

## ***Avgustina Egorovna Pavlova: Creativity is in our Genes***



*Avgustina Egorovna Pavlova was born in Olekminsk in the Sakha Republic (Yakutia). She is the mother of five children and has 10 grandchildren ranging in age from 26 to eight months.*

Avgustina Egorovna Pavlova was born in 1939 and has been married for 50 years.

“I married a man from Suntarski Region and soon we will celebrate our golden anniversary,” she said. “I am the happiest grandmother because I have accomplished all my dreams in life.”

Avgustina said her father went to fight World War II when she was a young girl and came back in 1947. “He went into battle. 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.”

“I was young, but I remember the support we got from the Americans. They gave us sugar cubes that as soon as you put them in your mouth, they would melt right away. I remember it was wonderful to have support from the Americans.”

“During the war, all I would think of was eating something and I just wanted to get full. We had a family that had cows and not many people had cows at that time. Most of the people were hunters. Because my dad had a cow, we had warm milk and cream. All our family was very united and supported each other.”

Avgustina said her mother gave her eldest daughter to another family during those years to become educated. “Those were difficult years. We drew our strength from our grandmother. She used to sew everything. She could sew fur hats and fur coats and fur boots. She was very famous in the village and of course she was the one who helped us a lot.”

After her mother’s death, Avgustina went to live with an older, married sister. “I finished school and I went to the Agricultural Academy. Not long after that I went

to the Suntarskiy Region and I later became an accountant. All my life I worked as an accountant.”

“The Soviet time after the war was very enthusiastic. It was nice because there was no famine and we had enough food to eat. We also studied a lot.”

Avgustina said her grandmother’s creativity was passed down to her family. “You can find artists and a lot of people who are very creative. It’s in our genes. My youngest son is a designer and all my children have the ability to create beautiful things.”

“Of course I am very proud of my children,” she said. “All of them became good workers and most of the children are highly educated. I am very proud and happy of the success of my children.”

“My husband is a very good man, too. We lived a very happy life together. He worked in the collective farms. Of course, we were brought up in Soviet times and our upbringing was in the Soviet way.”

Avgustina said when she was a young woman, at one time she wanted to become an actress and she spent some time studying at the Institute of Culture. But she came home, married, and has never looked back with any regrets at her life choices. “The most important thing in someone’s life is his or her children. If you have children, when you become old you are very happy.”

And Avgustina believes that being truthful, resourceful and responsible are the most important values to pass on.

“I like traveling very much. I don’t sit in one place. I like going to the national summer festivals. I read newspapers and I am interested in life. People should value their lives and the lives of other people. And the most important thing is that they shouldn’t be greedy or jealous. They shouldn’t think that other people have a better life.”





*Expect Beauty*

*“Expect something beautiful from  
your life in the future.”*

*—Anna Pavlova*