

Please join us for a program featuring a full musical
tribute celebrating Shahriar's immense legacy:

Sunday, February 6, 2011

3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

The Music Center at Strathmore

5301 Tuckerman Lane

North Bethesda, Maryland 20814

301- 581-0084



"A true gentleman and Renaissance man"

Shahriar (Shah) Saleh
June 25, 1948 – December 3, 2010

سروده‌یی از زبان روح دوستان و آشنایان در رثای دوست از دست رفته
زنده یاد و زنده نام هنرمند بزرگ ایران زمین
جناب شه‌ریار صالح

رفیق و آشنا شه‌پیار ما کو؟
یگانه مظهر مهر و وفا کو؟
گل‌گلزار صدق و عشق و ایمان
به صلح و مهر و الفت ، آشنا کو؟
به خلوت‌خانه‌ی دل نیست نوری
غم عشق است و پس نور خدا کو؟
سرور خاطر دل‌های مشتاق
به انگشت صفا مشک‌گشا کو؟
کجا شد؟ شمع جمع دوستداران
قلوب خسته‌ی ما را شفا کو؟
قفس بشکست و آن مرد هنرمند
به گلزار عدن ، دستان سرا کو؟
رفیق مشفق و یار وفادار
حریم شه‌ریار جان را ، رهنما کو؟
جهان در دیده‌مان غیر از خزان نیست
بهاران را چه شد؟ باد صبا کو؟
جنون غم ، مُسخر کرد دل را
سرور جان چه شد؟ شور و نوا کو؟
به هر دم سوزم و گویم که (ارفع)
رفیق و آشنا ، شه‌پیار ما کو؟

Dr. Hosein Arfaa

Please accept our deepest and most sincere condolences for the passing of our beloved Shahriar. He has a special place in our hearts and minds for all the important cultural work he did for the community and the mark he made on so many of us learning music from him. His passion for music created in so many people the desire to learn the language of the music and the love of music he so effectively taught. Our community will miss him dearly but he will live in the hearts of so many whose paths he crossed and for the indelible mark he left.

With Love,
Katayoon and Keihan Shaya



Shohreh and I are still in disbelief and can't accept the tragic fact that Shahriar is no longer with us. His passing is a monumental loss for the entire Iranian community. He was a unique treasure, a great artist who devoted his life to educating people and spreading our cultural values in the Baltimore/Washington area. We have all lost a great man of art who will be missed throughout the region. But his memory and his work will last forever and his example will be a model for other artists and music lovers for years to come.

I would like to express my sincere condolences and sympathy to you and the entire family and to assure you that I do share your grief and sorrow as well. I wish words could express my sadness and sense of loss.

Yours always,
Houshang Sohrab, Towson University





Remembering Shah

Saturday, December 11, 2010
Bethesda Marriott Grand Ballroom

Musical Tribute
Readings and Reflections
Shah's Family, Friends, and Students



*"Grieve not that such a person died.
Rather thank God that such a person lived."*

افسانه ،آزیتا،آریا و آراین عزیز

استاد شه‌ریار صالح انسانی بود به تمام معنا بزرگوار، انسان دوست و عاشق میهن . تمام کوشش او در جهت حفظ و نگهداری و رشد و غنای فرهنگ ایرانی به خصوص موسیقی مردم ما بود. به همین سبب ما شاهد شکوفایی شاگردان نسل جوان او هستیم.

خانه‌ی او کانون مهر فرهنگ دوستان و عاشقان موسیقی ملی است با همسری مهربان و فرزندان عزیزی چون : آزیتا،آریا و آراین.

من هر وقت به سوی سنتورم می روم که درسش را تمرین کنم او را در پیش خود احساس می کنم، او فرزانه‌ایست که از پیش ما نرفت.

یادش گرامی باد.

بیژن و مریم الیادرانی



[EXCERPT FROM AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM MR. DAN WHEELAND, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RESEARCH FACILITIES AT NIH]

It is with deep sorrow that I inform you of the untimely passing of Shah Saleh. An employee of NIH for over 20 years, he supervised a wide range of capital projects. Shah most recently served as the Chief of Capital Projects East. He oversaw the construction of the Gateway Center. He was extremely proud to work on a facility that makes the first impression to thousands of visitors to the NIH.

He was known as a devoted husband and father, a consummate professional and a caring leader. In addition to his normal duties as a Branch Chief, he was active in the ORF Safety Committee, serving most recently as the chair of the committee. He was also a strong participant in the ORS Strategic Planning effort, focusing on ORS-ORF partnering opportunities. Shah will be sorely missed in ORF and throughout NIH. He leaves behind a remarkable legacy of professionalism and dedication. Shah was recently awarded an OD Merit Award for his efforts related to the NIH portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It is anticipated that one of his sons will accept the award on Shah's behalf at the ceremony on December 17, 2010.

