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Приложение к газете «ВОРОНЕЖСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ»

# NEVER BEFORE

## № 40

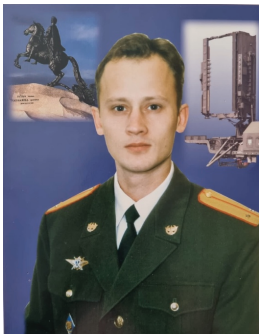


Special jubilee issue

### Dmitry LEVENKOV

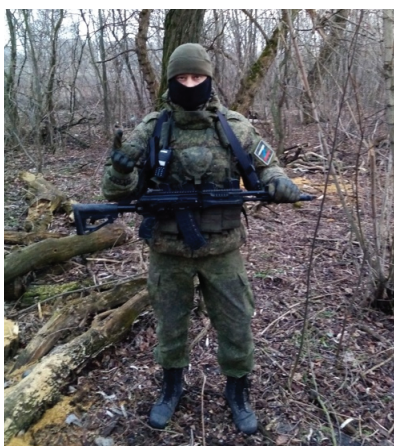
The problem of protecting one's country and people has existed for a very long time. However, today it is more relevant than ever. Today, many men risk their lives for freedom. And of course each of them can be called a hero. But for me personally, this hero is my dad Dmitry Mikhailovich Levenkov.

As a child, he wanted to be a pilot, but health problems forced him to give up his dream and he entered St. Petersburg Higher School of Air Defense Radio Electronics. After receiving education, my dad began to work outside his profession, because we had to move to another city.



A cadet of St. Petersburg Higher School of Air Defense Radio Electronics. 2002

My father left for the special military operation when he was called. Dad is not afraid and has never been afraid. Before leaving, he said: "I have officer's blood and I can't live in fear, we have to be brave". My dad hears the sound of explosions every day, but finds the strength to fight. Thoughts about the future help and motivate him. I love my dad very much and look forward to his return home. He is my hero.



Special Military Operation. Spring 2023

We must support these people. Right now the defenders need it. Let everyone respect our soldiers, because the future of the country is in their hands. Unfortunately, the price of freedom is higher than we can imagine.

**Maxim Levenkov, 1st year student, Department of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics**

## Heroes of Our Time

*The jubilee 40th issue of "Never Before" is dedicated to the heroes of our time. In March-April 2023 more than 900 students of science departments at the request of the English Chair of Science Departments wrote compositions in English about heroes of our time. Today we publish the most interesting of them.*

### Alexander and Fedor KRYACHKOV

Father and son from Petropavlovka, Liskinsky district, 59-year-old Alexander and 29-year-old Fedor Kryachkov, were awarded the Order of Courage for the heroism shown during the special operation.

The awards to the Kryachkovs were presented in one of the military units of Donetsk on Monday, February 20, 2023. Only Fedor Kryachkov attended the ceremony, his father had not yet recovered from the shell shock received in October 2022. The young man is now also recovering from his wound, but he went to the unit for the award.



"In August, while performing a combat mission, a grenade exploded at my feet. I received serious injuries, until the end of January I was in a hospital in Podolsk. Then I came home. It will take me about two more months to fully recover, the same with my father. Then we plan to return to the special operation zone," Fedor Kryachkov told RIA Voronezh correspondent.

The father and son have been participating in the special military operation since the first days. They have serious combat experience – they liberated Donbass in 2014-2015, fought in Syria from 2015 to 2018.

"My professions are quite peaceful: I have worked all my life at the local collective farm in various positions – as a driver, tractor driver, mechanic, electrician. In 2014, when the conflict in Donbass began, I could not stand aside," Alexander Kryachkov told RIA Voronezh correspondent.

Fedor Kryachkov in his youth dreamed of entering the Ryazan Military Airborne School. But in the end he graduated from the Pavlovsk Pedagogical College. Then he served in the army and taught physical education at a school in Kovalevo. After his father left as a volunteer, Fedor joined him two months later.

