012 to January 2014, he held the position of police inspector and senior police inspector of the Dniprovsky District Police Department of the Kherson Regional Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in the Kherson region (as of 2025, the Dniprovsky District Department of the National Police of Ukraine in the Kherson region, ed.). From July 2014 to August 2015, he served in the 28th Separate Mechanized Brigade named after the Knights of the Winter Campaign. Participant in the Anti-Terrorist Operation in Eastern Ukraine. After completing his service, he worked as a builder. In February 2022, he joined the ranks of the 60th Separate Mechanized Ingulets Brigade. On May 2, 2023, he died of his wounds in a hospital in Kyiv. Buried in the village of Borozenske in the Kherson region. Awarded the President of Ukraine's Order "For Participation in the Anti-Terrorist Operation", the Medal "For Loyalty to the People of Ukraine" and the Diploma "For Conscientious Attitude to the Performance of Official Duties, High Professionalism, Initiative and Perseverance" (lifetime).

Oleksiy Nadtochiy and his younger sister Kateryna grew up in a teaching family: their mother works as a teacher of Ukrainian language and literature, their father - a teacher of labor training, physics and auto repair. The family had warm, friendly and sincere relations, says their mother Inna Yuriivna.

11/26/1986 – 05/02/2023

"Lyoshik was so positive and good. Since childhood, he loved fishing and hunting, because my husband is a hunter. When he became an adult, we bought him his own hunting weapons," says his mother.

After completing his training at the Zaporizhzhia Police Vocational Training School (since 2024, the Zaporizhzhia Center for Primary Professional Training "Police Academy" of the Dnipro State University of Internal Affairs, ed.), he served in the police until 2014.

From September to August 2015, he participated in the Anti-Terrorist Operation in the city of Marinka in the Donetsk region as part of the 28th Separate Mechanized Brigade. He served as a gunner, later as a machine gunner.

"HE IS A UKRAINIAN. AND THAT SAYS IT ALL. HE JOINED THE MILITARY VOLUNTEER," INNA YURIYIVNA SAYS.

He received the call sign Rambo from his comrades during military training because of the machine gun ribbons he wore crosswise.

"WHEN I SERVED IN MARYNTSKA, I REMEMBERED HOW THEY WERE COVERED BY "HAILS". MY BROTHERS HAD A WOUNDED LEG AND THE OLD MAN TRYED TO CARRY HIM OUT. THEY TRIPPED OVER A STUMBLE. THEN THEY REMEMBERED, LAUGHED. AND SOMETIMES THERE WAS NOTHING FUNNY, BUT HE TOLD IT IN A SUCH WAY THAT EVERYONE STARTED LAUGHING", - REMEMBERS HIS MOTHER.

After being demobilized, Oleksiy Nadtochiy worked as a construction worker. He planned to get a higher law degree, return to the police service, and dreamt of having his own family. According to his mother, Oleksiy was honest, fair, always upheld the truth, and was open.

"When my daughter had a son, he helped her in everything. While at war, he called me and always said: "Hello, my dear. How are you, my little one?" He was

very tall for me," says Inna Yurievna. In the first days of the full-scale invasion, Oleksiy and his sister's family came to Borozenske. Then he joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He served as an operator of a platoon of anti-tank missile systems of an anti-tank missile system company.

On April 27, 2023, Oleksiy Nadtochiy was seriously wounded in battle near Bakhmut in the Donetsk region. The soldier was hospitalized in Kramatorsk, then to Dnipro, and from there to Kyiv. On May 2, 2023, Oleksiy Nadtochiy died in the hospital.

According to a comrade with whom Oleksiy served during the Anti-Terrorist Operation, he was a prudent, fair, and courageous soldier.

"He was very nervous because the distance to his home was 5 villages and he was eager to fight to free it. He had experienced a lot. But he never expected our victory," wrote the brother of the deceased, Serhiy Sarnatsky, on social networks.

Oleksiy Nadtochiy was buried in his native Borozensky. The defender was 36 years old. He is survived by his parents and sister.

"My son always gave me hope, always joked, and I laughed. He never cried. I flew, every time I waited for a call from him. I did not believe that he could die. I often remember him," shared Inna Yurievna.



PYROG ROMAN OLEGOVICH



Pyrog Roman Olegovich was born on April 29, 1999 in the urban-type settlement of Kalanchak, Skadovsk district, Kherson region. He received his primary education at Kalanchak secondary school No. 1, then transferred to school No. 2. Later he entered the Admiral Makarov National Shipbuilding University in Mykolaiv, where he studied in the specialty "Physical Culture and Sports". He began coaching while still studying and continued to do his favorite thing until the start of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. In December 2022, Roman signed a contract with the 47th separate mechanized brigade "Magura", fought in the Zaporizhzhia direction as an assault machine gunner. He died on July 5, 2023 near the village of Robotyne, Polohivsky district, Zaporizhzhia region. Buried in Kamianets-Podilskyi.

Roman grew up in a family where work and intelligence were the priority. His mother, Nataliya Mykolaivna, was a specialist with a higher education, worked as a natural gas metering master at Khersongaz in Kalanchak. His father, a builder by profession, graduated from Kherson State Agrarian University, but worked in the construction industry. Being an only child, Roman was always in the center of attention and love. The family took care of his development, and every summer was dedicated to health improvement on the Black Sea - in Lazurne, Zalizny Port, Skadovsk, Khorly. These were years of active formation: Roman was involved in football from an early age and even managed to study at the school of the Olympic reserve in Simferopol before the annexation of Crimea. He received his primary education at secondary school No. 1 in Kalanchak.

The family's life changed when Roman turned 10 and his parents divorced. He transferred to secondary school No. 2, where he studied until the ninth grade. After returning from Crimea, where the occupation crossed out his sports plans, Roman chose a new direction - strength training, which he devoted himself to from the ninth grade. He was very sociable, cheerful and loved animals.

In 2016, after graduating from school, Roman entered the Admiral Makarov National Shipbuilding University in Mykolaiv. He chose the specialty "Physical Culture and Sports".

04/29/1999 - 07/05/2023

- IT WAS A CONSCIOUS CHOICE, DICTATED BY A CHILDHOOD DREAM AND A FANATIC LOVE FOR STRENGTH. ROMA SAID AS A CHILD: "I'LL GO TO THE INSTITUTE AND TRAIN LIKE SCHWARZENEGGER." I WAS STILL AFRAID TO TELL HIM: "THERE'S NO ONE LIKE THAT." BUT MY SON DID NOT LEAVE HIS CHILDHOOD DREAM AND DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO POWERLIFTING, - SHARES NATALIA MYKOLAIVNA.

From the second year of university, Roman began to earn his own living, working as a personal trainer in gyms. He became a master of his craft, won first places in powerlifting competitions and received the title of "Candidate for Master of Sports." After graduating from university, he moved to the Kyiv region, to the city of Obukhiv, where he lived with his half-brother.

In early 2022, in January, he came home to Kalanchak to get a vaccination certificate. There he was caught by a full-scale invasion. On February 24, 2022, the village was occupied in the early hours.

Nataliya Nikolaevna constantly worried about her son, who, due to his outstanding physique, was a potential target for the occupiers.

- IN APRIL 2022, WE WERE FORCED TO MAKE A DIFFICULT DECISION - ROMAN HAS TO LEAVE. HIS EVACUATION PATH RAN THROUGH THE WHOLE OF RUSSIA TO LATVIA. THERE, AS A REFUGEE, HER SON GOT A JOB AS A COACH, USING HIS EXCELLENT PHYSICAL FORM. BUT THE SON STAYED THERE FOR ABOUT 4-5 MONTHS. IN SEPTEMBER 2022, HE MADE A FATEFUL DECISION THAT HE DID NOT INFORM ME ABOUT, - THE MOTHER SAYS.

On September 10, 2022, Roman returned to Ukraine. For almost three months, he hid from his mother that he was already in Ukraine, supporting the legend of working in Latvia. Only on December 6, 2022, did he dare to call: "Mom, I'm in Ukraine."

In December 2022, Roman signed a contract with the 47th separate mechanized brigade "Magura" (military unit A 4699). He underwent training in the Lviv region, then in Germany and went to fight in the Zaporizhia direction as an assault machine gunner.

In April 2023, Roman went on a week-long vacation for the first time since the beginning of his service. He spent it in Kyiv with his friends, his half-brother, and his beloved girl, who was also from Kalanchak. Before returning to the front, he confessed to her: "I really want to go to the sea." This was his last peaceful wish.

On the night of July 5, 2023, near the village of Robotyne, Polohivskiy district, Zaporizhia region, Roman participated in a combat sortie to a position. An enemy tank hit their group of seven soldiers who were advancing on a Bradley. At 22:50, three soldiers died immediately, including Roman. Four others were able to get out alive. His brothers, despite the danger, desperately went after the bodies of the dead.

The mother learned about her son's death on July 7, because she was under occupation. On July 8, she set off on a five-day difficult journey through Crimea, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland to get to Ukraine. The funeral took place on July 13, 2023 in Kamianets-Podilskiy. The farewell took place in the Heroes Park (former Tankers Park) with the participation of a large number of people: compatriots, classmates, friends from all over Ukraine. Roman Pirog was buried with full honors on the Walk of Fame.

Roman Pirog was posthumously awarded the title of Honorary Citizen of the city of Kamianets-Podilskiy. Two years later, his mother was informed that he would also be awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

The mother remained to live in Kamianets-Podilskiy and daily visits the grave of her only son Roman, who was the meaning of her life.

POPOV IGOR VYACHESLAVOVYCH



Popov Igor Vyacheslavovich was born on January 17, 1974 in Kherson. He studied at Kherson comprehensive school No. 37, continued his education at Kherson vocational school No. 1, where he obtained the profession of a locksmith in control and measuring devices and automation. In 1992, he went to military service. He returned to Kherson, worked as a builder. After the start of the full-scale invasion, he defended Ukraine as part of the 110th separate mechanized brigade named after Brigadier General Mark Bezruchko, was a combat medic. He died on July 11, 2023 near the city of Avdiivka in the Donetsk region. Buried in Kherson.

Igor was a calm and balanced child. His mother worked as a kindergarten teacher, and his son sought to be her pride – he behaved politely and well-mannered, without causing unnecessary trouble. From a young age, Igor showed a love for sports, engaging in wrestling with friends, which tempered his character, but at the same time he did not lose his sincerity.

