

09/14/2018

Honorable Raymond J. Dearie
United States District Court
Eastern District of New York
225 Cadman Plaza East
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear Honorable Judge Raymond J:

My name is Lyubov Korchevskaya and I am the mother of Vitaly Korchevsky. I am residing in Chicopee, MA. I turn to You with a heartfelt plea to leave my son at liberty, so that he may raise his children in love to God and people, as he has previously done. His family needs him: wife, children and myself, as well as the church and community.

Since childhood, Vitaly loved to help his parents, brothers and sister, as well as schoolmates and friends in church. He did it and still does do the same even to this very day, because he loves people and God and acts with pure heart and honesty. Through word and deed he is testifying the Gospel to people "for demise awaits people without the Gospel and without Christ."

I am very grateful to You, that throughout all of these years You have given him opportunity to travel freely in America preaching Christ, as people have invited [him]; people love to listen him and he always calls to repentance before God.

When he was a boy and attended school [in the Former Soviet Union], he was loved by his classmates because of his willingness to help them. Vitaly studied well, especially favoring mathematics and physics, subjects that not many can excel. We, parents, were always in church and our children with us. In the church, we had many friends with many children and Vitaly was always a leader among them.

All the children in the school were forced to join first into the 'Little Octoberist', then into the 'Young Pioneers', progressing to 'Komsomol' in the upper classes. (All young communist leagues for various age groups). Vitaly rejected this proposal as he loved God and attended church. The teachers were atheists and therefore reacted with anger toward him, although teachers respected him for his knowledge and ability; nevertheless, they made fun of him in class and even for the whole lesson kept him in the director's office persuading him to join the young communist leagues and to reject his faith in God.

They intensified their pressure on him to ensure that he obeyed atheistic mindset often ridiculing his firm faith and causing enmity among schoolchildren leading them to beat him. When Vitaly finished 10 classes, we moved to a different city and he got enrolled into a college. There he came to face with a serious offer to cooperate with the authorities against the church. My deceased husband, Vitaly's father, was subjected to repeated persecution. Vitaly himself has been arrested and put in prison for a short time for transporting Bibles in his personal automobile.

Prior to his drafting to the Soviet army [in Ukraine], he became quite ill because zinc was found in his lungs and blood. He was being treated in the hospital but as his condition worsened, we took him home. By the mercy of God through herbal treatments, he became well and I had hope that he would not be drafted. But he was drafted by the army and at first, he was taken to the boot camp, but there he found favor with all of his colleagues and with commanding officers as tried to help people in difficult environment there. He was left to serve in one of the military battalions in that city. He was assigned to be the driver of the doctor of that military unit, who favorably treated him and allowed him to go to church on Sundays, where he led youth fellowship around the word of God. Even the doctor himself frequently accompanied Vitaly to church to hear the Gospel. Then came an order to send this unit to Baikonur (the place of the Soviet Spaceport), in the wilderness of Kazakhstan, into terrible conditions: undrinkable water and immense heat. His health has precipitously declined and he was nearing death, so he was returned to Ukraine where he finished serving his term.

Upon the completion of his service, he stayed in the same city and attended the same church so he could be with the same youth. Here he soon received permission to immigrate to America. In America in the matter of few days and got a job as a body man for the car dealership; he also attended church with a small group of Christians in Springfield, MA where he organized a small choir for the church services.

During that time, we, the rest of the family still lived in Kiev, Ukraine. Vitaly soon got married and moved to Virginia Beach, where he attended Regent university. Upon getting his degree, he began successful work. At that time, we moved to America and he helped us, elderly and sick parents, he also taught us how to drive a car and bought us a car.

In 1999, a church was formed in Philadelphia, in which Vitaly was elected to be a pastor. There he personally sponsored 38 families, who at first lived in his home, often for several months long until housing for them could be found. It also happened that at times two or three families stayed in his home at the same time and he shared with them even his children's bedrooms and the general living space of his home. He provided housing for students who attended colleges in Philadelphia. Vitaly also provided financial assistance to families with many children. Youth usually gathered in his house for the fellowship and continue to do so even to this day.

I understand that by the providence of God the fate of my son is in your hands. As a mother I beg You to take into account my honest testimony of my son and render him mercy. He is greatly needed for me, for his family, for the church, and for the society. While at liberty, he will bring much good and blessings to people.

May God bless You in your life and reward You for you kindness and mercy toward Vitaly and toward me.

Vitaly's mother,
Lubov Korchevskaya