Orders of Courage are not the first awards of the Kryachkovs. Alexander Kryachkov was awarded the medal of the Order "For Merit to the Fatherland", II class in 2018 for participation in the military operation in Syria, and Fedor Kryachkov was awarded the medal "For Valour".

**Ilya Kostyukov, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences**

### Stepan BELOV

One of the heroes of our time is Stepan Belov, who valiantly proved himself in a special military operation of Russia in Ukraine. Senior Lieutenant Stepan Belov was awarded the title of Hero of Russia by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation. The award ceremony was held in the Catherine Hall of the Kremlin.

"We are proud of each of you, we admire the steadfastness and bravery of people who, at a difficult moment for the Motherland, stood up to defend it and perform their military duty in the combat zone, help to establish life in our new territories," Vladimir Putin said in his welcoming speech.

After getting the award Senior Lieutenant Stepan Belov said, "Comrade Commander-in-Chief!



I thank you and the leadership of the Ministry of Defense for the high assessment of my actions and the actions of my subordinates. Getting the title of Hero of Russia is not only my merit: this is also the merit of my personnel, friends and comrades, with whom we carry out the assigned combat tasks shoulder to shoulder. In his poems, Alexander Tvardovsky said, "There are no heroes from birth, they are born in battles." Of course, each of those who are currently performing their combat tasks in the zone of a special military operation is a hero who selflessly fights for the restoration of justice and does not allow our common history to be rewritten. The motto of the Kazan Tank School, of which I am a graduate, reads: "Win or die." We, the Russians, are descendants of great winner ancestors, which means that victory will be ours."

Stepan Belov is a career military man. He has been in a combat zone since February. For the performance of combat missions, he was awarded the Suvorov Medal, the Order of Courage, the medal "Participant of a special military operation", the medal "For Military Distinctions". Stepan Belov's company destroyed more than twenty enemy tanks, 9 infantry fighting vehicles and a large number of manpower, many enemy strongholds and command posts.

**Dmitry Litvinenko, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences**

### Sergei SAVOCHKIN

Who is a hero of our time? Like all heroes, he is a man of courage, bravery and perhaps even self-sacrifice. A hero can sacrifice everything he has for others. For me such a hero is an my best friend's father, Sergey Anatolievich Savochkin.

Just a year ago he was forwarded to take part in the special military operation in Ukraine. He did not refuse and did not leave his military unit as some people did. Having undergone additional training, as a military scout he went into the

thick of it and worked precisely and quickly in a squad of ordinary men like him. Unfortunately he was killed in July last year, but he saved five wounded soldiers in an artillery bombardment. He was killed by shrapnel as he was dragging the fifth wounded soldier to a shelter. He was awarded a Medal of Valour for his courage.



When we learned about his death, it was hard to accept. A week later my friend and I started going through the documents and asking his mother to tell us more about Sergei Anatolievich. We learnt that Sergei Anatolievich Savochkin had served not only in the internal forces, but also in the navy, and was a veteran of the Chechen war.



So, who is a hero of our time? It is a man who is ready to do everything to save other people's lives, even at the risk of losing his own. Such was Sergei Anatolievich Savochkin. Heroes are among us and we do not notice it, but when the time comes they will show themselves. We shall never forget Sergei Anatolievich and other heroes as well as their deeds.

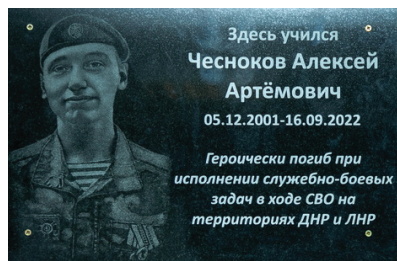
**Nikolay Bortnik, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences**



## Alexey CHESNOKOV

Who is the hero of our time? For each person he is different, and his heroism lies in different things. For some people a hero is someone who flew into space, made new scientific discoveries, built houses, or invented vaccines for various diseases. I, too, have someone I consider a hero.

