

SETTANTA VITE IMMORTALI

Olgiate Olona - 26 giugno



COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS REWARDED IN 2011 WITH
THE MEDAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC
OlgiateOlona26giugno1959.org

Olgiate Olona, June 26, 2026

**67th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLANE CRASH OF JUNE 26, 1959:
COMMEMORATIVE SPEECH OF OLGiate OLONA DEPUTY MAYOR**

On behalf of the Municipal Administration, I thank all of you here today. A special thanks to the families of the seventy immortal lives who also this year wanted to reach Olgiate Olona, even coming from very far away: Your presence moves us and reminds us how the bond with the beloved seventy lives is still alive and deep. I thank the students and teachers who participated in the educational project of June 26, 1959: through their works they demonstrate that memory does not only belong to the past, it continues to live in the new generations. I thank Alberto Colombo who with passion, competence and tireless dedication passes on an important page of the history of Olgiate Olona: the gratitude of the Municipal Administration and Olgiate Olona community goes to him.

We meet here at the same time that on June 26, 1959, a tragedy marked the history of Olgiate Olona forever. When we think about that day, we risk stopping at the numbers: seventy deaths, a plane crash, a date imprinted in the memory of our country. But behind those numbers there are people. Ordinary people. People who were traveling for work, to visit family, to start a vacation, or simply to return home. People who had plans for the next day, projects for the future, loved ones to hug again. After all, people like us.

And that's precisely what makes their memory so important. They weren't famous people, they weren't heroes celebrated by history. They were women, men, and children living their daily lives, with their dreams, their hopes, and their loved ones. A normality that belongs to each of us. This is precisely what makes their memory so close. Because, looking at their lives, we can recognize something of our own lives: we can recognize our loved ones, our plans, the people we love and whom we take for granted every day. This is why those seventy immortal lives continue to speak to us today: because they remind us how precious, unique, and unrepeatable each life is.

As a community of Olgiate Olona, we have chosen to preserve this memory and pass it on to new generations through the educational project, now in its sixteenth edition, which involves the school and allows children to learn about this history and make it part of their civic conscience.

This ceremony is not only to remember what happened on June 26, 1959. It is to remind us who we are today: a community that does not forget, that knows how to preserve its history and that chooses to pass it on to the young generation, so that the past can teach the present for the future.

Our most respectful and sincere thoughts go to the seventy immortal lives we commemorate today. We don't remember them simply because they were tragically lost. We remember them for how they lived. For the love they built, for the dreams they nurtured, for the plans they had. We remember them because they were ordinary people, just like us. And that's why they continue to be special in the memory of our community.

Leonardo Richiusa
Olgiate Olona deputy mayor

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