

Vasily Dmitrievich Prokopiev-Kyydaan (1919-2008)

Vasily Dmitrievich is a native of Megino-Kangalassky region, YakutASSR. Leaving Mainsky secondary school he studied in Aldansky Mining College. After that he worked for a short time as a technician-surveyor in Otkrytyi mine of the Trust «Yakutzoloto» till September 1940, when he was called into the ranks of the army.

When the war started, he was sent to Chernigovsky military engineering school. In October 1942 a lieutenant Prokopiev arrived to Volkhov Front and was appointed a headquarters liaison officer of engineering troops. From March to October 1943 he served as a commander of a sapper platoon, 349 separate combat battalion, 198 rifle division of the 54-th Army and acted as a regimental engineer. Prokopiev's sappers performed a variety of military engineering duties such as breaching fortifications, demolitions, bridge-building, laying or clearing minefields, preparing field defences. They did their best not to let fascists take over the city Leningrad. For his courage and fortitude Vasily Prokopiev was awarded the Order of the Red Star. On December 7, 1943 he was wounded and sent to a hospital. He came back to Yakutsk disabled in autumn 1944.

He lived a decent life, filled with interesting events. He worked as a lawyer, a journalist and an engineer. For outstanding personal professional and social achievements Vasily Dmitrievich was given a title «Honored Worker of People's Economy of YASSR». He was awarded the Medal «For the Defence of Leningrad», the Medal «For the Victory over Germany in the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945», the Medal «For Valiant Labour in the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945», the Gold Medal of the «Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy» and some others. He made a worthy contribution into the development of the country. We are very proud of him.

T.V. Prokopieva, a teacher of the Republican Lyceum