Alexey Chesnokov went to school with me. This boy was always smiling and friendly, though, like all the other kids his age, he liked to play pranks. At the end of 2019 he was drafted into the Armed Forces of Russia. In 2020 he took part in the parade dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War. He signed a military contract and went to the zone of a special military operation. And on September 15, 2023, he died in a heroic way while carrying out a combat mission. Alexey Chesnokov was nominated for the state award posthumously. After that a memorial plaque was unveiled in my school No. 48 in memory of him. This memorial will pass on the memory of the fellow countryman-hero from generation to generation.



During recent events, many young and adult men have died for our country. They are indeed heroes who are fighting for the lives of Russians. And whatever happens, we must always remember the deeds performed by fallen soldiers in the name of peace, in the name of the Motherland.

*Yana Kretinina, student of secondary vocational education, Pharmacy Department*

## Ivan VELICHKO

Deputy commander of the motorized rifle battalion Ivan Velichko was immortalized on the wall of a residential building in Voronezh: graffiti with his portrait on the entire wall appeared there.



On the fourth day of the special military operation, the Russian troops entered the Sumy region and blocked the cities of Sumy and Konotop. The group of Major Ivan Velichko was ambushed while performing a

combat mission. The surrounded detachment took the fight with unequal enemy forces. Velichko's combat crew destroyed two enemy infantry armored vehicles with an accurate hit from an armored personnel carrier. The unit went to break out of the encirclement and came out from under fire. The commander was concussed.

Russian armored personnel carriers were hit by two dozen nationalists, who were struck by the bullets of the Russian commander. He regained consciousness and covered the group with a machine gun when it came out from under heavy fire. He survived himself and saved his comrades.

For his fearlessness and commitment Ivan Velichko was awarded the Order of Courage. He is a real hero, a vivid example of courage and heroism.

*Danil Paponov, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences*

## Roman FILIPOV

Roman Nikolaevich Filipov was born on August 13, 1984 in Voronezh. He was a Russian military pilot, deputy squadron commander of the 187th Guards Assault Aviation Regiment, in rank Guard Major.

In 2001, he graduated from secondary school No. 85 in Voronezh. He studied well, was fond of sports, dreamed of becoming a pilot. Roman was trained at the Armavir Center of the Krasnodar Higher Military Aviation Pilot School named after the Hero of the Soviet Union A. K. Serov. In the 4th year of studies, he transferred to Borisoglebsk and continued his studies at the Borisoglebsk Aviation Training Center named after V. P. Chkalov.

Since 2006, Filipov served in the 187th Guards Assault Aviation Regiment in the village of Chernigovka, Primorsky Krai. He got experience in all positions from a senior pilot to a deputy squadron commander of the assault aviation regiment, from where he was seconded to the location of the aviation group of the Russian Aerospace Forces in Syria. Roman was a first-class military pilot, with a total of 1,300 flight hours and made about 80 sorties.

On February 3, 2018, while flying over the Idlib de-escalation zone to control the ceasefire Major Filipov was shot down near the city of Serakib by a shot from a portable anti-aircraft missile system. The pilot ejected. On the ground he was surrounded by militants and died in the ensuing battle: firing back from the attackers with a Stechkin pistol, he was seriously wounded, and then blew himself up and the approaching militants with a



grenade with the words "This is for our guys!"

Roman Nikolaevich was awarded the title of Hero of the Russian Federation posthumously.

*Oleg Pereslavytsev, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences*

## Sergey SKRIPKIN

At the moment, Special Military Operation concerns not only the armed forces, but also ordinary people all over the planet. Therefore, heroes can be called not only military personnel, but also ordinary people. I would like to tell you about a man whom I learned from a news feed relatively long ago, but his actions caused me to respect his personality and I remembered this name until today – Sergey Skripkin.

He was born in Kaluga, where he founded his successful business, which after beginning of the SMO he left to his daughter and moved closer to the Russian border to provide humanitarian assistance to the front. Together with other volunteers, the man prepares homemade kebabs, pilaf and salads for Russian servicemen.