He studied at secondary school No. 37. He was a responsible son who was never lazy, always helped his parents. After school, at Kherson Vocational and Technical School No. 1, he acquired a solid working profession – a locksmith for control and measuring devices and automation.

In 1992, he went to military service. Two years spent in the crucial period of the formation of an independent Ukrainian state became the first lesson in defending one's land. Returning to Kherson, Igor found himself in the construction business, where he was appreciated for his hard work and responsibility.

Despite the physical work, his soul yearned for wisdom: Igor loved to read, especially historical novels, and always found time for a book. Another of his hobbies was drawing.

1996 was the happiest year for Igor in his peaceful life. He met his love and married Inna. She already had a little daughter, Victoria, who was only six months old at the time. Later, Inna gave her beloved two more daughters - Alena and Anastasia.

01/17/1974 - 07/11/2023

- The man dreamed of raising and educating his daughters to be kind, polite, courteous, educated, and happy. So that they would have a happy fate in their country. Igor dreamed of grandchildren and when they appeared, he became the happiest grandfather, - says his wife. The morning of February 24, 2022, he found the family in different places: Inna was out of town, and Igor's sick mother and children remained at home, in Kherson. The wife remembers that call: "He called and said that the war had begun." On March 1, the city was occupied. Life became a test, but the family held on to principle, says Inna:

- WE DID NOT EVEN THINK OF TAKING A RUSSIAN HUMANITARIAN, ALTHOUGH IT WAS DIFFICULT, BUT WE SURVIVED ON RESERVES. AT THAT TIME IT WAS DIFFICULT, DANGEROUS. WE WITNESSED SHOOTING BY THE OCCUPIERS, BUT WE HOLDED ON.

In August 2022, we managed to take our daughters out, after Igor's mother passed away, he and his wife left for the territory controlled by Ukraine in September, to the city of Stryi, Lviv region.

It was in Stryi that Igor Popov, who already had military experience in the 1990s, was mobilized. He became a sergeant and combat medic in the 110th separate mechanized brigade named after Lieutenant General Mark Bezruchko. His path began in one of the hottest areas - Avdiivka in the Donetsk region.

Igor fought bravely, without sparing himself, with a single thought: for his family, his native Kherson region, for Ukraine. For his steadfastness, he was awarded the Order of the President of Ukraine "For the Defense of Ukraine".

Inna's wife, unable to bear the separation, went to the front twice a month to visit him, covering half a thousand kilometers. She brought gifts, delicacies, everything she needed.

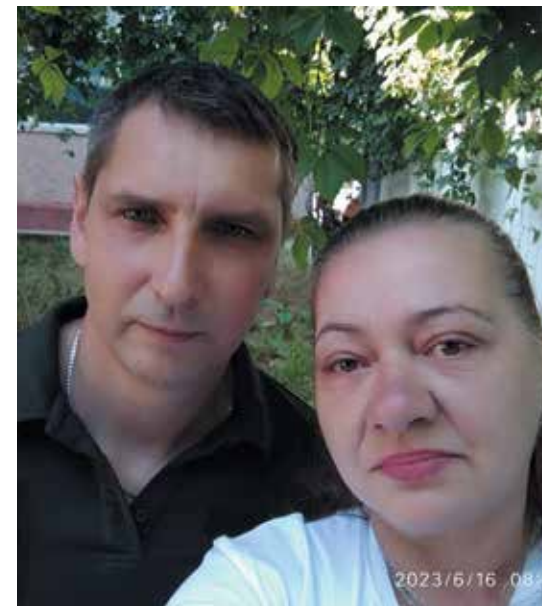
- WE WALKED AROUND THE CITY, VISITED THE CHURCH AND TALKED, TALKED..., - INNA REMEMBERS.

In early March 2023, Igor arrived in Kherson, liberated from occupation. On March 2, 2023, he and Inna fulfilled a long-standing dream by getting married in the Church of the Meeting of the Lord. At the end of June 2023, his wife came to him in Pokrovsk for the last time. Inna did not know then that this meeting would be the last.

On July 9, the daughters returned to Kherson from abroad to go to their father with their mother. But fate was merciless. On July 11, 2023, near the city of Avdiivka, Sergeant Igor Popov died while performing a combat mission.

For courage, heroism, bravery, honor and loyalty to the Ukrainian people, Igor Popov was posthumously awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree. He is buried on the Walk of Fame of the Geologists' Cemetery in the city of Kherson.

His dreams of a happy fate for his children and grandchildren in a free country cost him dearly, but his love, faith and feat will forever remain the light that will guide his family.



ROMANENKO ARTEM YANUSHOVYCH



Romanenko Artem Yanushovych was born on June 1, 1999 in the village of Kizomys, Belozersky district, Kherson region. He studied at Kizomys secondary school. Then he entered Kherson Vocational School No. 5, where he received a degree in electric welder. He worked for six months at the Kherson plant "Palada", then served in the military service. Upon his return, he was engaged in the manufacture of billboards in Kherson. After the liberation of Kherson from occupation, he went to serve in the 37th separate marine brigade (military unit A4548). He died on June 18, 2023 near the village of Novodonetske, Volnovakha district, Donetsk region, while performing a combat mission. He was buried on February 12, 2024 in his native Kizomys.

Artem grew up in a large family with older sisters - Yana and Tanya. The family lived simply, the parents worked on the land. When Artem was 6 years old, the couple divorced, and the court awarded custody of the children to the father. Janush Gerasymovych raised three children alone, becoming a reliable support for his son and daughters.

He studied at the Kizomyssk comprehensive school. He was a diligent student, thanks to which he gained respect among teachers and neighbors.

- MY SON STUDIED WITH A TEN. HE WAS RESPECTED AT SCHOOL. EVEN HIS CLASS HEADMASTER ALWAYS SAID THAT HE WAS A GOOD GUY. EVERYONE SAID ONLY GOOD THINGS ABOUT HIM, EVERYONE KNEW HIM FROM A GOOD SIDE, - THE FATHER SAYS.

Since childhood, Artem had a knack for technology and repair. His father taught him to repair cars, and the boy was already well versed in tools at a young age. After graduating from 9th grade, Artem went to study at Kherson Vocational School No. 5, choosing the profession of an electric welder. After three years of study, he went to work at the Kherson plant "Palada", which specialized in the manufacture of ships. After six months, he was called up for military service, and

06/01/1999 – 06/18/2023

Artem went to serve in the Marine Corps in the Odessa region. Upon his return, he managed to work in Kherson, making billboards.

After the start of the full-scale invasion, the village of Kizomys was occupied. It was a period of horror and humiliation. Artem and his father were beaten by Russian soldiers, trying to find out information.

- THEY PRESSED HIM ON THE SHOULDER: IS HE A MILITARY OR NOT? I TOLD ARTEM TO PRETEND TO BE SICK. BECAUSE THEY WERE BEATING THE YOUNG PEOPLE VERY SEVERELY, TAKE THEM AWAY. THEY PUT HIM ON THE GROUND, THREW HIM DOWN, STARTED BEATING. I SAID: "YOU'RE SICK IN ME. WHERE, WHAT ARMY? WHAT ARE YOU? HE'S SICK," FATHER REMEMBERS ABOUT HOW THE RUSSIAN MILITARY TREATED THE PEOPLE DURING THE OCCUPATION.

After the deoccupation of the Kherson region, Artem could not stay away. Having experience in the Marine Corps, he went to defend the country. On February 5, 2023, he already went to the front as part of the 37th separate Marine Corps brigade. Thanks to his military service experience, he quickly became a valuable specialist.

- THE LAST TIME WE CALLED HIM, HE WAS A PLATOON COMMANDER AND A SENIOR GRENADE THROWER. HE WAS RESPECTED BY HIS BROTHERS FOR HIS INTELLIGENCE, SKILLS AND WILLINGNESS TO COME TO HELP. MY SON COULD BOTH DISASSEMBLE AN AUTOGUN AND TUNE IT UP, AND COULD HELP HIS BROTHERS, - SAYS JANUSH.

Artem fought in the Donetsk direction. His father last spoke to him on the evening of June 15, 2023. Artem said that he was wounded and was supposed to call back the next day. This call was the last...

The tragedy occurred on June 18, 2023 near the village of Novodonetske, Volnovakha district. Artem died while performing his sacred duty.

- THEY WERE CLEARING THE TERRITORY AND INJURED THE MEDICINE. ARTEM RAN TO SAVE HIM, AND WHEN THEY HIT A TANK, THEY DIDN'T HEAR THE "ARRIVAL" FROM THE TANK. AND THE PROJECTILE HIT HIM DIRECTLY, - FATHER SHARES THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS SON'S DEATH.

Artem was declared missing. The father was only informed at the military registration and enlistment office that his son had disappeared. Long months of searching in hospitals and morgues began. His father found Artem in the Dnipro morgue. Artem was brought to the village of Myrolyubivka in the Kherson region, where the family was after evacuation. Buried on February 12, 2024 in his native Kizomys - this was his wish when he left for the front.

Artem Romanenko remained in memory as a true son of his country, a Hero who gave his life, defending the most precious thing - his native land.



RUDENKO SERHIY MYKOLAYOVYCH



Born on December 2, 1984 in the village of Askania-Nova, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. After graduating from a local secondary school, he moved to Kyiv, where he worked as a builder. On February 24, 2022, he volunteered to join the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Later, he was transferred to military unit A7311, stationed in the Kyiv and Donetsk directions. He died on October 17, 2023 near the village of Novomykhaylivka, Pokrovsky district, Donetsk region. Buried on the Alley of Heroes at the Forest Cemetery in the city of Kyiv, Kyiv region. Awarded with the badge “War Veteran – Participant in Combat”, the badge of the Poltava Regional Council “For Loyalty to the People of Ukraine” of the 1st degree and the Order “For Courage” of the 3rd degree (posthumously)

Serhiy Rudenko was the long-awaited son in a family where two older twin sisters, Iryna and Marina, were already growing up. Despite the fact that he was the youngest, the boy always took care of his parents and sisters, showing extraordinary care and responsibility. In particular, from adolescence he had his own income to pamper his relatives with sweets.

