



## Virginia Garcia

June 25, 1919 - June 25, 2013

```
Event.observe(window, 'load', googleTranslateElementInit);
```

```
function googleTranslateElementInit() {  
  new google.translate.TranslateElement( {pageLanguage: 'en',  
    multilanguagePage: true}, 'google_translate_element');
```

```
  if (navigator.userAgent && navigator.userAgent.match(/Firefox/)) {  
    // This is a terrible terrible hack, Google Translate blows away the sound on  
    Firefox.
```

```
    // Calling reboot seems to bring it back.
```

```
    soundManager.reboot();
```

```
  }
```

```
}
```

Virginia May Garcia, 94, died on Tuesday, June 25, 2013. Virginia was born in Dayton, Ohio April 28, 1919, the only child of Beatrice Jeremiah (Johns) and Austin Talmadge Jeremiah. She graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1937 and Otterbein College in 1941. Virginia taught school in Dayton, in New Jersey, and at Walter Shade and Harry Russell Elementary Schools in West Carrollton. All her life Virginia stood up for basic principles: devotion to family, education and reading, civil rights, love of nature and kindness to animals, and enjoyment of the performing arts. A woman ahead of her time, Virginia was banished from her church because she invited a local black gospel group to perform for her church youth group. She shocked her family by first marrying a Jew, and then a Mexican. During the War years, she almost lost a job with the Wisconsin Power and Light when she suggested office workers should join the lineman's union, since they received the same raises the union bargained for. She was thrilled she lived to see an African-American elected president. Virginia's lifelong passion was theater. She saw some of the greatest performers of the 20th century, including Lionel, Ethel and John Barrymore, William Powell, Tallulah Bankhead and Katherine Cornell, not to mention Gypsy Rose Lee and Sally Rand. She saw Paul Robeson, Uta Hagen and José Ferrer in Othello, and Marlon Brando in Streetcar. Even more than watching theater, Virginia loved to perform. She cried the first time for not being cast in a part she coveted, in kindergarten. She performed on stage in high school and college, and delighted Dayton audiences for many years in community theater. She was inducted into the Dayton Theatre Hall of Fame in 2002. Virginia is survived by two children, Ricardo Garcia (wife, Isabel) of

Bellbrook, and Leslie Garcia (partner, Douglas Seibert) of Spring Valley, and two ex-husbands, Carl Djerassi of Palo Alto, CA and Rodrigo Garcia of Dayton. The family will receive friends on Sunday, July 7th from 2:00-5:00 p.m.at Reis Legacy Center Meyer-Boehmer Chapel, 6661 Clyo Rd., Centerville. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Virginia's memory to Humane Society of Greater Dayton, 1661 Nicholas Rd., Dayton, OH 45417. And now a final bow, the curtain falls, but applause still echoes...

# Tribute Wall

AF

“ We are deeply saddened to hear of Virginia's passing. She was a special friend that touched our lives and will forever be in our hearts and memories. She was a master story teller, actress and teacher. And we enjoyed being her audience! We will miss her dearly.

*Arv & Donna*

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**Arv & Donna Trent - Centerville, , OH - friends** - August 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ Leslie and Doug,  
It is 2pm on Sunday, July 7 and I am thinking about you and all of Virginia's dear friends and relatives...I so wish I could be there right now at the funeral. I do and will miss Virginia -- and it was a privilege and honor to know her. She was a great woman. -- Eve

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**Eve Iwicki - Frederick, MD - friend** - July 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Very sorry for your loss. She was my teacher (Walter Shade) some 50 years ago & made a positive impact on my life.

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**Monte Scott - Richmond, KY - former student** - July 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Ricardo: I am so sorry to hear of your Mothers passing I was in Bellbrook this week to put my parents in assisted living and read of her demise. I remember your mother from being over at your house- I had no idea at such a young age what a remarkable woman she was. We know you will miss her and it is great you are still in the area. I have always found that the words in the Gospel of John chapter 5 and verses 28&29 help me to think of a promise of renewed life. Again my condolences to you, your sister and father.

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steve barnett - NEw York, NY - friend - July 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ All of us in Forum Book Club, which just celebrated 40 years together, do miss Virginia. She was a faithful member for many years, and entertained us with her tales of the theater and her experiences there. We enjoyed seeing her onstage, and I remember her most for performances in "Driving Miss Daisy", "The Gin Game", and as Lady Bracknell in "The Importance of Being Ernest".

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Donna Gibson - Dayton , OH - Forum Book Club friend - July 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SU

“ Rodrigo, Fernando e Isabel,

*Mi papá les manda un abrazo y sus condolencias. Se ve que estimaba mucho a Virginia porque me habló de ella en términos muy bonitos.*

*Chacha*

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Sergio García Treviño - Irapuato - Uncle - July 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ We'll miss you, Virginia, at FutureFest and participating in FutureFest.

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David Finkle - New York City, NY - Future Fest friend - July 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ I first met dear Virginia in 1978, when we performed together in "The Good Doctor" at (then) Oakwood-Kettering Theatre, in the park. Always, gracious, always kind, in the years since, we shared the stage a few times...and when we didn't I gloried in seeing her perform in so many plays! The last show we shared was "The Whales of August"...and she almost lost it when the audience applauded when she first appeared on stage. Even after all her accomplishments, she was humble enough to be astonished at the audience's acknowledgement. We also attended shows together, and occasionally shared a restaurant meal, most often with Joan Harrah, who was a very close friend to her. I was blessed (thanks to Joan) to be included in the celebration of her 94th birthday, with her son Ricardo, daughter Leslie, and other friends. I am sure she's now entertaining Heaven with her amazing talent, and beautiful, warm attitude and personality...She will be dearly missed!..... with love .....Terry Lupp

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Terry Lupp - Dayton, , OH - long-time Theatre friend - July 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Although I did not see her often, it has been my honor to call Virginia my friend. We met on the eve of the garlic harvest, in June, 1994, when I joined the Peach Mountaineers. Virginia and I shared passions for animals, humanity, culture and justice. Our conversations were warm and spirited, nourishing and familial. Virginia's kindness and resilience have been a source of inspiration for me, and my empathy and deepest condolences go to her family.

*Bill Hoffman*

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**Bill Hoffman - Yellow Springs, OH - Friend - June 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM**

EC

“ Ricardo e Isabel, siento mucho la noticia, les mando un abrazo cariñoso y mucha fuerza. Mi suegra acaba de morir hace un mes y tengo muy fresca la memoria del dolor que deben estar pasando.

*Yo no sabía casi nada de Virginia. Todos me decían que era una gran persona, pero nunca la conocí bien. Después de leer su semblanza, siento mucho no haber tenido un contacto más cercano con ella porque teníamos puntos de contacto importantes.*

*Hay personas que pasan por esta vida sin dejar huellas, pero es evidente que Virginia, con su ejemplo y una ideología adelantada a su tiempo, sí lo hizo.*

*A Leslie la vi solo una vez en mi vida, pero también le mando un abrazo solidario.*

*Chacha*

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**Edith Garcia-Bernal Chacha - Irapuato - Cousin - June 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM**