

Ivica Dunder – Krivaja, Kolona street and foreign surnames

I was born in Olovo in 1938. In Zavidovici I came in 1943. I completed in Zavidovici primary school and professional school for craftsmen. I spent the entire 40 years of service in Krivaja.

Street “Kolona” is part of the town where there is the current building called Socijalno. There was a place called "Bekternica" with a gate which was locked at night at 10 o'clock and the second gate was at the bridge on the river Bosna. So every evening until the next morning no one could enter inside. People who came to work as skilled craftsmen in the Krivaja factory, they lived there. Therefore, there were a lot of foreign workers because at that time there were no skilled craftsmen.

Another part of Krivaja factory was “Našićka” (the name comes from the Directorate, which was in Nasice in Croatia). It was supplied by wood that has been brought in by the railroad from Kamenica. When we came to Zavidovici, there was no traffic in Kolona street, even horse-drawn carts, the city was well arranged, there were the plane trees high up to 30 m. It was like a park.

Skilled craftsmen were famous like Boure, Skramočin, Sajbl, Čatlak, Sepi, Kocer, Žarković, artist Kolaković Abid. These are the names that could be linked to Krivaja. Also there are Stipo Bilandžija, Bartolović Ivan, Ilija Dunder, Kozine, Rojnik, Betler and many others. Memories fade a bit.

Mr. Mlakar was in charge of cleaning, control and decorating of Kolona. He had all the authority to keep Kolona under the quality of cleanliness. He could move someone, and those barracks were there is now Robot store. Who did not abide by the house rules, had been evicted within 24 hours. Residents of Kolona have not worried for wood, because each autumn the Krivaja's workers would get sufficient amount of wood for the winter.

Now Zavidovici are at the village level in terms of the culture of life and behavior. I don't want to underestimate the village, but we also acquired the habits of people who came here and who do not care if the city looks beautiful or not.

My message is that Zavidovici should restore the shine that it had before the war. Did not take much to become a town in the truest sense, and now it should be done a lot of work to put things in order, so that the city become pride for all of us.