Serhiy’s mother worked as a nurse-housekeeper in a hospital, his father was a builder. Since childhood, his father was an example for him to follow, so while still at school the boy decided on his future profession. He devoted almost his entire life to construction, having inherited a lot of knowledge and skills from his father. Later, Serhiy developed in this field in Kyiv, where he settled after completing his school education.

“My son constantly repeated that when he grew up, he would not live in Askania-Nova, but would move to Kyiv. This dream did not leave him. Once, instead of returning home, he went to the capital. There he immediately found a job: at first he was engaged in landscaping, and then he got a job in a construction company. Together with the team, Serhiy built various residential buildings and social facilities, for example, a department of the National Children's Specialized

Hospital “Okhmatdyt”. He really liked what he was doing,” says his mother, Galina Mykolayivna.

The husband’s hobby was cooking. He could cook everything: from traditional dishes like pilaf to his own original recipes, among which his mother especially remembered hot pepper with honey. Therefore, his son taught her how to make this dish. Even in the army, Serhiy found time for his passion: he often bought and prepared meat for his comrades. He promised his relatives that upon returning home, he would fry a delicious kebab.

Serhiy never forgot about his native village - he always came there for holidays and during vacations. New Year 2022 was the last when the whole Rudenko family gathered together. A full-scale invasion found the family apart. Serhiy at that time lived in the city of Irpin, Kyiv region. When his mother called his son, he was already going to the military enlistment office. Galina

Nikolayevna does not hide that it was useless to dissuade him. Serhiy had a stubborn character and was extremely independent: if he decided on something, he would do it no matter what.

On February 24, 2022, Serhiy Rudenko voluntarily joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. At first he was part of the territorial defense, then - of the military unit A7311. He was a senior rifleman-operator of the rifle department of the rifle platoon of the rifle company. He had the rank of senior soldier and the call sign Rudik, which he had been attached to since his school years.

Serhiy participated in the clearing of the territories of the deoccupied Kyiv region, namely the cities of Bucha and Irpin. In the summer of 2022, after undergoing military training, he was sent to the Donetsk region, fought near the village of Tonenke, Pokrovsky district. During one of the battles, on March 14, 2023, he was seriously

wounded. After long-term treatment and rehabilitation, Serhiy, according to the conclusions of the military-medical commission, was commissioned. The man also had vision problems. However, he decided to continue defending Ukraine.

“The son did not share the details of the service, because he was worried about our safety. From the first day of the full-scale war, Askania-Nova was under temporary Russian occupation. Therefore, only after his death did his brothers tell us what a brave, reliable and loyal soldier he was. The guys called him “The Devil” among themselves, because he was slightly wounded twice more. And each time he returned to the fight for the Victory of our country,” notes Halyna Mykolaivna.

On October 17, 2023, while performing a combat mission, Serhiy Rudenko was mortally wounded near the village of Novomykhailivka in the Donetsk region. The last time the mother communicated with her son was a few days before.

Before going to the front line, Serhiy called her with the words: “Mom, I wanted to hear your voice so much.”

On the second day after Serhiy Rudenko’s death, Russian soldiers searched his parents’ house. After that, they evacuated to the territory controlled by Ukraine.

Information banners with portraits of Serhiy have been installed on the Alley of Heroes in Poltava and the Alley of Memory and Honor to Heroes in the Obolonskyi district of Kyiv. Also, a memorial stand in memory of the soldier will be placed in the Desnyanskyi district of Kyiv. The man was 38 years old. He is survived by his father, mother, two sisters and five nephews.

“Sergiy is a beloved son, the smallest among children, “sweetie son”, as we affectionately called him. Kind, bright, sincere, hardworking. There will never be another boy like him. We miss him very much, we are sad, and this loss cannot be explained in words...”, says Galina Mykolaivna.



SAMOYLOV SERGII LEONIDOVYCH



Samoylov Sergii Leonidovich was born on November 25, 1991 in the village of Makarivka, Kalanchatsky district, Kherson region. Later, the family moved to live in Kherson, where he graduated from secondary school №27. He entered the Kherson Maritime College of Fisheries, after which he completed his military service in the navy, and combined his later life with maritime affairs. He began his military career in November 2022 in the 35th separate marine brigade as a driver-mechanic, was a senior sailor. He died on July 6, 2023 near the village of Velyka Novosilka, Volnovakha district, Donetsk region. Buried in Kherson. Most of Sergiy's life was spent in Kherson, the family moved from the village of Makarivka to the regional center when the boy was very young. His father, Leonid Ivanovich, was a man of a solid profession, he worked as a shipbuilder-repairman at the Kherson shipyard. His mother, Lyudmila Fedorovna, first also worked at the plant, and then, having received an education at a technical school, she worked in trade, was the manager of a store.

Most of his school life, from the second to the ninth grade, Serhiy spent at school number 27. After the ninth grade, he chose the sea path, entering the Kherson Maritime College of the Fishing Industry. After college, he served in the army - two years in the navy. Upon his return, he lived for two years in Kryvyi Rih, where he additionally completed courses in the specialty of a welder, but his true calling became the sea.

- SERGIY WORKED ON VARIOUS VESSELS, HE WAS INVOLVED IN SECURING CARGO, HE HAD A VERY RESPONSIBLE JOB AND HE WAS GOOD AT IT, - SAYS HIS FATHER.

Sergiy grew up responsible, disciplined and, as his mother says, a little stubborn.

- WHEN HE SAID ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE WAR THAT HE WOULD GO TO DEFEND THE COUNTRY, HE DID SO, NOT LISTENING TO

11/25/1991 – 07/06/2023

ANYONE. THIS STUBBORNNESS AND DETERMINATION WERE COMBINED WITH UNUSUAL GENEROSITY. SERGEY NEVER DID ANYTHING FOR HIS FRIENDS AND WAS OVERALL VERY DEDICATED, – LYUDMYLA FEDORIVNA REMEMBERS HER SON WITH TENDERNESS.

Serhiy was a surprisingly multifaceted person. On the one hand, he was seriously involved in boxing, and on the other — he was passionate about ballroom dancing. Serhiy’s aspirations were always connected with helping people and learning about the world. In his teens, he dreamed of becoming a doctor or a police officer. Although the smell of the hospital turned him away from medicine, his other great desire lived with him until his last days:

- HE REALLY WANTED TO VISIT MANY COUNTRIES, TO SEE UKRAINE, TRAVELING WAS HIS PASSION, – THE MOTHER SAYS.

Serhiy’s fateful journey began in November 2021. When the full-scale war began, he was abroad. But in July 2022, Serhiy arrived in Odessa. His father recounts his words to his comrade: “Find me an apartment, I’ll rest for a month and then go to fight.”

Serhiy wanted to volunteer and went to the military registration and enlistment office several times. In November 2022, he went to the unit — the 35th separate marine brigade (VCh A0216). There he was registered as a driver-mechanic. However, at “zero”, his naval skills came in handy. He worked as a rigger/rigger, pulling out damaged equipment under fire.

Serhiy’s combat path took place in the Donetsk and Zaporizhia directions, and he participated in the counteroffensive. Serhiy enjoyed incredible trust and respect from his brothers.

The fatal day came on July 6, 2023. Serhiy and his crew had a day off.

- Serhiy called me that morning, said he would do his business and go to bed. And only then did we learn that the other crew that was supposed to leave

broke down. My son and his comrades decided to go instead of them, — says the mother.

They arrived in the area of the village of Velyka Novosilka, Volnovakha district, Donetsk region, picked up the damaged equipment and moved back. At that moment, Russian mortars began to cover them. Serhiy was seriously injured — a fragment hit his carotid artery. His brothers, despite the officer’s order to wait for two days, left at night themselves to pick up Serhiy’s body.

The parents learned about the death of their son unofficially that same evening. Officially, only on July 8. The identification took place on July 10 in Kherson, and the Hero was buried on July 11.

Serhiy Samoilov had one more unfulfilled dream. He was unmarried, but he told his mother: “Mom, I’ll get married at 35.” Unfortunately, this dream ended with his life. Glory to the Hero, who chose not the safety of overseas flights, but the most difficult path — the path of defending his land.



SYDORCHUK KYRYLO IHOROVICH



Sydorchuk Kyrylo Igorovich was born on August 31, 1997 in the city of Kherson, Kherson region. After studying 9 grades at secondary school No. 31, he entered the Maritime College of the Kherson State Maritime Academy. In 2016, he entered the Kherson State Maritime Academy, where he received the specialty of a ship mechanic. Before the full-scale invasion, he worked in his specialty, went on sea voyages. In the spring of 2023, he became a firefighter-rescuer of the 2nd State Fire and Rescue Unit of the Main Department of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine in the Kherson region. He died on June 20, 2023 in Kherson during the liquidation of the consequences of the explosion of the Kakhovka HPP. He is buried in the city of Kherson.

Kyrylo Sydorchuk was distinguished by his responsibility from his youth. When he was 17, his younger sister Sofia was born, and the boy happily took on the responsibilities of an older brother. "When he was little, he asked for a brother, and when he was 10, he asked for a sister. And when Sonya finally appeared, he treated her with great reverence," says his mother, Natalya Petrovna.

Kirill's father is a driver by profession, and she herself works in a pension fund. The family highly respected traditions and family ties, and they taught the children to do the same. The boy liked it when the whole family got together both on holidays and on ordinary days. His maternal grandfather was a skilled hunter and passed on his love for this business to his grandson. The boy liked fishing and cars. Kirill Sydorchuk worked as a third mechanic on a ship. At 21, he got married, and later his daughter Polina was born. The girl completely changed her father's attitude towards his work: he was no longer so eager to go on long-distance flights.

"WHEN KYRYLO WAS LITTLE, MY HUSBAND ALWAYS PUT HIM ON HIS KNEE BEHIND THE WHEEL WHEN WE WERE DRIVING IN THE CAR. MY SON ALSO PUT A POLINKA ON HIS KNEE AND DRIVED. HE WAS GLOWING WITH PRIDE WHEN HE HOLDDED HIS DAUGHTER," REMEMBERS NATALIA PETRIVNA.

08/31/1997 – 06/20/2023

When the full-scale invasion began, Kyrylo Sydorчук and his family were in Kherson. In early spring 2022, the man participated in pro-Ukrainian rallies against the Russian occupation on Freedom Square.

