



Carlos Joseph Alvaré'

June 5, 1924 - January 20, 2017

Carlos Joseph Alvaré died on January 20, 2017 in Haverford, PA. He was born in Havana, Cuba in 1924 and moved with his family to Philadelphia in 1933. He attended the Holy Child School and Saint Joseph's Preparatory School and went on to earn a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from Yale University in 1947. His senior thesis adviser was Oscar Niemeyer and his final project judged by master architect, Le Corbusier. From 1947-1951 Alvaré established himself as an architect working for Louis Kahn in Philadelphia, and in 1951 accepted a position at the firm of architect, Eugene Beaudouin, in Paris, France. In Europe, he designed airports and worked on projects under the auspices of the U.S. Army Air Corps under the Marshall Plan.

Subsequent to his return to Philadelphia from Paris, he married, in 1953, Mary Juanita Heckel [deceased 2003] and later received a Masters of City Planning, 1954 from the University of Pennsylvania. From 1953-1957 he reported directly to Edmund Bacon at the Philadelphia Planning Commission. He co-founded, in 1957, the architectural firm, Harkins & Alvaré and was awarded "Best Design" by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) for the Bellarmine Classroom Building at St. Joseph's College, Philadelphia in 1961.

From 1968-1983, he distinguished himself as Head of Design with Vitetta & Associates / Day & Zimmermann, Philadelphia, established the School of Architecture at Lehigh University where he was a tenured professor, and was

awarded a Master of Architecture from Yale University based on his body of work. He served as a Directeur of the Societé de Bienfaisance de Philadelphie and was a member of the Athenaeum of Philadelphia.

A devoted husband and father, Carlos Alvaré, enjoyed many years with his family at their farmhouse “Glenoak” in Valley Forge where, in addition to his professional endeavors, he honed his skills as painter and sculptor. He died at the Quadrangle, Haverford, PA on 20 January 2017 and is survived by his loving children: Gigi Alvaré of Corning, NY; Charles Alvaré of Los Angeles, CA; Philip Alvaré of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; Jeannine Alvaré Goodwin of Merion, PA. and three grandchildren: Elias, Asher and Anaia Goodwin.

Relatives and Friends are invited to attend his Funeral Mass on Friday January 27th at 10:30 AM at Our Mother of Good Counsel Church, 31 Pennswood Rd, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010, where you may call after 10 AM. Int. Calvary Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to Penn Wissahickon Hospice 150 Monument Rd # 300, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Previous Events

The family will receive guests

JAN 27. 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Mother of Good Counsel
31 Pennswood Road
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(510) 525-0147

Funeral Mass

JAN 27. 10:30 AM (ET)

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31 Pennswood Road
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(510) 525-0147

Tribute Wall

DK

“*Dear Alvare' Family,
Carlos was my first real mentor at Lehigh University in the mid-1970s. He helped me find my passion for architecture, and I will always be indebted to him for encouraging me to aspire beyond my dreams at the time. I will pray for him, and thank God that I was fortunate enough to have know this kind, gentle and light-hearted man.*

David J. Kacar

David Kacar - August 12, 2017 at 09:58 AM

AG

“ Dear Gary, Gigi, Philip and Jeannine,
I am so saddened to learn of the death of your father. He and your mom helped soften our transition when we arrived in the United States from Cuba, not only with material support to our family but also with special gifts of humor and beauty. I remember one of his paintings of a brown egg, a striped cloth and an egg beater hanging in our kitchen, initially in North Wayne Avenue, then in Villanova, following our several moves along the Main Line. It was very Parisian looking-(the brown egg?)-very cubist. Most memorable, was the hand made Italian clay nativity set that your father gave us year after year: first Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus, then a shepherd; the next year, a Wise Man carrying myrrh. This occurred over a five-year period until we had the entire set. How my father cherished every piece. This “nacimiento” was the focus of his Christmas preparations. Every holiday my father would spend hours on a different, original arrangement. Could this be the first seed planted in my artistic journey and life in Italy?
Your father Carlos, your mom Juana and all of you became our closest mentors and our first “American” friends. I will keep his memory and all of you in my heart. Love,
Anita Guerra , Rome, February 5, 2017

Anita Guerra - February 05, 2017 at 02:25 PM



“ Carlos made me smile so deeply that even though I saw him but a handful of times, over a decade of years, the smile breaks to my face through every (no hyperbole) time I think of him. He was a rascal and a lover of beauty. He led me to know beauty in myself and the world. I am ever grateful to his daughter for her gallant ability to transcend his foibles (big and small) and to embrace the essential Carlos whose light was a beacon as he moved toward this death/transition. By her ability to do this, I had thr chance to know him. What an honor it was to know Carlos. Peace be with him and those who cradled him to the grave.

Lisa Strayer - January 27, 2017 at 07:54 AM

SL

“ I never knew Carlos as a young man , but as an old man he was a charmer, always a twinkle in his mischievous eye, always a gentleman who could tell a snarky joke. I feel honored to have known him. My condolences to his family and friends. May your memories make you smile. Stafford Lyons

stafford lyons - January 26, 2017 at 05:16 PM

TS

“ Teri Guerra Soldat purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Carlos Joseph Alvare'.



Teri Guerra Soldat - January 26, 2017 at 09:42 AM

AG

“ Our heartfelt condolences to the entire Alvare' family for the loss of their beloved Carlos. The Guerra family was blessed with a lifetime of Carlos and Juana's remarkable kindness and friendship and for that we are so very grateful. We honor and cherish the memory of a life lived in faith, with grace, generosity and the utmost artistry. Antonio E. Guerra and extended family.

Antonio E. Guerra - January 26, 2017 at 08:22 AM

EW

“ My sincere condolences to family and friends. I am sorry for your loss. May you find comfort in God's wonderful promise found at Isaiah 25:8.

Eric W - January 24, 2017 at 07:23 AM