

## ***Anna Pavlova: Work Hard and Love Each Other***

*Anna Pavlova was born in the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in 1920. She is the mother of 10, the grandmother of 17 and the great-grandmother of seven.*



Anna Pavlova was born in the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in 1920. Her parents weren't educated, she said, but were incredibly hard working people. "They hunted and had their own cows. They were members of the first collective farm that was organized in this Republic."

Anna said she herself didn't have much formal education, but "I had a wonderful life. I don't think of myself as having had really difficult times in my life. Even though the times of the Second World War were difficult, we were very supportive and industrious. We worked a lot and that is how we survived during those difficult times. We didn't have enough food or clothing, but we worked very hard."

It was important to Anna to educate her children to be hard workers and good people. "I had 10 children. Out of them eight stayed alive and now I have six of them. Their upbringing was due to the times. I tried to educate them to be industrious and wonderful people."

The greatest difficulty Anna had to overcome was the death of her children. "One of them, my daughter, died when she was 50 year old. My son died when he was 35 years old. I think that is the most difficult times, when you lose your children."

"I think one must have a very strong will to overcome these kinds of difficulties. And of course the children that are left, they help a lot. You can't say 'They died and I want to die,' because of course life must go on. You draw support from your children and the fact that you want something beautiful, and you expect something beautiful from your life in the future."

When asked what she was proud of in her life, Anna said she sees pride as a bad quality in life. "But the happiest moments are the successes of my children and the

fact that I taught them to become educated people. All of them are educated and good people, and I think that is the most wonderful thing.”

“And when you have children and your children have their own children, and those children have children – every time you become happy.”

“My advice is that you all become good people, that you work hard, have families, educate your own children and to be supportive to each other and to love each other and to lead a peaceful life. That is my advice.”

## *Difficult Times for a Whole Generation*

*“The war time was very difficult for us and  
that is why my mother died very early. But  
those were difficult times not just for me, but  
for a whole generation.”*

*—Avgustina Egorovna Pavlova*

