



## Anton Colaric

May 21, 1930 - April 5, 2020

Anton “Tony” Colaric

Tony, as he was known by his friends and family, gently passed away surrounded by his family in Abingdon on April 5, 2020. He is survived by his loving wife of fifty years, Annette; his children, Natalie Blakeman and Michael Colaric; and his four remaining grandchildren, Amber Blakeman, and Morgan, Alexander and Connor Colaric.

As a young adult seeking economic freedom and opportunity, Tony escaped from Yugoslavia by swimming through the Adriatic Sea to Italy with nothing but a partially inflated floatation device. This sheer determination and never fail attitude framed his life in everything he did.

Soon after immigrating to the United States in 1961 as an avid swimmer, Tony once earned himself a fine for swimming too far into Lake Erie’s restricted waters. After naturalizing as a United States Citizen he obtained his Masters in Russian from Case-Western University in Ohio and started his teaching career in Harford County Public Schools, which lasted over 20 years. Over his teaching career he transferred into the Industrial Arts program where he taught at Bel Air, then Aberdeen High School for many years. Tony retired after the 1995 school year.

Teaching in the Harford County Public School System was one of his lifelong passions. Throughout his life, Tony would frequently run into his former students, and it would give him pleasure to see them doing well. Tony was even instructing his caregivers into his final days. A lifelong Do-It-Yourself-er, Tony took great pleasure in rebuilding his home and enjoying it.

No viewing or funeral services will be held out of respect for Tony's wishes, but a celebration of life will be announced in May of 2021 or after the world health conditions have improved. Final care has been entrusted to Simplicity Cremation and Funeral Services.