Thank you for being here today and sharing in our love for Shah. We all have special memories of him and with him. And these memories are what will stay in our hearts until we someday part this earth to join him.

While we all share a great love and admiration for Shah, we all knew him in different ways. Some of you know him through his love of the arts. Shahriar was a Santur virtuoso and remains a highly respected Master of Persian Classical music performance and theory. He taught students of all ages and walks of life: teaching them Santur, Violin, Tar, Setar, Guitar, voice, and Tombak. Shahriar was also a highly skilled calligrapher, watercolor painter, published music critic, author, and sketch artist.

As the founder and conductor of the Nava Music Ensemble, Shahriar communicated a message of universal compassion and love through the vehicle of music and the arts for more than half a century. Under Shah's direction, Nava's quality of music performance earned 8 performances on the Millennium stage of the Kennedy Center. Shahriar passionately devoted his talent and time to the preservation, promotion, and teaching of traditional Persian music and his efforts endeared him as a mentor and friend to countless people.

Many of you knew him through his years of dedicated service to NIH. Born in Tehran, Iran, Shahriar came to the United States in 1967, earning a civil engineering degree at Howard University and his Master's Degree in Engineering Administration from George Washington University. He was a Professional Engineer who worked for NIH for more than 20 years, most recently as Chief Director of Capital Projects. He is the 2010 OD Honor Award to be presented on December 17th.

We, of course, know him as a most loving husband and father. We could not have been more proud to be his family. We will miss him terribly, and are proud to carry on his legacy. We will remember that he loved us with all his heart and soul and use this love and the lessons that accompany it to make ourselves better people.

Over the past week, we have received thousands of heartfelt expressions of sympathy from around the world. We would have loved to have shared them all, but space limitations permit us only this sample. . .

Afsaneh, Arya, Azita, and Aryan

"He who lives with love never dies; We are registered in the eternal book of life."

Hafez

With deep sorrow, please be sure that we share your sudden sad moments of losing a great talented human being.

May God give you the patience to deal with your sorrowful days.

Mahin Khatami



I am truly saddened by the heartrending news of the sudden passing of your beloved husband Shahriar. This is a great loss to our community. Shariar touched many people in many ways and left an irreplaceable legacy among Iranians abroad. Please accept my deepest sympathy and extend my condolences to your wonderful children and the rest of Saleh family.

Hedy Alavi, Johns Hopkins University



"Death leaves a heartache that no one can heal, but love leaves some memories that no one can steal."

Author Unknown



Dearest Afsaneh,

Most of us remember Shah as the kindest man we had the privilege of knowing. Someone in the gym where I work out here at the NIH said the same thing. She said that Shah always spoke with gentleness and kindness. Yes he did!

Thank you for calling me last night. I know how difficult it was for you. However, if I were to hear such horrible news...I would rather have heard it from you. I always asked Shah about you, and how you were doing. He told me of your back problems. He always told me that he was conveying your best wishes to me. You are definitely one of the most beautiful women I have ever met. Shah was so very proud to be your husband, and so proud of his children and the life you all shared. He was not shy in telling us about all of you. I am not telling you anything new.

I love you, too, Afsaneh. I will see you and meet your family on Saturday. God bless each one of you during this sad time.

Diana Chambers

Laboratory of Tumor Immunology and Biology

National Cancer Institute



We have been blessed that our Afsaneh and the children were in good hands with such an honorable man as Shahriar. We have an immense love and respect for this fine gentleman. Shahriar spoke to us from his heart with his music and the beautiful calligraphy cards we always looked forward to receiving. We could not have been prouder to call him one of our own.

The Ziaee Family

I'm sure that over the past few days since the passing of Shah you have heard the words, "I'm very sorry for your loss" many times over. Well I feel it is appropriate to say something slightly different: "I'm sorry for our loss". What I mean by this is that Shah's passing affects more than just one person, whether it is you or me or anyone else that had the pleasure of knowing such a passionate, intelligent and unique individual. It goes without saying that this is an extremely unfortunate event, compounded in difficulty by its sudden and unexpected nature. But we can all rejoice in the fact that we have something special in common: memories of Shah that will last longer than any one of us will live.