When problems with baking bread began in occupied Oleshki in early March 2022, Kyrylo and his father helped get the yeast and transfer it, despite the danger, to the left bank.

After the Armed Forces of Ukraine liberated Kherson on November 11, 2022, and enemy troops began to constantly shell the city, Kyrylo took his wife, daughter, grandmother, and sister to the Odessa region, and he himself went to work at Khersonteploenergo with his father. He used his own car to deliver humanitarian aid to residents of his native high-rise building.

When the State Emergency Service began recruiting people who wanted to work there, the man applied and became a rescuer. Together with his colleagues, Kyrylo Sydorчук went to extinguish fires caused by Russian shelling.

“THE NEW JOB CHANGED MY SON A LOT. HE WAS INSPIRED BY IT. HE STUDYED VERY INSPIRED, WROTE ESSAY, PREPARED. HE WAS VERY MOTIVATED. WHEN KYRYLO WAS INTERVIEWED, HE WAS ASKED IF HE WOULD GO TO SEA AGAIN AFTER THE END OF THE WAR. HE ANSWERED THAT HE PLANNED TO BUILD A CAREER IN THE SES. HE WANTED TO ENTER A HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN A YEAR,” NATALYA PETRIVNA SAYS.

On June 20, 2023, when Kirill and his brothers were cleaning up the consequences of the flooding of the Korabel neighborhood in Kherson, they were fired upon by Russian troops. The young rescuer died on the spot. He was 25 years old. Kirill Sydorчук was buried at the Geologists Cemetery in Kherson. A memorial plaque in his honor was placed on the wall of school No. 31, where he studied. He is survived by his parents, sister, wife, and daughter.

According to Natalya Petrovna, her granddaughter Polina often remembers her father. Every time on his birthday, she releases colored

balloons into the sky, prepares a drawing for her father - and her grandfather and grandmother take him to the locker they made at the cemetery near the monument to Kirill.

The girl is engaged in aerial gymnastics. Together with her coach, she prepared the number "Daddy's Hugs." She presented it at the Open Aerial Gymnastics Competition in Kyiv and took first place.



SOLOMON VOLODYMYR VOLODYMYROVYCH



Solomon Volodymyr Volodymyrovych, call sign Tsar, was born on April 12, 1994 in the village of Chaplynka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. He studied at Chaplynka secondary school No. 3. He received his higher professional education at the Kherson National Technical University, majoring in physical and biomedical electronics. He defended the state in the Bakhmut direction of the Donetsk region as part of the 2nd machine-gun detachment of the machine-gun platoon of the 2nd rifle company of the 2nd rifle battalion of military unit A0989. He held the position of commander of the above-mentioned detachment. He died as a result of an explosive injury received while performing his duty near the settlement of Hryhorivka, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. He was buried on the Alley of Glory of the city of Bashtanka, Bashtanka district, Mykolaiv region. He was posthumously awarded the Order of the Hero's Cross.

Volodymyr was born into a family of hardworking people from the Ukrainian South in the picturesque village of Chaplynka. His father, Solomon Volodymyr Mykhaylovych, is an experienced tractor driver who knows how to cultivate the land so that the next season will bring bountiful harvests. And his mother, Solomon Diana Valeriyevna, is a nurse who devotes her whole life to caring for people. But in parallel with their work, they always made efforts to raise their children properly, because Volodymyr had an older sister, Tatyana. The efforts of his parents were not in vain. The boy grew up polite, sincere, kind, a little modest, but if necessary, he could always defend his opinion.

“HE WAS A GOOD PERSON FROM HIS LITTELENESS. I ALWAYS KNEW THAT I COULD TRUST HIM IN EVERYTHING. MY SON WAS VERY KIND, HE COULD ALWAYS COMFORT AND ADVISE HOW TO SOLVE ONE OR THE OTHER ISSUES.

HE STARTED TO CARE ABOUT EVERYONE FROM A LITTLE an ordinary student who liked to spend his free time at home at the computer or ride

12.04.1994 – 21.10.2023

bicycles with friends. But when it came time to choose his future profession, Volodymyr diligently prepared for the entrance exams, successfully passed them and on his own was able to enter the budget form of study at one of the best universities in the Kherson region - Kherson National Technical University. There he received the qualification of a specialist in physical and biomedical electronics. But finding a job in this specialty in the Kherson region was still a task, so the guy decided to first gain work experience in a related field. So soon, in 2016, Volodymyr got a job at the Limited Liability Company "Mist. MPPV" as a customer service specialist in the Department for the Operation of the Branch Network of the Southern Region. There, the guy quickly found new friends and a common language with his colleagues.

In April 2017, the future defender began working as an order processing specialist in the logistics department of the Limited Liability Company of the Scientific and Production Enterprise "Kherson Machine-Building Plant". But even there, Volodymyr decided not to stay long and moved on – in August 2018, he became a computer database operator at the Limited Liability Company "Avion". The new job turned out to be so much to his liking that the guy stayed there for many years. He worked until the war changed the circumstances. The future defender met the beginning of the full-scale invasion in Kherson, which was rapidly occupied. But when the Antonivskyi Bridge was destroyed, it actually separated him from his family, which was on the left bank. He managed to get out of the city only after the complete de-occupation of the regional center. Then Volodymyr went to his aunt in Bashtanka, Mykolaiv region. It was from



there that the boy went to defend the country in the Bakhmut direction as part of the 56th separate motorized infantry brigade of Mariupol. Since the boy had some contraindications to military service and did not serve in the draft, the defender gained virtually all of his combat experience in the field. One day, Volodymyr was wounded, so he was sent for treatment and rehabilitation. But later the boy still returned to the ranks.

On October 21, 2023, Volodymyr died, having received an explosive injury incompatible with life. His relatives were unable to bury the defender at home, because his native Left Bank of the Kherson region is still under temporary occupation. Therefore, they did so on the territory of the Alley of Glory in the city of Bashtanka, Mykolaiv region. Nevertheless, the parents promise their son to return him home when it becomes possible.

The soldier is survived by his parents, sister, and two nephews.



SOKHA OLEKSANDR OLEKSANDROVYCH



Sokha Oleksandr Oleksandrovich was born on June 15, 1988 in the city of Kakhovka in the Kherson region. He studied at Kakhovka Specialized General Education School No. 2, after which he worked for a while as a handyman and went to military service. Later he moved to Kyiv, where he worked in warehouses of enterprises. From 2015 to 2017 he served in the ATO zone, first in military unit 0213, and later in unit A 3720. During his service in the ATO, he was a mortarman, commander of a mortar platoon. He returned to his native Kakhovka, worked at the OPEN TECK company. In late spring 2022, he went to defend Ukraine as part of military unit A 7359 as a reconnaissance gunner. He died on July 1, 2023 near Kherson, on the left bank of the Dnieper. Buried in Kherson.

Oleksandr grew up in a family where everyone maintained a strong bond. His mother, Olena Mykolaivna Andreenko, remembers how he, the eldest son, took care of his younger brother Volodymyr and sister Myroslava. His biological father was not around, but his stepfather took Sashka in when he was six and became a dear person to him. However, they would both later come together in the service of the country: his stepfather, a military medic, went to the ATO in 2017 and is still at the front.

His mother says about Oleksandr: “He was restless, he always strove not for science, but for work. He was always an honest, fair child. He loved his brother and sister very much, for their sake he was ready to do anything.”

His main childhood and teenage hobby was football – he played for the team of a local enterprise, giving all his enthusiasm to the game. Oleksandr studied at Kakhovka Specialized Secondary School No. 2, after graduating he worked for a while and then went on conscription in Bila Tserkva in the Kyiv region. After being released, he went to Kyiv, where he mastered the profession of a plowman and worked in large warehouses.

Later, he met a woman with whom he began a life together. She had a son, Danylo, who was 11 years old at the time. Although the couple did not have

06/15/1988 – 07/01/2023

time to get married, Oleksandr found a common language with the boy and they became almost like family to each other.

When the war in eastern Ukraine began in 2014, Oleksandr worked in Kyiv. In 2015, he was already in the army. He began his service in the 179th Signal Troops Training Center (B 0213), and later served in unit A 3720. During his service in the ATO, he was a mortarman (mortar platoon commander).

After being released at the end of 2017, Oleksandr returned to Kakhovka, where he worked as a plowman at a local enterprise until the full-scale invasion.

The morning of February 24, 2022 found Oleksandr at home in Kakhovka. He went to the military registration and enlistment office, but it was already closed. The city quickly found itself under occupation. Oleksandr, like many of his brothers, was unable to leave, but he could not sit idly by.

- MY SON HOPED THAT ALL THIS WOULD END QUICKLY, THAT OUR MILITARY WOULD COME IN. HE PLANNED TO JOIN THE PARTICULAR MOVEMENT OF THE ATO PARTICIPANTS TO HELP THE UKRAINIAN MILITARY. BUT DUE TO THE THREAT OF DETECTION ON LISTS THAT COULD “DROP” LOCAL COLLABORATORS, OLEKSANDR WAS FORCED TO HIDE, CHANGING ADDRESSES, - TELLS MOTHER.

At the end of May 2022, he was finally able to leave the occupation through Zaporizhia. He immediately made a decision that only confirmed his life philosophy: “I will not sit and wait.” He immediately headed south, first to the Mykolaiv territorial defense, and then to his guys in the Kherson direction.

Oleksandr became a reconnaissance gunner of the second reconnaissance detachment of the reconnaissance platoon of military unit A7359. He took an active part in the liberation of the right-bank Kherson region. They communicated with their mother, who remained under occupation until November 2023, via Internet messengers, and their family password became: “I’m getting better and better,” instead of the usual “everything is fine.”

- IN JUNE 2023, OLEKSANDR WENT TO KYIV FOR INSTRUCTOR COURSES. THERE HE WAS SUGGESTED TO STAY, WORK IN THE HOMETOWN. AFTER THINKING, HE SAID TO ME: “WHAT ARE MY GUYS? HOW WILL I LEAVE THEM THERE?” AND WITHOUT TELLING ME ABOUT HIS DECISION, HE STILL RETURNED TO FIGHT IN THE KHERSON DIRECTION. I DIDN’T KNOW THAT HE WAS LIBERATING HIS NATIVE LEFT-BANK UNTIL THE MOMENT OF HIS DEATH, — OLENA MYKOLAIVNA SHARES.

