

WASILEWICZ Jankiel (1896-1972), craftsman, trade union and communist activist. He was born on 7th August 1896 in Kuźnica Stara near Krzepice.

Wasilewicz was a shoemaker. In 1918, he joined the Leather Industry Trade Union (there, he belonged to the "red faction"). In 1933, he became secretary of the Leather Trade Union in Częstochowa. In 1928, he joined the Polish Communist Party. As a shoemaker, he made shoes with places to hide propaganda material and secret messages to be smuggled into prisons in Sieradz, Piotrków and Częstochowa.

During the German occupation, he was forced to live in the Częstochowa ghetto. There, he belonged to the Jewish Combat Organisation (ŻOB).

From January 1945, he worked in a military hospital for Red Army soldiers. He was a member of the Polish Workers' Party and, later, the PZPR [Polish communist party].

He died on 2nd January 1972 in Częstochowa. He was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta.

In his first marriage, Wasilewicz had two daughters – both belonged to Communist Union of Polish Youth and both perished during the occupation.

His second wife was Brandla née Cwajhaftig. Their daughter was → Halina Wasilewicz.

Mielczarek, *Słownik działaczy ruchu robotniczego*, p. 200. - USC Częstochowa, death record No. 22/1972.

Juliusz Sętowski