



Ceremony of presentation of website *www.OlgiateOlona26giugno1959.org*

Olgiate Olona town hall, March 23, 2013

Introduction by Alberto Colombo

Good afternoon!

I said here in 2008: *"One book is not enough for remembering"*. And in 2009: *"Seventy immortal lives, as stars that we feel close and present, guide us on our path"*. Here today there is a website in memory of seventy immortal lives to renew the solidarity with their beloved ones.

In the website you will find everything and more. There is the summary of the books and what has been discovered after 2009. There is the immortality of the seventy lives: biography, pictures and witness sent by their relatives. There is the indelible memory of the eyewitnesses and the ardent reflection of the students of Olgiate Olona protagonists of the educational project. And all is in Italian and English languages.

This website is the non-return point of the commemorative events of June 26 1959 awarded by the President of the Italian Republic in 2011, and of that sober cultural project started in 2008 which keeps the memory of the plane crash alive and which sows the love for History and life in the young generations.

This cultural project would not exist without the farsightedness of mayor Giorgio Volpi, the understanding with Enrica Ferrazzi, the collaboration with the school, the work of the Civil Defense and other volunteers, the aid of those who support the commemorative events. In the name of the municipal Administration and by my side I thank you all.

Everyone has some inclinations received by God. As for myself, in the beginning I only desired to do something good and useful for Olgiate Olona and for remembering June 26, 1959. Later, many people and mainly the relatives of the immortal lives told me: *Alberto, go on!* So a lot has been done since 2008: more than what was visible during the commemorative events. And today even more people care of June 26, 1959: for this reason we go on anyway.

As it is right, thanks mostly to Nicola Puddu for this website.

Why did he do this? I never asked him for, because I know the answer: the seventy immortal lives.

Why is he doing this? I think the answer is inside a song that he composed: *"Everything has its meaning, it could be right or wrong. I feel like crying, if I think about what I lost along my way"*

and those opportunities are no more coming back, they go by and nothing more. I will wait for new days to come with patience along my life, with the hope that it's not too late. The time, you know, it's never satisfied, it steals the moment and all your dreams, and I find I'm running after the smell of my memories [...] I'm like that: I always try, whatever may happen. I cannot decide what is right and what is wrong: I have my own legs for walking towards my future and nothing more. I will start from here to sum up my days, along the path of this life and I'm certain that it is not too late [...] I will wait for new days to come along the path of my life, with the hope that it's not too late" ¹.

This website reminds that fate stole only the bodies from the seventy lives on June 26, 1959: their souls hovered towards immortality.

This website testifies that seventy immortal lives guide those who are “*waiting for new days to come with patience*” and never want to miss a chance.

This website testifies: Olgiate Olona in the name of June 26, 1959 is an embrace which fills geographical distances, which soothes psychological wounds, which gives consolation, which infuses all the people with certainty and hope to love every moment of life.

Theologian Karl Rahner wrote: “*We are similar to a coffer in which every moment stores – while leaving us - what it had of eternal: the unique ability to love [...] It is as if the waves of time - in their endless ebb and flow - silently touched the beach of eternity; as if every wave, every moment, every action stored what they have of eternal, the good and the evil, since these are the eternal values in the things of time [...] And thus something eternal slowly is accomplished over the time: the everlasting aspect of our soul and our destiny with it. And when the time will stop, nothing really will have ceased. Only running waters will disappear and will leave free and clear - even before man's eyes - what until now was hidden: his life become eternity, as he has freely forged and molded” ².*

It's never too late for loving every moment of the life!

www.OlgiateOlona26giugno1959.org

¹ PANAMA BUS, *Domani*, lyrics and music by Nicola Puddu, 2007.

² Translation from RAHNER Karl, *Giovedì santo. Ora santa al Getsemani*, in: RAHNER Karl-RATZINGER Joseph, *Settimana Santa*, Brescia, Queriniana, 1986, pages 10-11.