Communication with her son was lost on July 1, 2023. That morning, they exchanged only voice messages: “Mom, the connection is very bad, I’ll call you.” These were his last words.

Oleksandr was part of a reconnaissance group that crossed to the left bank of the Dnieper to clear the territory and prepare a bridgehead for the landing of Ukrainian forces. While carrying out the task, the group encountered an enemy DRG. The commander later informed his father that four boys, including Alexander, had remained to cover the departure of the main group. They took all the fire. The day until the bodies of the Heroes could be taken from the “gray zone” was hell for the mother.

- I JUST SIT IN THE STREET THAT DAY AND PRAYED, ASKED MY SON TO HOLD ON, IF THERE WAS ANY POSSIBILITY, — THE MOTHER REMEMBERS.

Oleksandr's stepfather, a military doctor, left from Bakhmut to identify and bury his son. Oleksandr Sokha, who knowingly sacrificed himself for the sake of his brothers, was buried in Kherson.

- Our little son is truly a Hero. But not only he is a Hero, all those guys who are with him there, all of them Heroes, - his mother speaks about Oleksandr with pride, but also with pain. Real Heroes do not choose their fate. They accept it, because they cannot do otherwise. Oleksandr Sokha had this unshakable inner demand since childhood: “I want to be the first. If not me, then who?” This was his life credo, his moral compass, which eventually led him to that fateful left bank of the Dnieper.

SURMAI ANATOLIY YOSYPOVYCH



Born on May 9, 1988 in the village of Ovsyanykyvka, Kropyvnytskyi district, Kirovohrad region. From the age of seven, due to family circumstances, he was raised in an orphanage. After receiving secondary education, he worked as a handyman in the institution. In January 2023, he was mobilized to the Armed Forces of Ukraine, served in the 23rd separate mechanized brigade, had the rank of soldier. He died on August 6, 2023 near the village of Pryutne, Polohivskyi district, Zaporizhzhia region. Buried in the village of Borozenske, Beryslavskyi district, Kherson region. Awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

Anatoliy Surmai grew up in a simple working family, was the youngest in a large family. The boy was curious and restless: he willingly helped his father with the housework and his mother in the kitchen. He especially loved the moments when they made dumplings or cooked borscht together. These joint activities with his family became one of the few warm memories of his childhood.

When Anatoly was 7 years old, his life changed radically. After his mother's death, his father, overwhelmed by grief, could not cope with the responsibility and the children ended up in an orphanage, where they lost touch with each other. Since then, Anatoly was left alone with reality, forced to grow up earlier than he should have – not by age, but by circumstances.

“In the orphanage, Anatoly actively participated in festive events, performed on stage with pleasure. He devoted a lot of time and effort to sports dancing, which brought him numerous awards. In addition, he was interested in humanities, such as biology and literature,” says his wife Anna.

Anatoliy Surmay met her through her mother, who worked with him. At that time, the man lived in the village of Nova Mayachka, Kherson district, and was engaged in growing flowers in gardens and greenhouses.

“It was a chance acquaintance. I called my mother, and Tolya was talking in the background, and somehow we started talking. He called me more and more often. And then on the Independence Day of Ukraine, August 24, 2009, he asked

09.05.1988 – 06.08.2023

if he would come. I understood by the time that Tolya would not be able to catch the last bus to my village and jokingly said: “Come.” But he did! He came by taxi with an armful of flowers to my work. I worked as a paramedic and was on an additional shift at the hospital. That’s how our relationship began,” says Anna.

In 2010, the couple got married and settled in the village of Borozenske, Berislavsky District. In 2011, their daughter Anastasia was born. In the new place, Anatoliy Surmay performed various jobs at the local agricultural enterprise – he was a shepherd, a security guard, a builder. The villagers appreciated his man’s knowledge and skills, and often called for help: to dig up the garden or plaster the walls. In his free time, Anatoliy was fond of football, repairing various equipment, and crafting from wood, for example, carving spoons and spatulas.

“Tol had “hot blood,” so he tried to be everywhere, he was extremely persistent. We had a warm and sincere relationship. He was very worried about me during pregnancy, and with the birth of my daughter he took on a significant part of the responsibilities of caring for her. But happiness did not last long... When Nastya was a year and two months old, Tolya left the family, and soon I filed for divorce. At first we maintained communication, but later less and less often. However, my daughter grew up with the idea that her father loved her. I believed that someday they would be able to understand each other and be truly close people,” the wife does not hide. However, things did not turn out the way Anna wanted. With the beginning of the full-scale invasion, Anatoly Surmay lived in the city of Kryvyi Rih and worked as a volunteer at the Nadiya center. On January 27, 2023, Anatoliy Surmay was included in the personnel lists for the position of rifleman-medic of the mechanized detachment of the combat vehicle of the 1st mechanized platoon of the 5th mechanized company of the 2nd mechanized battalion of the military unit A4741. During his service, the man recommended himself exclusively on the good side - his comrades remember him only with kind words. Anatoliy was responsible and brave, had outstanding organizational skills and knew how to rally

people around him. His determination and humanity inspired respect, and his willingness to come to the rescue - trust.

Anatoliy Surmay died on August 6, 2023 near the village of Priyutne in Zaporizhia during mortar shelling by the Russian army. The soldier was performing a combat mission in the defense area of his unit. On the day of the burial, everyone who knew and respected him gathered at the cemetery. People formed a living corridor to escort the Hero to his final journey with dignity.

An information banner with a portrait of a military man was installed on the Alley of Glory in the village of Borozenske in the Kherson region. The man was 35 years old. He is survived by his ex-wife and daughter.



FEDOTCHENKO KYRYLO IHOROVICH



Born on April 24, 1991 in the city of Kherson, Kherson region. Here he graduated from Kherson Secondary School No. 44 and entered the Kherson National Technical University with a degree in Management. At the end of May 2022, he volunteered to join the ranks of the 11th Brigade named after Mykhailo Hrushevskiyi of the National Guard of Ukraine. He was mortally wounded on September 2, 2023 in the village of Chervona Krynytsia, Polohivskiyi district, Zaporizhzhia region. Buried on the Alley of Glory of the Geologists' Cemetery in Kherson. Awarded the breastplate "For Valiant Service", the breastplate "War Veteran", the distinction of the President of Ukraine - the medal "For the Defense of Ukraine" (during his lifetime) and the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

Kirill Fedotchenko grew up in a family where an atmosphere of sincerity and sensitivity prevailed. He was the eldest child, he had a younger brother by his mother, Roman, who was 10 years younger. Despite such an age difference, a special bond developed between the boys. For Roman, Kirill was a real older brother: a protector and mentor, a role model and a close friend. He constantly supported him, paid attention and care, in particular, took him to swimming training and took him to work with him, gradually teaching him to work.

An equally important person for Kirill was his mother. Their relationship was distinguished by warmth and trust: they could talk about everything in the world, laugh or even compete in trifles. He respected and loved her very much. Kirill was raised by his mother together with his stepfather, because the boy did not maintain communication with his biological father. Mom first worked as an administrator, and then as a director in a supermarket. Stepfather was a senior mechanic on ships and often went sailing.

"Kyrylo was curious and quick-witted from childhood, and also had bright leadership and organizational skills. Kindergarten teachers told me how he gathered other children around him and offered games, and everyone obeyed him without arguments or insults. My son knew how to find an approach to everyone,

04/24/1991 – 09/02/2023

had firm principles and moral guidelines, and his main feature was justice. And he remained like that throughout his life,” shares his mother, Viktoriya Viktorovna.

SHE ADDS THAT HER SON STUDIED WELL AT SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY: EDUCATION CAME EASY FOR HIM, AND HE WAS CALLED “THE SOUL OF THE COMPANY” EVERYWHERE. IN HIS FREE TIME, KYRYLO WAS CARING FOR FOOTBALL – HE RARELY PLAYED BY HIMSELF, BUT BETTER WATCHING MATCHES AND CHEERING FOR HIS FAVORITE TEAMS. IN ADDITION, HE HAD A PASSION FOR HISTORY, AND LOVED TO ORGANIZE EVENTS WITH FRIENDS WHERE THEY TESTED THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF HISTORICAL EVENTS.

In his last year of study, Kirill began working at the Adidas trading company in parallel. Within two years, he headed the Kherson branch, proving himself to be a capable manager and organizer. Later, the company entrusted him with the management of one of the Odessa branches. In 2020, the man returned to Kherson, where he became the director of the local branch of the Intersport company.

With the beginning of the full-scale invasion, Kirill Fedotchenko openly demonstrated his devotion to Ukraine: he was among those who took part in peaceful protests against the Russian occupation and helped people through volunteer activities. On April 23, 2022, risking his own life, he managed to leave Kherson for Odessa. And on May 6, Kirill was at the military registration and enlistment office, but due to his health, the man was denied service in the assault troops. But this did not stop him.

“WHEN HE RETURNED FROM THE MILITARY COMMISSION, MY SON DIDN'T EVEN TAKE OFF HIS BACKPACK, HE IMMEDIATELY WENT TO THE MILITARY UNIT. WHEN HE WAS ASKED ABOUT HIS MOTIVATION, HE ANSWERED: “THE ENEMY IS IN MY HOMETOWN. THAT'S WHY I HAVE THE GREATEST MOTIVATION. TAKE ME OUT.” LIBERATING KHERSON WAS KYRYL'S MAIN GOAL,” REMEMBERS HIS MOTHER.

Since May 23, 2022, Kyrylo Fedotchenko has served in the 11th Brigade named after Mykhailo Hrushevsky of the National Guard of Ukraine. He held the position of topographer of the department of the senior officer of the battery of the 1st mortar platoon of the mortar battery of the operational battalion. He had the rank of soldier and the call sign Manager. The soldier performed combat missions in the Kherson and Zaporizhia directions.

On July 16, 2022, Kirill married his beloved Anastasia. According to his mother, they had been in a relationship for several years, were extremely in love and happy. Their communication was full of tenderness and positivity: they constantly gave each other smiles and addressed each other with gentle words. The couple had many plans and dreams - everything ended in an instant.

Kirill Fedotchenko died on September 2, 2023 during a battle near the village of Chervona Krynytsia in Zaporizhia as a result of artillery shelling by the Russian army. The last time his family saw the soldier was a month and a half before his death, they had talked for two hours before that.