The idea came to Sergey's head in April 2022, when he was watching the news about the special operation.

"They talked about how things are going at the front, they showed our people. I told my wife that I couldn't sit and watch like that anymore, I had to do something. She just nodded and replied: "Of course, go," – Sergey recalls.

The man bought 500 thousand rubles worth of groceries and cigarettes for soldiers in the store and went to the Belgorod region, to the border with Ukraine. At first, he distributed chocolate, tea and hygiene products to the fighters, and then, together with friends, decided to fry kebabs and feed the soldiers



who were returning to Russia after the fighting.

Sergey believes that kebabs and pilaf help servicemen remember how they used to go to the kebab food stalls with the whole family and enjoyed life. He is sure that dry rations cannot be compared with hot fresh meat. Sergey also takes care of the soldiers who profess Islam, cooking lamb dishes for them. He always takes with him the flags of Russia and the USSR, canned food, cigarettes and cookies. He also carries letters at their request.

The soldiers, in gratitude for the food and attitude, call Sergei "batya". He admits that he is pleased with such treatment.

Sergey says: "All these soldiers are like children to me. You just have to see the eyes of the officer, whom we treat with food, and he says: "I'm 52 years old, I didn't think that at this age I could cry. Thank you!"

*Ilya Pashchenko, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences*

## Timofey SAVINKOV

Who is a hero of our time? Today, you can become a hero not only fighting on the front line, but also showing courage on usual days at those moments when someone needs help. For me such a hero is an ordinary teenager named Timofey Savinkov from the town of Kalach, Voronezh region.



Timofey, a slender 15-year-old teenager, and his classmate, Nikita Dereglazov, went to the Rusalka Beach on the Tolucheyevka River on June 3, 2019. The water that day was cold. But it was hot in daytime and the boys decided to swim in the river, despite the temperature of the water. They bungee jumped and swam. Suddenly Nikita began to choke and grab his friend by the shoulders. Timofey, seeing the condition of his friend, told him to grab his leg, then pulled the unconscious victim out of the water and provided him first aid. Thanks to Timofey, Nikita survived.

Nikita refused to comment to the press for a long time, because he did not think about fame, but just wanted to help a person in trouble. Soon on the main square of the town the boy was awarded a medal for saving life. Today the whole town is proud of its hero.

So who is a hero of our time? It is a man who is ready to do everything to save other people's lives, even at the risk of losing his own, such as Timofey Savinkov.

He was in the right place at the right time and helped a friend who was on the verge of death. In my opinion, we should know about such people and follow the example of their incredible courage.

*Maxim Semykin, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences*

## Evgeny KISLYAKOV

Evgeny Nikolaevich Kislyakov was born on November 12, 1987 in Petropavlovka. After finishing a rural school, he entered the Chelyabinsk Higher Military Aviation School for Navigators. He served in the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation in Irkutsk, then in Buturlinovka, Voronezh Region, was a navigator on Su-30SM aircraft. His last place of service was Kursk.



Evgeny Kislyakov died while performing a combat mission on the territory of Ukraine on March 15, 2022. By decree of the President of the Russian Federation of March 25, 2022, Captain Evgeny Kislyakov was posthumously awarded the Order of Courage for his dedication, courage and bravery.

In the village of Petropavlovka, Ostrogozhsky District, the memory of the participant of the special military operation, navigator of the Russian Armed Forces Evgeny Kislyakov was immortalized. A memorial plaque was installed on the building of the village school.

The right to open the memorial sign was granted to the parents of Evgeny Kislyakov, his widow, ten-year-old son and brother. The participants honored the memory of the serviceman with a minute of silence and laid flowers. The guard of honor throughout the event was carried by members of the Youth Army.

On the initiative of the villagers and relatives of the soldier Voronezhskaya Street of Petropavlovka, where Evgeny was born and lived was named after Captain Kislyakov.

*Mikhaylov Nikita, 1st year student, Department of Computer Sciences*