

17<sup>th</sup> of March 1954, he was driving a bus through Ma'ale-Akrabim<sup>4</sup>, 100km south of Beersheva, when feddayin murderers attacked it and many passengers were killed, among them Efraim and his wife Chana. Their small son Michael suffered bad injuries.

May their memories be blessed.

## EFRAIM FIRSTENBERG Z"L

Son of Zvi Firstenberg, he was born in Kutno in 1923. While still a child, he went to *Eretz* with his parents. He attended school and later lived in Kibbutz Ein HaHoresh from where he joined the "*Haganah*"<sup>1</sup>. During World War II, he enlisted in the Jewish Brigade. He fought in the front at Tobruk<sup>2</sup>, where he excelled as a courageous and fearless fighter. When he returned to *Eretz Israel*, he joined the Fighters for the Liberation of Israel ("*Lehi*"<sup>3</sup>), where he participated in many actions. His wife Chana, who was a nurse, also attended to his comrades who were injured during their underground actions.

After the War of Independence, he worked in the administration of the main bus station in Tel Aviv and after that, he worked as a driver on the Tel Aviv-Eilat line. On the

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<sup>1</sup> TN: Hebrew, "Defense", main pre-state army group.

<sup>2</sup> TN: in Libya, battle against Rommel's forces.

<sup>3</sup> TN: a radical group, also known as "Stern Group", after its leader Abraham Stern.

<sup>4</sup> TN: "Scorpion's Pass". "*The four survivors were a five-year-old girl, Miri Firstenberg, after one of the soldiers riding the bus defended her with his body, two Israeli soldiers and a woman.*", The Ma'ale Akrabim Massacre, *Wikipedia*.  
So the survivor was their daughter Miriam.