“I called him and heard him blabbering loudly in the background. I asked him: “That's it, son, go,” and he said: “No, it flew by.” We talked for a long time then...”, - recalls Viktoriya Viktorovna.

The name of Kyrylo Fedotchenko is immortalized on the “Wall of Memory” in the city of Odesa. An information banner with a portrait of the soldier will also be installed on the Alley of Heroes in the local park named after Taras Shevchenko. The man was 32 years old. He is survived by his mother, brother and wife.

“Kyrylo was always at the center of events. This did not change during his service. His initiative and honesty did not go unnoticed, so he was involved in many official events. All his comrades came to his funeral together with the commander, and they also came to the anniversary. The guys remember him only with kind words. For all of us, Kyrylo will forever remain a Hero, and his memory will live in the hearts of those who knew him,” - notes the mother.

OLEG BORYSOVICH FOTIADI



Born on July 23, 1984 in the village of Velyka Oleksandrivka, Beryslav district, Kherson region. For some time in childhood, he lived with his family in Abkhazia. After graduating from Velyka Oleksandrivka secondary school No. 1, he began working in the construction sector. In August 2022, he volunteered to join the 7th separate battalion "Arei" of the Ukrainian Volunteer Army. Later, he was assigned to the 253rd battalion "Arei" of the 129th separate heavy mechanized brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He died on September 30, 2023 near the village of Staromayorske, Volnovakha district, Donetsk region. Buried in the cemetery in Velyka Oleksandrivka. Awarded with the badge "For the Defense of Kryvyi Rih", the badge "Shield of the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine", the badge "War Veteran", the distinction "35th Separate Marine Brigade named after Rear Admiral M. Ostrogradsky "For Defense", the medal "For Bravery in Battle" (during his lifetime) and the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

Oleg Fotiadi grew up in an interethnic family. His mother was Ukrainian, his father was Abkhazian, his grandmother was Armenian, and his grandfather was Greek. Such a rich cultural heritage formed in him a deep respect for family unity, openness to the world, and the ability to see beauty in different traditions.

As a child, the boy lived in Abkhazia with his parents and his older brother, Andriy, who was a year older than him, where the family had their own business. However, due to the war in this country (1992-1993), they were forced to return to Ukraine. In the village of Velyka Oleksandrivka, his father was a foreman for repairing communication lines, his mother was a housewife. Later, during the temporary Russian occupation of the right-bank Kherson region, Oleg said: "The Russians are kicking me out of my house for the second time."

In his school years, Oleg Fotiadi became interested in freestyle wrestling. His interest quickly grew into a serious activity. For a long time, he trained at a professional level: he had a sports degree, participated in all-Ukrainian and international competitions, and won prizes. However, in the end, he decided to become a builder.

“Oleg was an unsurpassed craftsman. If he took on a project, he built it in a way that words fail: unique, powerful, high-quality. In his free time from work, the man devoted himself to activities with his beloved dog Baikal and hunting: he guarded hunting grounds, kept order in the forest, and hunted wolves with his friend Serhiy Bachu. He did this at his own expense, because he had a principled position on protecting nature. Oleg lived a decent life, leaving behind a good memory and many good deeds. Everyone in Velikaya Oleksandrivka respected and loved him. When he was brought home, despite the night, people came out to meet the car on the street to create a living corridor for the Hero,” says his wife Alla. Oleg met his future wife in 2004 in one of the local bars where Alla worked. It was love at first sight, so the man decided to win the woman’s heart. At first, he visited there more and more often as a visitor, and later joined the work team.

“Oleg won me over not with words, but with actions. He had a truly masculine character and strength, the ability to be there and take responsibility despite any circumstances. Despite the age difference of 6.5 years (I was older than him) and remarks from those around him: “Hello, he’s still so young” – I always saw huge potential in him and never regretted my choice,” says his wife.

The couple was in a civil marriage for a long time, and on a symbolic date – 12.12.2012 – they officially signed. The family raised two children: Alla’s son from a previous relationship, Vladislav, and their common son, Igor. Oleg never made a difference between them, loved both of them as relatives.

“Oleg was not just a father to me – he became a friend, a mentor, an example. It was thanks to him that I started freestyle wrestling, which taught me discipline, endurance, and the ability to fight not only on the mat, but also in life. He shared the intricacies of sports, hunting, driving a car, and many other areas. You could talk to Oleg about anything. I miss him terribly,” his son Vladislav admits.

He adds that Oleg was a good teacher and selflessly shared his experience with Vlad and Igor’s friends. The man often told his children: “Learn while I’m alive.” With the beginning of the full-scale invasion, Oleg Fotiadi was not going to evacuate his native village, steadfastly enduring interrogations and the looting

of his farm. However, after several months of being under temporary Russian occupation, worried about the safety of his relatives, he first sent his sons to the controlled territory of Ukraine, and then left for the city of Kryvyi Rih together with other family members.

On August 23, 2022, Oleg voluntarily mobilized to the 7th separate battalion "Arei" of the Ukrainian Volunteer Army. Later, he joined the 253rd battalion "Arei" of the 129th separate heavy mechanized brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The soldier sought to perform combat reconnaissance missions, and he achieved his goal - he was in the hottest spots of the front. He served as an operator-scout of the reconnaissance department of the reconnaissance platoon, had the rank of soldier and call sign Fotich.

“THE BROTHERS SPEAK ONLY WARMLY ABOUT THE MAN. HE WAS A “LIFE-LIFE”, HE RECHARGED HIS ENERGY AND CONSTANTLY WORRIED ABOUT THE PEOPLE NEARBY. FOR EXAMPLE, WHILE EVERYONE WAS SLEEPING - HE COULD GET FOOD FOR EVERYONE. HIS APPEARANCE AT THE POSITIONS WAS ALWAYS RELIABLE AND CALM WITH HIM. THE GUYS TRUST OLEG WITH THEIR LIVES AND KNEW THAT HE WOULD NEVER LET THEM DOWN,” ALLA SHARES.

According to the woman, the man always said: “For me, the end of the war is either “200” or the end of the war.” That’s what happened for him. The last time his family saw Oleg was on September 2, 2023, and they talked on September 27.

Oleg Fotiadi was mortally wounded on September 30, 2023 in the Panama forest strip near the village of Staromayorske in the Donetsk region. An information banner with a portrait of the soldier is installed on the Alley of Glory in Velyka Oleksandrivka. The man was 39 years old. He is survived by his brother, wife, two sons, and a grandson who was born after his death.

CHERNETSOV VASIL MYKHAYLOVYCH



Born on October 6, 1986 in the village of Petropavlivka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. After graduating from Chervonoperekopsk secondary school, he entered Chervonoperekopsk vocational and technical school No. 25, where he obtained the profession of a tractor driver. In November 2022, he was mobilized to the 77th separate airmobile Naddnipryan brigade of the Airborne Assault Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. He died on August 28, 2023 in the city of Bakhmut, Bakhmut district, Donetsk region. Buried at the 42nd military burial site of the Berkovets cemetery in the city of Kyiv. Awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

Vasyl Chernetsov grew up in a large family, where hard work, sincerity and mutual support reigned. He was the fourth child among five: he had two older sisters, an older brother and a younger brother. The boy's parents worked as laborers on a local collective farm. In addition, his father was well-versed in construction – he willingly passed on his knowledge and skills to his sons. That is why, after studying, Vasyl decided to devote his life to construction, working in this direction in the cities of Kherson and Kakhovka.

“VASYL HAD GOLDEN HANDS, AND THIS TALENT WAS MANIFESTED IN MANY AREAS. IN PARTICULAR, HE COMPLETED PROFESSIONAL HAIRDRESSING COURSES AND WORKED BY PROFESSION IN KAKHOVKA FOR A SOME TIME. LATER HE FOUND ANOTHER JOB THAT BECAME AN OUTLET FOR HIM - WORKING WITH THE LAND. TOGETHER WE KEPT A SMALL FARM, GROWING WATERMELONS, PUMPKINS AND GRAIN CROPS,” SAYS VASYL’S WIFE TETYANA.

The woman adds that farming brought her husband peace and inspiration. After his main job at construction, Vasyl always rushed to the field – he observed the changes in plants, checked the soil, and rejoiced at every sprout. He also devoted a lot of time to studying specialized literature and communicating with farmers – he looked for new approaches to developing and improving his own business.

06.10.1986 – 28.08.2023

The immediate plans of the family were to expand the area of cultivated land and purchase agricultural machinery.

Vasyl met Tatyana in 2004 at a local disco, and initiated their relationship. They were fellow villagers, and at that time - still teenagers. And although their paths diverged for a while - fate brought them together again in 2010. In 2012, the couple got married. The marriage gave birth to two children: daughter Ivanna and son Ilya.

“Vasyl loved children very much, cared a lot about them and devoted all his free time to them. He loved me no less: he highly valued our relationship and put them first. The man was a good person: kind, sincere, cheerful. He was always in the spotlight, became the soul of any company, was very sociable, had many friends. He never refused to help others and constantly fought for justice. He was not afraid to stand for the truth openly and boldly,” the wife shares.

Therefore, it was no surprise to any of Vasyl Chernetsov’s relatives and acquaintances that he spoke out against the Russian military during the temporary occupation of the Kherson region. Vasyl was a participant in a peaceful rally on March 6, 2022 in Kakhovka. He was also going there on March 7, but was detained at one of the Russian checkpoints because of the leaflets “Russian military ship, go to hell” found in his car. Within a few hours, Tatyana managed to take her husband away from there. After this incident, she began to persuade him to leave.

In April 2022, the family evacuated from their native village to the controlled territory of Ukraine. At first, they were in the Cherkasy region, then in the city of Kyiv. The first thing Vasyl did after leaving was to register at the local military registration and enlistment office, firmly stating to his family: “I have to. Because I don’t want my

wife and children to shine the shoes of Russian soldiers.” On November 4, 2022, Vasyl Chernetsov joined the 77th Separate Airmobile Dnieper Brigade of the Airborne Assault Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. On February 22, 2023, he had his first combat mission. He served in the Bakhmut direction. The soldier repeatedly underwent training, including in Great Britain and Poland. Foreign instructors noted the man’s high potential for military affairs: the ability to think strategically, develop tactical plans, and quickly navigate combat conditions. In the spring of 2023, Vasyl received the rank of junior sergeant and was transferred to the position of commander of the 3rd airmobile detachment of the 1st airmobile platoon of the 8th airmobile company of the 2nd airmobile battalion. He had the call sign Cherik. Vasyl Chernetsov was mortally wounded

August 28, 2023 in the city of Bakhmut in the Donetsk region. His group came under mortar fire from the Russian army. The last time Tatyana saw her husband was on August 26, when she came to visit him in the city of Kramatorsk, they communicated - in the evening of August 27. On the day of his death, Vasyl sent his wife a short message at 5 am: “I am going to the positions. Stay in touch.”

