



Alain Constant Fernand deVergie

November 21, 1934 - December 23, 2022

Alain Constant Fernand deVergie, 88, of Haymarket, Virginia, passed away on December 23, 2022. He was born on November 21, 1934 in Boston, Massachusetts to Jean and Helen (Nolan) deVergie. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts and lived in Dallas, Texas, Ann Arbor, Michigan, St. Louis, Missouri, Fort Washington, Maryland and Haymarket, Virginia. He was a distinguished Language Architect and spent the last twenty four years of his career as a Landscape Architect for the United States Department of State, with OBO (Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations). Mr. deVergie was actively involved in more than 175 major OBO sites on five continents. He visited project sites in most of those countries and became familiar with the cultural significance as well as native flora of many regions of the world. He was the recipient of the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). When not working, he loved going to the beach, gardening, doing puzzles and rooting for the Dallas Cowboys.

Alain joins his parents, Jean and Helen deVergie, wife, Frances Colvin deVergie, and brother, Paul deVergie. He is survived by his children: Jon deVergie and Melissa Lebling, his grandchildren: Katie, Samantha, Joey, Layla, DeLilah, Jordan and Serenity, and his sister: Adrienne deVergie.

A memorial service will be held for Alain at 6:00 PM on Thursday, December 29, 2022, at Pierce Funeral Home (9609 Center Street, Manassas, Virginia

20110).

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in loving memory of Alain Constant Fernand deVergie to the Central Union Mission, 65 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington DC, 20001. <https://donate.missiondc.org/for/210digmedcon/amount/100/info/2101HPHAE>.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC **29**. 6:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall

RT

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ron Tomasso - January 04, 2023 at 06:28 PM

“Alain will be greatly missed! In the course of our careers at the State Department, Alain and I made many interesting trips around the world together. As architect and landscape architect, so there was a natural connection between us, and we both enjoyed the design challenges we faced.

Many years ago, we traveled to Havana, Cuba, when it was still difficult and somewhat exotic to go there. Once we were invited to tour the Cigar factory. Alain had his (economical) stogie in his mouth when we went in. One our hosts took it out of his mouth, threw it on the floor, and replaced it with an expensive Cuban cigar, much to Alain's liking. The Havana project was very challenging. Flooding of the Gulf of Mexico a few years later wiped-out Alain's newly planted "Washingtonia" palm trees. I think we must have looked at every palm tree on the island before Alain finally chose those trees.

Alain and I also worked on smaller projects, such as one in Embassy Belgrade, Serbia. In those days, many foreign service officers would go there for R & R. Alain devised a project to create a beautiful garden. Just before the project was to be built, Serbia was bombed, it was the beginning of the end of Yugoslavia. It was time to find a new place for R & R.

And that place was Ljubljana, Slovenia. After we established the new Embassy building in that beautiful place, we moved onto a renovation of a fine house for our ambassador's residence. Alain devised an exceptional strategy to make a lovely garden there. It remains today as one of the finest residential gardens in Ljubljana.

In more recent years, Alain and I worked on the new Embassy for the Netherlands, in The Hague. This project was challenging, since the site is dissected with canals. Alain often reminded me who was the more mature, well-seasoned, and talented of us. I usually took this in stride, but it was in the Netherlands when I was able to take revenge. Since we were both fond of a good beer at the end of the day, I would whisper to the bartender that I was with my father, so

Alain usually got the bill!

Ron Tomasso, FAIA

Ron Tomasso - January 04, 2023 at 06:23 PM

DH

“ *Alain was a stalwart colleague and a true gentleman. Along with his amazing depth of knowledge, which he generously shared, he had a wonderful sense of humor and wit. It was an honor and blessing to know, work and travel with him throughout many years at OBO. May he Rest in eternal Peace.*

Don E. Harris - January 04, 2023 at 04:08 PM

KP

“ *Having worked with Alain and traveled abroad with him for several OBO projects, I always enjoyed his company, his quick wit, and learning from him. He was great mentor and very passionate about his work. From Kurt Parker*

Kurt Parker - December 29, 2022 at 02:35 PM

ML

“ *On behalf of OBO's Architecture Design Division, I would like to express our deepest condolences to the deVergie family. Alain was an incredibly talented and warm hearted person who was passionate about his work. He has left an indelible mark on the Bureau and his legacy lives on through the many staff he mentored as well as the extraordinary amount of criteria and standards he personally authored. OBO is and will be always be a better organization because of his many contributions and dedication to our mission. Minh Le, Acting Director of Architecture*

Minh Le - December 29, 2022 at 11:24 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Alain Constant Fernand deVergie.*



December 29, 2022 at 08:20 AM



“ *Alain was one of my most trusted colleagues, a mentor, a role model for sticking with one's principles, and a great friend. I recall his tender memories of his wife Frankie, whom I met only twice, and his deep affection for his children and grandchildren. A talented and significant professional in Landscape Architecture, Alain will be greatly missed. from Faye Harwell*

Faye B Harwell - December 28, 2022 at 03:18 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Alain Constant Fernand deVergie.*



December 28, 2022 at 01:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alain Constant Fernand deVergie.*



December 27, 2022 at 12:20 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Alain Constant Fernand deVergie.*



December 27, 2022 at 11:49 AM