



Margherita M. Lebano

September 12, 1937 - May 1, 2018

Margherita M. Lebano, a naturalized American citizen, was born in Modena, Italy, in 1937. She died in Bloomington, Indiana on May 1, 2018 of heart failure while recovering at Bell Trace Health and Living Center. The holder of a School Teaching Certificate in Florence, Italy, she spent a few months in England in the early sixties, after which she emigrated to America to join her brother, Edoardo, who was then living in Washington, D.C.

In America, Margherita first taught Italian at the Foreign Language Institute of the Department of State in Washington, D.C., then moved to Milwaukee, WI, where she attended a local business college acquiring the office skills that would enable her to get a job with the government. She served with the FBI in Washington, D.C. for a number of years, which included living and working for several months in Hong Kong. After her return to the United States, she moved to Bloomington, working as a secretary for the I.U. School of Music, and then for the I.U. Business School. Because of her love for teaching, she accepted an instructorship position at the Foreign Language School of the Presidium of Monterey, in California. When She opted for an early retirement, she decided to move back to Bloomington where she bought a home and lived for the rest of her life.

Margherita was a reserved person who enjoyed cooking (particularly Italian), loved classical music and old movies, and had a great affection for animals,

especially all types of birds which she would feed daily on the back porch of her home. In the last few weeks of her life she greatly missed caring for them.

Her soul is now flying free with her winged friends. Riposa in pace, Margherita.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, Mario, a missionary priest in Mexico and her sister-in-law, Mary V. Lebano.

She is survived by her older brother, Edoardo; her half-sister, Lucia, who lives in Italy; her Florentine cousins, Massimo and Pierluigi; her nephews, Tito Nicola of Arizona and Mario Antonio of Michigan, Janine, Mario' Antonio's wife; her great-niece, Alessandra; her great nephew Nicholas; and by her great-great nephew Caleb; her great-great niece, Claire, all residing in Arizona. She will be greatly missed also by Lucy Guerlac, her brother's loving companion, whom she exchanged her last words before she was no longer able to speak. The day before her death, she received the Last Rites of the Roman Catholic Church.

The family wished to thank the attentive and compassionate nursing and support staff of Bell Trace, who tended so lovingly to Margherita in her declining days.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington, have been entrusted with arrangements. You are invited to share a memory or leave an online condolence to Margherita's family at www.allencares.com

Tribute Wall

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“ Our thoughts and prayers to all of Margherita’s family..may you find comfort in your memories of her..

Alan and Teri Zamarron

Teri Zamarron - May 04, 2018 at 06:54 PM

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“ Sending prayers of comfort and love to our dear friends Edoardo Lebano and Lucy Guerlac at this tender time of Margherita's transition. We will continue to hold the whole family in our thoughts and prayers at this time. Margherita lived her precious life well.



Merridee & Joe LaMantia - May 03, 2018 at 11:46 AM

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My condolences to all of Signora Lébano's family. I arrived at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, CA as young army officer in 1990, headed to Vicenza, Italy in May 1991. I was honored to learn from Cesare Paci; Carmella Cantessani: occasionally Valerie Giusi; and your beloved Signora Lébano. I have carried my instructors in my heart since I departed DLI. I was truly blessed to have been taught by her. She was a phenomenal teacher who took great pride in her culture.

My wife & I will travel to Monterey soon. She has never been there. She will know how much this great woman meant to my development as an officer & a young man who was going to live abroad for the first time. Thank you, Aanarian Stevens, U.S. Army 1986-1995. (aanarianstevens@yahoo.com)

Aanarian Stevens - April 16, 2024 at 01:43 AM

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-Valerio Giusi

Aanarian Stevens - April 16, 2024 at 01:44 AM