The soldier is survived by his father, two sisters, a brother, a wife and two children. He was 36 years old.

“When Vasyl passed away, they asked me: ‘Don’t you regret leaving? Maybe he would be alive?’ And I answered: “I don’t regret it. I’m sure he wouldn’t be alive there. And I might not know where and under what circumstances he died. But here he is a hero. Everyone will remember him that way, and the children will know that their father died for a just cause. As a worthy son of his state,” says Tetyana.



CHITASHVILI DZHABA NUGZAROVYCH



Chitashvili Dzhab Nugzarovich was born on September 20, 1984 in Georgia. Two years later, the family moved to the village of Chulakivka in the Kherson region. There he graduated from high school, after which he immediately went to work in construction, later in the agricultural sector. During the full-scale invasion, he fought as part of the 1st Presidential Operational Brigade named after Hetman Petro Doroshenko "Storm" of the National Guard of Ukraine. He died on July 20, 2023 near the village of Karmazynivka, Svativsky district, Luhansk region. Buried in Kyiv.

Dzhab left Georgia at a young age. According to his wife, the family moved to the Kherson region, to the village of Chulakivka, Holoprystan district, approximately in 1986. He grew up in a family engaged in agriculture. His father died early, in 1996. Jaba graduated from Chulakivska secondary school. His future wife, Olesya, also studied at the same school, in a parallel class.

Jaba grew up a very hardworking person, starting to help his mother and younger sister early. After school, he immediately started working, because he had to help his family. He had a driver's license, worked in construction, and built houses. However, his main hobby was working on the land.

For a while, Jaba and Olesya's paths diverged, but they met again in 2008, when their serious adult relationship began. They got married in 2015. In 2011, the couple moved to the village of Pamyatnoye in the same Holoprystan district, where they bought a house. There they created their own world, built on joint work and trust.

- WE WORKED ALL OUR LIVES, WE AIMED TO REACH THE LEVEL OF FARMING. WE BOUGHT A HOUSE, LAND, LITTLE BY LITTLE WE BOUGHT EQUIPMENT FOR FARMING. AND WE ALWAYS DID EVERYTHING TOGETHER, WE WERE AS ONE GOAL, WE WERE GOING TOWARDS A COMMON GOAL, - OLESIA TALK ABOUT THEIR COMMUNITY LIFE.

09/20/1984 – 07/20/2023

Jaba was an incredibly open and friendly person. The house was often filled with guests. The couple spent the evenings after work in communication, together they made plans for the future, they were a support for each other. Jaba dreamed of developing farming, wanted to have 5, 10 or more hectares of field. By the time the great war began, they already had two tractors and there was very little left to achieve their common goal.

The beginning of the full-scale invasion put the couple abroad, in Germany. However, Jaba could not stay away. His inner patriotism did not allow him to wait. In 2023, they returned to Ukraine, arriving in Kyiv.

- THE MAN SAID THAT EVERYONE WAS AT WAR AND HE WASN'T GOING TO WAIT FOR SOMEONE TO LIBERATE HIS HOUSE EITHER. HE ALWAYS SAID: "WHO, IF NOT ME?", - THE WIFE REMEMBERS. - JABA WAS IN GENERAL A GREAT PATRIOT OF UKRAINE.

In February 2023, Jaba Chitashvili went to the military registration and enlistment office in the Buchansky district of the Kyiv region and joined the National Guard of Ukraine (military unit A3027). Initially, he was in a unit in the Kyiv region, in the summer of 2023, after a month and a half of training, he was sent to eastern Ukraine.

The last battle took place in Luhansk region. This was his first combat mission. On July 20, 2023, Jaba Chitashvili was killed near the village of Karmazynivka. The day before, he told his wife that they were being taken away and promised to call when he arrived at the place. This call never happened. Olesya learned about her husband's death on July 24, 2023, when she was notified by the military registration and enlistment office. The burial took place on July 27, 2023 at the Berkovets cemetery in Kyiv. The defender of Ukraine, Jaba Chitashvili, was awarded the medal "For Courage" of the 3rd degree.

The hero, who dreamed of a fertile Ukrainian land, gave the most precious thing for it - his life.



SHOVENKO MAKSYM OLEKSANDROVICH



Shovenko Maksym Oleksandrovych was born on November 19, 1996 in the city of Severomorsk, Murmansk region (Russia). Later, his family moved to the city of Oleshki in the Kherson region, where he graduated from secondary school No. 2. After that, he entered the Kherson State Agrarian University, where he studied in the specialty “Aquatic Bioresources and Aquaculture”. Without leaving his studies, he went to military service. Then he worked in a weapons store in Kherson. In 2021, he signed a contract and continued his military service. He met Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine at the front - in eastern Ukraine. He fought as part of the 140th separate reconnaissance battalion of the Marine Corps, then the 37th separate brigade of the Marine Corps. He died on July 8, 2023 near the village of Urozhayne, Donetsk region. Buried on the Walk of Fame in the city of Bila Tserkva.

Maxim was born into a family of military personnel. His parents, Oleksandr Mykolayovych and Alla Ivanivna Shovenky, had been waiting for a child for almost ten years, and he was their long-awaited only child. When Maxim was four years old, his father was discharged from military service and the family moved to Ukraine, to the city of Oleshki, Kherson region, to his father's homeland. In this sunny southern city, where his father worked in the field of labor protection at the Oleshkiv oil refinery, and his mother in an optics salon, the character of the future Hero was formed.

Maxim was an extraordinary child. At one year and 10 months old, he knew the entire alphabet, had a phenomenal memory. He grew up lively, inquisitive, was engaged in karate, canoeing. But his greatest passions, inherited from his father, were the water element and weapons.

- MAKSYMCHIK WAS VERY INVOLVED IN INSTRUMENTAL SEARCH. HE EVEN TAKE PART IN THE MILITARY-HISTORICAL CLUB IN KHERSON, FROM KAKHOVKA, IN THE SEARCH FOR OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS. THEN, WATER OCCUPIED A VERY BIG PLACE IN HIS LIFE - IT WAS THE WATER ELEMENT, FISHING, – SAYS MOTHER ALLA IVANIVNA. – HE KNEW ABOUT WEAPONS AND HISTORY PERFECTLY. WE WERE IN THE LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM. HE COULD TELL US ABOUT EVERYTHING THERE.

11/19/1996 – 07/08/2023

The turning point in his life was 2014 and the occupation of Crimea. While studying at the Kherson Agrarian State University, he decided to take an academic leave to complete his military service, as he planned to defend Ukraine from Russian aggression. He completed his initial training at the 169th Desna Training Center, and completed his military service in the 72nd Motorized Rifle Brigade in the city of Bila Tserkva as a GMZ driver. He combined his service with part-time studies, successfully graduating from university.

After the army, he worked in Kherson at the Myslyvska Sprava store, because weapons were an integral part of his life. But civilian life did not sustain Voin. In February 2021, Maksym signed a contract and returned to the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, joining the 140th Separate Reconnaissance Battalion of the Marine Corps in Skadovsk. He passed all the tests and graduated from the Marine Corps School at the 198th Naval Training Center in Mykolaiv, becoming

“a warrior of the three elements.” In August 2021, his unit was sent to the Joint Forces Operation zone in the Luhansk region. It was there, in the east, that Maksym Shovenko encountered a full-scale invasion.

From the first hours of the great war, he participated in the hottest battles, received a concussion and combat injury. Based on the results of the tasks in the summer of 2022, he received the right to wear a marine storm beret.

In early 2023, Maksym, as one of the best soldiers, was sent to the Military Academy in Odessa. On the basis of higher education, he graduated from officer courses, received the rank of junior lieutenant and was assigned to the position of marine platoon commander to the newly created 37th separate marine brigade (military unit A4548). In May 2023, the brigade went to the Donetsk region. On June 4, 2023, active offensive and assault operations began on the Vremivske ledge.

- Maksym, not knowing fear, was always at the forefront of the attack. In one of the assaults, his combat vehicle received a direct hit from an RPG, he received a severe concussion, but refused to be evacuated. Then he said

that he would not abandon his boys. He continued to fight even after the bullet hit his helmet and the plate of his body armor, - the mother tells about her son's heroic path.

The last contact with her son took place on July 8, 2023. On the same day, Maksym Shovenko "Prepper" died in battle near the village of Urozhayne in the Donetsk region.

- THE SON, AS THE ELDER IN THE POSITION, CAME OUT OF HIDDEN SHELTER AFTER THE FIRST TANK SHOT TO ASSESS THE SITUATION AND GIVE COMMANDS TO HIS SUBORDINATES. AT THIS MOMENT THE SECOND "ARRIVAL" OF A TANK SHELL HAPPENED, WHICH EXPLODED NEARBY. MAXIM RECEIVED MULTIPLE EXPLOSIVE AND SHELL WOUNDS, FROM WHICH HE DIED ON THE SITE, - THE MOTHER TELLS ABOUT THE LAST MINUTES OF THE HERO'S LIFE.

The farewell to her son took place five days after his death. He was brought from Kurakhovo, and despite the difficult identification, the mother was able to say goodbye to the Warrior. The defender was buried on the Alley of Glory in the city of Bila Tserkva. Maksym Shovenko was awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously). He was also awarded the title of "Honorary Citizen of the City of Bila Tserkva", a street in his native Oleshki, where he lived, was named in his honor, and his brothers named the armored car they fight on, his call sign - "Prepper".

- NOW WE LIVE SO THAT THE MEMORY OF OUR SON LIVES IN THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE. AND WE DO EVERYTHING SO THAT THE FALLEN SOLDIERS ARE NOT FORGOTTEN, BECAUSE WITHOUT THE PAST THERE IS NO FUTURE, FOR WHICH THE GUYS FIGHTED, - SAYS ALLA IVANIVNA. AND SHE ADDS: I AM GRATEFUL TO HIM THAT HE CHOSEN ME AS HIS MOTHER!

