Sandie Chobanian

Operations Manager Montvale, New Jersey, États-Unis - <u>Oriental Rug Specialists, Inc.</u> 29 March 2021 - LinkedIn



Seated are my Grandparents, Hagop and Anna, you have never met them. I have never met them. This is the only photograph I have of them. My Grandparents would never know of the amazing accomplishments of their son, Kevork, and his family would make due to their sacrifice. As we approach the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, I share their story with you. My father, Kevork, fled at night, from the culturally diverse city of Dikranagerd, in a straw covered wagon with his two remaining sisters never to see his parents again. My grandfather, Hagop, a surgeon, gave them poison pills to take in the event they were captured. His eldest, pregnant, daughter and her two sons were gruesomely murdered by the Ottoman soldiers too horrific to describe, but suffice it to say, lingered for years in the minds of her fleeing siblings. Hagop bribed a high ranking official to create altered names on his children's passports, but Hagop would have to remain behind to care for the aggressor's wounded soldiers in exchange. This is a snippet of their journey, which reminds us that Genocide still exists in our world even after we have heard, read and visually seen its devastating effect on mankind. The human living resilience within us begs for CHANGE.