. . . An observation that I shared with Arya that I feel is also very important here is this: These last few years of his life were probably the happiest he had lived, having removed the false veil of happiness that alcohol provided for him. So rejoice in the fact that you shared in what were almost certainly his happiest and most productive years as a husband, a father and a genuinely good person. Shah was incredibly unique, as were his many voices: physical, musical, spiritual and even culinary. I had to add culinary because his cutlets were so incredibly delicious that I would literally eat four and five at a time!

. . . It is no mystery that music was a huge part of Shah's life, so I leave you with this: Such a sudden and tragic loss is difficult to accept, but our memory of Shah is a lasting gift to be treasured by all that knew him. May the melody that was his essence be a cherished tune that is part of the great and wondrous song of life. We love you Shah, and may you rest in peace forever.

Love, Daniel



Let me respectfully convey my heart-felt condolences on the sudden loss of a great friend and a beautiful man to you, to your lovely children, and to all his friends in this country and abroad. Over the past twenty five years, our many children at the Iran Cultural and Educational Center have immensely benefitted from Shahriar's love of art and culture. He was a great man who will be missed by many.

Gholam-Hossein Azarbajani

Vice President of Cultural Affairs

Iran Cultural and Educational Center, Potomac, Maryland



You and Shah probably do not know me but I was always a great fan of Shah's personality and Santur play. His ecstatic musical play in many occasions, whether during Montgomery College nights in the past or other local performances, is still resonating in me and will stay with me for a long time. A legacy of lasting serene memories is probably the best gift of life a person can leave behind and Shah did exactly that. He was a role model and I congratulate you for having the chance of his company. I saw him in the corridors of building 31 at NIH only 10 days ago and I deeply regret missing the chance of saying hello to him. Please accept my sincere condolences.

Mehdi Mesri, PhD, National Cancer Institute



I can't believe this or maybe I don't want to believe this incredible lost. I talked to him last week and we thought we can see each other soon. Life is full of surprises, some of them make you enchanted and happy and some of them melancholic and sad. This made me very sad and I question why and why such a beautiful person should go so soon. But as you know sometime we have to just accept the law of nature and have faith that everything happens for a meaningful reason even when it is not pleasant and happy. I believe he will be in good hands and a good place in the spirit world and his pure love and spirit will be always with you and your children. We will miss him, but his dedication for art and a better world will always will be alive.

*With warmth sympathy,
Ahmad Nadimi*



I was totally devastated when I heard this sad sad news last night. My greatest condolences to you and your family. I cannot put in words my feelings and emotions now after hearing about Mr. Saleh. Indeed Mr. Saleh is one of the greatest men I have ever met in my life. I cannot ever forget the love and kindness from Mr. Saleh and you, all these years whilst working along side NAVA music ensemble. Mr. Saleh's kind words always resonate in my ears; his warmth and care are always in my heart; his love and appreciate of music and Iran an inspiration to me.

Kinds regards,
Ruzbeh Akbar



Let me respectfully convey my heart-felt condolences on the sudden loss of a great friend and a beautiful man to you, to your lovely children, and to all his friends in this country and abroad. Over the past twenty five years, our many children at the Iran Cultural and Educational Center have immensely benefitted from Shahriar's love of art and culture. He was a great man who will be missed by many.

*Gholam-Hossein Azarbajani
Vice President of Cultural Affairs
Iran Cultural and Educational Center, Potomac, Maryland*



Dorood bar shoma Afsane jan

Nemidoonam chegoone bayad bare in gham ro bar doosh bekeshi, vali ma ro ham dar ghamet sharik bedoon. Hamishe dooset darim va yade Shahriar hamishe dar dele hameye bachehaye goroohi Mastan hast. Roohesh shad va yadesh gerami bad.

Parvaz Homay

Dear Afsaneh Jan,

I never could imagine being able to push the keys of my keyboard to type the words I wanted to reflect in the following parts. Also, I did not dare to talk to you on the phone to tell you how sorry I am for the loss of a very exceptional human being like Shahriyar aziz. However, it seems that those who walk the closest with the creator are those creator chooses to bring home to him before we are ready to say goodbye and go of them.

Though those of us left behind grieve the loss of a real and very exceptional human being, we experience the reality of eternity. It is with deep sadness, but not without hope, that we and the whole universe mourn the loss of Shahriyar Jan. He is with the creator now which we have only dreamed and grasped to fathom. Shahriyar's contagiously passionate personality and loving heart will be greatly missed.

Mimi and Behrouz

(Dr. Bob Namvar, Pepperdine University)



Shah was a loving member of our family, and the magnitude of his passing is building as we all come to terms with his loss. We were blessed by such a wonderful man. Family gatherings were always more special because of his insights and calm outlook, manner, kindness, intelligence, and talents.

