



Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze

September 18, 1950 - September 15, 2018

Shota Vashakidze, PhD

On Saturday, September 15, 2018, Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze, loving husband, father, and grandfather, passed away at the age of 67.

Shota was born on September 18, 1950, in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia, and was the son of the late Eteri Dugashvili and Ivan Vashakidze. After receiving a Masters in Nuclear Physics from Tbilisi State University in 1974, he went on to complete a PhD in String Theory in 1987 while working at the United Institute of Nuclear Research in Dubna, Russia, and at the University of Maryland, College Park.

On June 28, 1975, he married his childhood sweetheart, Nana LeGrand, and together they raised two children, Nia and Ivan. At the age of 43, Shota moved to the United States with \$400 in his pocket and the fierce desire to build a better life for his family. He started a new career with AT&T, and settled with his family in Freehold, NJ, where he spent several decades as part of the community. Shota retired from AT&T in 2005 and moved to Easton, MD in 2016.

Known for his strong work ethic, iron will, and sharp intellect, Shota's dedication to his family was only rivaled by his love for his birthplace, the Republic of Georgia. One of Shota's proudest accomplishments was the founding of Kvali in 2006, an educational and charitable partnership between Georgia and the United States. Through Kvali, he established several

graduate-level science and engineering programs in Georgia as well as an academic exchange program for Georgian students with Rutgers University, NJ.

Shota will be greatly missed by his surviving wife, Nana LeGrand Vashakidze, his daughter, Nia LeGrand-Perry (Mark) of Easton, his son, Ivan LeGrand (Stephanie) of Aurora, CO, and three grandchildren, Fiona, Emerson and Nico.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 12-2 PM at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A., 200 S. Harrison St. Easton, followed by a burial at the Oxford Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Oxford Cemetery

Oxford, MD

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **22**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Easton Location

200 S Harrison St

Easton, MD 21601

(410) 822-3131

info@fhfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



September 21, 2018 at 03:50 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Tea Kuchukhidze - September 21, 2018 at 02:39 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



September 21, 2018 at 02:25 PM



“ *Jim Gates Family purchased the Infinite Love for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*

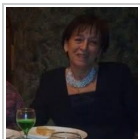


Jim Gates Family - September 21, 2018 at 10:29 AM



“ https://cdn.fsbx.com/v/t59.2708-21/41958753_2179367062274836_2550896126383357952_n.pdf/Condolence-Letter-from-US-Embassy-Tbilisi.pdf?_nc_cat=108&oh=cdc982ff0cb833b2ccaf2611761bcf28&oe=5BA72087&dl=1

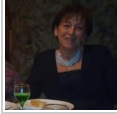
US Embassy, Tbilisi - September 21, 2018 at 09:21 AM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Qeti Qiqodze - September 21, 2018 at 07:18 AM



ბატონო შოთა თქვენს შესახებ წარსულ დროში საუბარი ძალიან მიჭირს. 😞

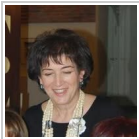
უკვე ისტორიაა, რომ თქვენი ინიციატივით - 2003 წ. სექტემბერში თბილისის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის 2 კორპუსში აშშ-ს მთავრობისა და სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის მხარდაჭერით საინფორმაციო- საგანმანათლებლო ცენტრი "კვალი" გაიხსნა, რომელმაც ძალიან ბევრ სტუდენტს შეუწყო ხელი აშშ-ში განათლების მიღებაში.

ამავე წლის ოქტომბერში რათგერსის უნივერსიტეტში ჩატარდა ქართული კულტურის დღე, რომელშიც მონაწილეობდა აშშ-ში მოღვაწე ქართველები და საქართველოდან ჩასული სტუმრები. 2004 წლის ივლისში ჩატარდა საერთაშორისო ფორუმი განათლების მეცნიერებისა და მედიცინის განვითარების საკითხებზე, რომელშიც მონაწილეობა მიიღეს მსოფლიოლოს ყველა კუთხეში მიმოფანტულმა ქართველმა ემიგრანტებმა.

"ღვთის კაცი" ასე გიწოდებდნენ აშშ-ში მცხოვრები მეორე თაობის ემიგრანტები, რომლებიც იმ პერიოდში მივიწყებულად გრძნობდნენ თავს. თქვენი მზრუნველობისა და კეთილგონიერების გამო განდეს თავიანთი არქივები, რომელმაც თქვენი და ეროვნული ბიბლიოთეკის ერთობლივი მოქმედებით ბინა საქართველოს ეროვნულ ბიბლიოთეკაში დაიღო.