SHULESHKO VIKTOR OLEKSANDROVYCH



Shuleshko Viktor Oleksandrovysh was born on March 2, 1995 in the village of Knyazehryhorivka, Velykolepetysky district, Kherson region. After graduating from local school, he entered the Odessa State University of Internal Affairs, later studied at the Taras Shevchenko Kyiv National University. He worked in the police, in a security company. In July 2022, he went to the military enlistment office, was sent to serve as part of the 25th separate airborne Sicheslav brigade. He died on July 10, 2023 in the village of Karmazynivka, Svativsky district, Luhansk region. Buried in the city of Pivdenne, Odessa region.

Viktor's childhood passed among the endless steppes of Kherson region, where he grew up with his younger brother Vadim. His parents, Lyubov and Oleksandr, were engaged in agriculture and cultivated the land. Viktor was an active and friendly boy, which always attracted people to him. He had a deep interest in history, which, perhaps, even then formed his sense of duty and involvement in the great destiny of the country.

- HE HAD MANY FRIENDS. HE WAS VERY RESPECTED IN HIS CLASS, HIS TEACHERS LOVED HIM BECAUSE HE WAS A VERY FRIENDLY, VERY OPEN PERSON, HE ALWAYS HAD MANY FRIENDS. PEOPLE DRAWN TO HIM, - HIS WIFE ORINA SAYS.

After school, Viktor chose the path of service and law enforcement, entering the Odessa State University of Internal Affairs. Later, he continued his education, receiving higher education at the Kyiv University named after Shevchenko.

Victor began his professional career in the police in Velyka Lepetysa, where he received the rank of senior lieutenant. It was in Knyazehryhorivka that he met his future wife Orina. They had known each other since they were young. Their love developed at a distance until Orina graduated from school and entered university in Odessa. Then Victor decided to

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move to his beloved - he left the police service and started working in a security company.

- ALL THE BEST TRAITS THAT A MAN CAN HAVE, THEY WERE IN HIM. THAT'S WHY OUR MARRIAGE BECAME A LOGICAL STEP: VIKTOR PROPOSED TO ME IN 2020, - SAYS THE WIFE.

A full-scale invasion caught Viktor and Oryna in Odessa. A deep sense of duty haunted Viktor, and he decided to join the army.

- HE SAID THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO SIT AT HOME WHEN HE SEES YOUNG GUYS WHO HAVE NEVER HELD A WEAPON IN THEIR HANDS BEING KILLED, - ORINA TELLS HIM ABOUT HIS DECISION TO BECOME A DEFENSE MAN.

With experience in training at the university and in the police, Viktor believed that his place was where he could be useful. His determination was strengthened by the fact that his parents and relatives remained in the occupied territory of the Kherson region.

In July 2022, Viktor went to the military registration and enlistment office, and two days later, he went to the training center. After training, he was assigned to the 25th brigade. He became an artilleryman. The military path of Junior Sergeant Viktor Shuleshko was full of heavy fighting. He participated in key operations in the east of the country, in particular in the liberation of Izyum in the Kharkiv region.

Communication with his wife was almost daily, when possible.

- WE COMMUNICATED ALMOST EVERY DAY, BUT WHEN THEY HAD TRIPS, OF COURSE, WE COULD BE WITHOUT COMMUNICATION FOR FIVE DAYS OR A WEEK, - SAYS ORINA.

After the start of the full-scale war, they were able to meet only twice. In November 2022, Viktor was wounded and came to Odessa for a few days. This was the time they used for the most important thing.

- WE HAD A WEDDING, IT'S LOUD TO SAY SO - WE SIGNED, INVITED RELATIVES. THAT IS, WE OFFICIALLY FORMALIZED OUR RELATIONSHIP, - THE WIFE SAYS.

The next day after the official marriage, Viktor returned to the front. This was their last meeting. Constant postponements of vacations did not allow them to meet again. The next vacation was supposed to take place in July 2023. Unfortunately, this did not happen. The last time Viktor and Orina communicated was three days before his death. Viktor said that he was going away and would be out of touch.

On July 10, 2023, Junior Sergeant Viktor Shuleshko died in the village of Karmazynivka, Svativsky district, Luhansk region, while performing a combat mission. Viktor and his comrades participated in a counterattack as an artilleryman, covering the infantry. During the battle, he was wounded. The medic tried to provide assistance, but the bleeding could not be stopped. Rapid evacuation in combat conditions was impossible.

Viktor's body was brought three days later. He was buried on July 17, 2023 in the city of Pivdenne in the Odessa region, near the place where his mother was able to leave the occupation. Although his parents and closest relatives did not have time to say goodbye to him due to a long departure from the occupied territory, his brother Vadym, his wife Oryna, numerous friends from different regions and comrades were at the funeral.

Viktor was posthumously awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree. Shuleshko Viktor Oleksandrovych was an ideological man who never looked for easy ways, always choosing his own. He gave his life, defending his country, his family and his deep belief in justice. His bright memory will forever remain in the hearts of his family and friends in the history of Ukraine.

YAROSCHUK VOLODYMYR VALERIYOVYCH



Born on December 30, 1981 in the village of Baltazarivka, Kakhovka district, Kherson region. After graduating from a local school, he completed military service, was a paratrooper. Later he worked in various places. In June 2023, he joined the Airborne Assault Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, served in the 46th separate airmobile Podil brigade. On October 15, 2023, he was seriously wounded near the village of Verbovye, Polohiv district, Zaporizhia region. On October 17, 2023, he died from his injuries in the Zaporizhia military hospital. He was buried in the cemetery of the village of Ostrivchany, Kamianets-Podilskyi district, Khmelnytskyi region. Awarded the Order "For Courage" of the 3rd degree (posthumously).

Volodymyr Yaroshchuk grew up in a large family, was the second child, had a younger sister and two sisters on his mother's side - an older and a younger one. The boy's father was a handyman, his mother was a social worker.

“Volodya always treated his mother and sisters warmly, supported and protected them. However, he had a special relationship with his father, he valued him very much. No less important for him was his paternal grandmother Nadiya, whom he loved very much,” says Volodymyr's wife Halyna.

Since childhood, Volodymyr had a restless character and tireless energy. For which his fellow villagers gave him the nickname “Plague”. At the same time, he was respected for his kind and sensitive heart, his willingness to support in difficult life situations, and his sincere concern for others.

As an adult, Volodymyr and his family decided to move to the village of Ostrivchany, Kamianets-Podilskyi district, Khmelnytskyi region. He quickly settled in his new place. After all, he was distinguished by his friendliness, he could establish communication with any person or even an animal in a matter of minutes.

After the army, the man traveled to work abroad and to his native Kherson region. During one of these trips, in 2009, Volodymyr met his future wife Galyna. This happened in the village of Kostogryzove, Kherson district, Kherson region, where the couple later settled. In 2011, the couple got married.

12/30/1981 – 10/17/2023

The family raised two children: Galyna's daughter from a previous marriage, Alina, and their common daughter, Valeria, whom Volodymyr named after his father. He never made a difference between his children, he said: "I have not one, but two princesses." The man treated his wife no less carefully. He was a romantic. During business trips, he never warned about returning home: he arranged surprises and came with flowers or gifts.

Later, Volodymyr Yaroshchuk got a permanent job at a local kindergarten, where he was a helper and janitor. In addition, he was engaged in his own farm: the family grew vegetables and kept up to 40 pigs on 15 hectares of land. The man loved to relax near a reservoir: he was an avid fisherman and had more than 20 fishing rods.

“HE COULD WORK FROM MORNING TO EVENING, WAS NOT AFRAID OF ANY WORK AND BOLDLY TRIED HIS STRENGTH IN ANY SPHERE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE KINDERGARTEN, HE HAD HIS OWN HANDS CREATED AN EXTREMELY BEAUTIFUL PLAYGROUND FROM SCHOOL MATERIALS: HE CUT AND PAINTED BUNNY FROM CAR TIRES, AND CREATED A GIRAFFE FROM PLASTIC. IN GENERAL, VOLODYA DID COUNTLESS USEFUL THINGS, OUR VILLAGERS REMEMBER HIM ONLY WITH GOOD WORDS,” SHARES THE WIFE.

A full-scale invasion caught the family at home, their village was temporarily under Russian occupation. Two months later, they left for their relatives in the Khmelnytskyi region. In June 2023, Volodymyr Yaroshchuk was mobilized to the 46th separate airmobile Podilsky brigade.

He was a grenade launcher of the 1st airmobile detachment of the 1st airmobile platoon of the 9th airmobile company of the 3rd airmobile battalion. He had the rank of soldier and the

call sign Chuma. He said about his decision to serve: "I am a patriot. I will go. Who else but me?"

"Volodya said almost nothing about his service. I know that after training in the UK he was often appointed as the group leader – he was not afraid to take responsibility and lead others forward. When they were first sent "to zero" – only 18 out of 190 soldiers remained alive. That is why he said that next time he would not return from there. And so it happened...", recalls Halyna.

On October 15, 2023, while performing a combat mission near the village of Verbove in the Zaporizhia direction, Volodymyr Yaroshchuk came under fire from the Russian army. The soldier was seriously injured and was hospitalized in the Zaporizhia military hospital, where doctors fought for his life for two days. Volodymyr was conscious for the first day, and on the second he fell into a coma. On October 17, at 5 am, his heart stopped. An information banner with a portrait of the soldier was installed on the Alley of Glory in the

city of Kamianets-Podilskyi in the Khmelnytskyi region, and a memorial plaque was installed on the library building in the village of Ostrivchany. The man was 41 years old. He is survived by his mother, three sisters, his wife, his wife's daughter from his first marriage, and his own daughter. "Volodya loved planting trees. Even after the evacuation, in the new place, the first thing he did was buy a garden and plant 100 apple trees. Currently, this garden is looked after by his mother. He was constantly doing this: he bought peach, cherry, and apple saplings from his grandparents. He probably planted over 1,000 trees in his entire life. May they grow and bloom in his memory... I still love him very much... If he hadn't died, Volodya and I would have lived happily ever after," says his wife.



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