His good name and his family are his richest legacy. His steadfastness and character are reflected in his family's substance. The spirit and essence of Shah will carry on because he and Afsaneh instilled those values and inspired others. We feel privileged to have been a part of his life.

The Polasik Family

“And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.”

Abraham Lincoln

سروده‌ای از زبان روح افسانه نازنین
و خطاب به همسرگرامی و ارجمندش شهريار صالح

شهريار جان، جان جان.

رفتی و رفت شادی و من ماندم و غمی

چشمی به انتظار سرشک دمادمی

آن لاله ام که بر دل خونین من فلک

بس داغ‌هانهاد و نبخشید مرهمی

آغوش گل‌ندیده به دامان خاک رفت

دردا نبود اشک مرا بخت شبنمی

بس راز سینه سوز به دل دارم ای دریغ

بی بهره ام ز دولت بیدار محرمی

(صالح) که داشت به دل، عشق لا یزال

بست از جهان دو دیده به ناگاه در دمی

او رفت و آشیان به جهان دگر نمود

من ماندم و غمی و جهان پر المی

گیتی به چشم من، چو تو بودی بهشت بود

رفتی و بی تو گشت بهشت، جهنمی

من نیز دل به مرگ نهادم که بی (حبیب)

عیش زمانه نیست به جز رنج و مایمی

بر نه به گوش (پنبه)ی غفلت که نشنوی

از ساز روزگار، به جز نغمه‌ی غمی

(ارفع) نصیب تو شد، ز عالم وجود

جان ستم‌کشی و بلای دو عالمی

Dr. Hosein Arfaa

Poetry in memory of my Dearest Friend Shahriar Saleh

THE GREATEST MUSICIAN

In the days when my friend Shahriar lived, we went out to nearby theaters.
We two, walked step by step, heart by heart.
To view wonderful places and things,
Such large trees with outspreading branches
Thick with Spring leaves, abundant as their greenery.
Was my dear friend, on his, learned my soul.

But who evades morality?

One day, he was gone, flown away like an early bird,
That day, he went out, vanished,
Like the setting sun.
Like the falling of stars,
The flight of eagles,
Like the fresh springs soft hue,
Silver drops of morning dew,
Like a wind that chafes the flood,
Bubbles which on water stood.

Though, I grieve, there is no help,
Vainly, I long to see.

People tell me that my friend is in the mountains of Heaven,
But, it avails me not.

For my friend, as he lived in this world,
Now, I find not the faintest shadow of his
Tonight, the winter moon shines,
The moon that shone many years ago
But my friend and I once watched it together,
Are divided by an ever widening vast of time.

When several days ago,
I left my friend Shahriar,
At the gates of Heaven,
I walk down the mountain path and I am thinking of him.

Dr. Hosein Arfaa



شهریار صالح به جاودانه گان پیوست

در رفتن اش چه بگویم که سکوت همه حرف است و حرف هایم همه سکوت.
شهریار گذشته از این که هنرمندی شایسته بود، انسانی وارسته و دوستی
دوست داشتنی بود.

به او که می اندیشم، در نبودش، جای مهربانی و صفایش را در دلم خالی می بینم اما
یادش؟ مگر می شود که یاد دوست را فراموش کرد؟
هنوز صدای خوش سنتورش در گوش جانم طنین انداخته است. من غم از دست دادن
اورا اندوهی جانکاه می دانم.

روان اش را شاد و یادش را جاودان می خواهیم.

از شمار دوچشم یک تن کم، اما از شمار هنرمندان ده ها بیش
می دانم که دوستان اش، در فقدانش، همه این گونه می اندیشند.

Samsum Kashfi



چهار روز و شب است که هرچی سعی میکنم نمیتوانم بخود بقبولانم که شهریار
عزیمان مارا ترک کرده است. شهریار نه تنها یک هنرمند بزرگ، نقاش، خطاط، و
موزیسین بود، بلکه یک انسان والا با قلب بزرگ در دل من و بسیاری دیگر جای
داشت، عاشق ایران و فرهنگ ایران برای بقای موزیک سنتی و فرهنگ ایران سخت
میکوشید، هر چه بیشتر اورا می شناختی بیشتر دوستش میداشتی، او عاشق عشق بود.

من بعنوان یک دوست کوچک او از طرف محبوب و خودم این مصیبت بزرگ را به
همسر و فرزندان عزیز او و همه ایرانیان تسلیت عرض مینمایم و میدانم یاد او در قلب
من و بسیاری دیگر تا ابد گرامی خواهد ماند، شهریار عزیزم منزل نومبارک

Hamid Taghipour