ყველასთვის გამორჩეული მეგობარო! 😞 მარადიული ხსოვნა სამშობლოსთვის თავდაუზოგავი შრომისა და კეთილშობილებისათვის

Keti Qiqodze - September 21, 2018 at 08:23 AM



“ Ketis Tsertsvadze purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.



Keti Tsertsvadze - September 21, 2018 at 04:05 AM

AH

“*Shota and I met in 1986 when I did my post-doc at the university of Maryland, and he came to visit. While our research was in different areas of theoretical physics, we ‘clicked’ and met outside work. I remember one time being woken in the middle of the night, because Shota’s car (a clanky creature that was all someone on academic salary could afford) stopped working near the toll plaza in Baltimore. The drive back was fun, and memorable to this day. He was a gentle soul, with a quiet sense of humor, and keen observations of the American culture (some of them positive).*

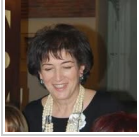
Years later, I was able to arrange an introduction to the world famous Bell Labs, where he was hired and became an expert in network performance. Working there I found out how serious and dedicated he was to his work. During that period, my family and I met his family for the first time, and for a while I stayed in the same house with them, enjoying Nana’s cooking and her gentle influence on everyone around her.

Because we talked infrequently - last time Shota and I met was in NJ 3 years ago - the news of his passing away took me by surprise, and caused me to feel ashamed not to have kept in better contact. But knowing Shota, he would have smiled and said in his low quiet voice, don’t worry about it.

Our condolences to Nana, Nia and Ivan and their families.

Nitza & Avi Hauser

Avi Hauser - September 20, 2018 at 12:32 PM



“ *Shota, chemo sakvarelo, guli gaxetqvaze maqvs. Shen chemi marto dzma ki ara chemi megobari, mshobeli, imedi da chkuis damrigebeli ikavi. Exla ki namdvilad davobldi.*

Zalian menatrebi. Cxovrebam ise moitana rom sul menatrebodi. Tsarmodgenac ki michirs, rom verasdros gnaxav. Mapatie rom ver vikavi shens gverdze sicocxlis bolo cutebshi, magram ver vijerebdi rom kvelaferi ase damtavrdeboda.

Gemshvidobebi chemo dzmao.

Gmertma natelshi amkofos sheni suli.

Badri Vashakidze

Keti Tsertsvadze - September 20, 2018 at 11:37 AM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



September 20, 2018 at 11:01 AM



“ <https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=tF-fQXmGyIU>

?????? - September 20, 2018 at 06:39 AM

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“ ქართული დიასპორისათვის, ვისაც ახსოვს შოთა ვაშაკიძის წვლილი - პირველი ინტერნეტ-ჟურნალი "კვალი" - მისი ამქვეყნიდან წასვლა დიდი დანაკლისია. ვწუხვარ, ქვეყანაში არყოფნის გამო ვერ ვესწრები მის დაკრძალვას. მხოლოდ თბილად და ტკბილად მომავგონდება ნამდვილად დიდი ადამიანი - შოთა ვაშაკიძე.

???????? ???? - September 20, 2018 at 02:48 AM

GG

“ Georgi Guruli purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.



Georgi Guruli - September 19, 2018 at 11:54 PM

RV

“ Hearing about your loss has deeply saddened me! My heartfelt sympathy goes out to you and your family. Thank you for everything, for a good chance in KVALI. I had a last phone conversation with you last year. I will surely miss the presence of a truly lovable and kind person. My most sincere condolences to your family and children.



Rusudan Vashakidze - September 19, 2018 at 07:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



September 19, 2018 at 04:27 PM



“ *I first met Shota and his family in 1980 while an exchange professor at Tbilisi State University. His father Ivan, Chairman of the theoretical physics department, was my host. At that time Shota was doing his Ph.D. research at Dubna, so he could only occasionally take time for short visits with Nana, Nia, Iviko and his parents Ivan an Eteri.*

After he brought his immediate family to the United States we became better acquainted, particularly during his numerous visits to the Boston area plus a wonderful Georgian party in New Jersey.

My most vivid memories of Shota center on his dedication to the betterment of educational opportunities in the Republic of Georgia through the charitable organization Kvali which he founded himself about 2001 I believe. His stories of bureaucratic struggles and logistical problems in shipping scientific equipment and professional books and journals were inspiring and humbling. After his family, Shota's greatest love was for his native land, his greatest concern for its well-being.

A good man and a great heart!

Lloyd Kannenberg

Lloyd Kannenberg - September 19, 2018 at 03:17 PM

TA

“ *Tatia purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



Tatia - September 19, 2018 at 12:42 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



September 19, 2018 at 10:24 AM



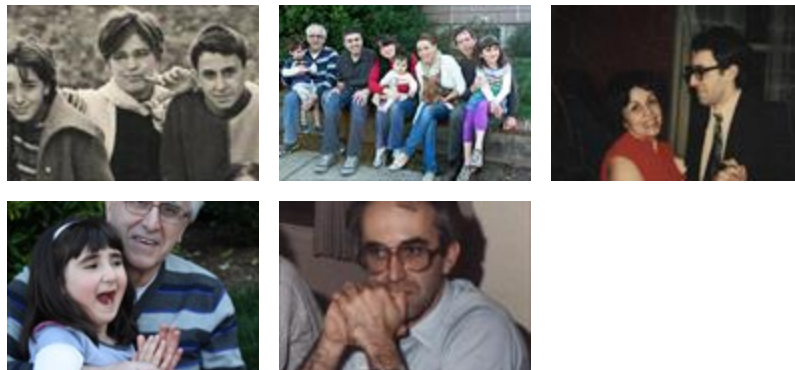
“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



September 19, 2018 at 08:43 AM



“ 12 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - September 19, 2018 at 07:23 AM

TK

“ *Tea Kuchukhidze purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



Tea Kuchukhidze - September 19, 2018 at 02:39 AM

IJ

“ *Irina, Judy and Jim. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



Irina, Judy and Jim. - September 18, 2018 at 09:34 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of
Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.



September 18, 2018 at 08:48 PM

“ Many years ago, I was the Professor at the University of Maryland who hosted Shota's first visit to the USA. Today, my daughter sent the message informing me of Shota's death on Saturday past.

I am greatly saddened as Shota was a close friend and we even wrote five scientific papers

http://inspirehep.net/search?ln=en&p=fin+a+gates+and+vashakidze&of=hb&action_search=Search&sf=earliestdate&so=d

together. The fifth one of these papers is classified as a well-known paper in the field of physics by the inSpire citation service.

During the summer of his visit to me at the Univ. of Maryland at College Park, I was scheduled to travel and spend time at the Univ. of California at Davis. To my great surprise, as he had never seen California, Shota found a way to come out also. We had some great times that summer.

The one event I recall most was that we had rented a car so that we could see more of northern California. I let him drive for a while and at some point, I heard a police siren behind us. Shota had exceeded the speed limit. I was sure that the policemen would give him a ticket.

But Shota calmly explained that he was a visitor to the USA, while showing the policeman his international driver's license. Clearly the policemen had never seen such a document, while Shota explained that the speed limit in other countries was higher than in the USA as the cause of his speeding. The policeman let him go, only giving a warning to "slow down like we do in America" to my utter amazement.

I knew that Shota was gravely ill as two years ago, I spoke at a university in New York City. One of the physicists there knew Shota. I sent a message this person, or tried, as I had hoped to travel to see Shota. I do not recall the name of the physicist, but I am pretty sure he was Georgian. Anyway, I was told that Shota did not wish to accept visitors owing to his condition.

I wish for all of you to be cradled in the memory of your wonderful father in these darkest times.

Jim Gates

Silvester James Gates - September 18, 2018 at 03:36 PM

GK

“ *Giorgi Kuchukhidze purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Shota Ivan Vashakidze.*



Giorgi Kuchukhidze - September 17, 2018 at 04:13 PM

GK

“ *chemo Shota! mshvidobit...cremlebi maxrchobs...ar mjera, rom shen xmas vegar gavigoneb, rom rchevas ver gkitxav...nutu sheidzleba ase gakres adamiani? ...chems gulshi da gonebashi ki shen mudam iknebi...sheidzleba ar mitkvams shentvis, magram darcmunebuli var, grdznobdi da icodi, rom shen dzalian mnishvnelovani adamiani iyavi chems cxovrebashi da asetad darchebi mudam...mshvidobit...dzalian momenatrebi da damakldebi...*

cheni giorgi

Giorgi Kuchukhidze - September 17, 2018 at 03:03 PM