

**Funeral service of Prince Michael of Greece - Church of Saints Theodore in the First Cemetery of Athens**

**Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup> , 2024:**

Uncle Michel, your life has been an inspiration to us all.

You were a loving Husband, Father, Father-in-law, Grandfather, Cousin, Uncle.

You were a man known for your tenderness, cultivation, nobility, and sensitivity, whose love and presence profoundly touched each of us. A highly respected author writing on history, the events and the people who affected history. Often taking the historical characters into mythical tales & fiction.

You had an ability to inspire people to thirst for more from you, whether it was a tale from your own life or any other character & event you chose to describe.

We thank you for All your work that will continue to inspire us.

Your life was intertwined with many personalities who shaped the history of Europe. You were orphaned at a young age, losing your father our Uncle Christo and one year later your mother Francoise. After the passing of Uncle Philip Duke of Edinburgh, you were the last remaining grandson of King George I of Greece, and the last great-grandchild of Christian IX of Denmark. Through your mother Francoise d'Orleans, you were a descendant of the royal house of France.

Uncle Michel when you were out and about you were unmistakably aristocratic but yet always remained modest and unassuming, like most of us Greeks.

You loved tradition in your own Avon guard way, while strict and demanding of others, but still very calm and sweet to us all.

Uncle Michel your unique and multifaceted personality grew from a full and creative life lived in New York, Paris, Patmos & Athens, drawing energy from your love for others and from the love others bestowed upon you.

I felt that Love was as a source of energy for you and your work, coupled with the thirst for knowledge and balanced with optimism that formed your philosophy and the way you lived your life.

You are adored not only by the wonderful family you created with Marina, your daughters Alexandra & Olga, who with Nicholas & Aimone also have provided you with wonderful grandchildren. Beyond the family you are adored by the countless people who came to know you through the years personally and through your writings.

Uncle Michel as a distinguished writer and historian, you achieved significant international recognition. Working tirelessly, either writing or researching historical issues that captivated your interest. Or even writing about the supernatural, that was another gift you had, in connecting with the spiritual world.

...I do hope you will keep reaching out to us once in a while!

Your intellectual contributions have left an indelible mark on the world. You were committed to perfection and demanded that of your children & others and were always amazed how we were never as knowledgeable as you were on all things family.... I guess you also had the advantage of being part of that history, now we must read about this through your books.

I shall miss listening to you talk on facts and then add the most wonderful gossip surrounding historical events!

Uncle Michel, your life reminds us of the power of connection and the importance of nurturing those bonds, as you did so beautifully with family and friends.

Beyond your professional life as an author, Uncle Michel, your legacy is one of love, service, and dedication to humanity. Your commitment to charity, together with Marina where you founded the charity "Eliza" for abused children, inspired by the tragic story of the young Eliza, who was murdered by her mother in New York. This tragedy deeply affected you both, especially as you had funded her education. Through this charity, you have provided and will continue to provide support and hope to countless abused children in need. You touched the lives of many, both personally and through Eliza.

As is the case for many of us in the family, You discovered Greece first hand later in your life, at the age of 20, when you came to serve in the Greek army as an officer in the cavalry (I have always been jealous of that uniform). You were invited to live at home by my grandparents (my Apapa & Amama, Uncle Palo & Aunt Freddie) and quickly becoming like another brother to my father and his sisters, Sofie & Irene).

But it was not until you met your beloved Marina, that your life was complete, as you often said, "Marina is the anchor that connected me to the country I so cherished." Greece has for ever remained deep in your heart and became your final home.

Your absence will leave a void that can't be filled, but your remarkable personality and lasting contributions will continue to inspire and guide us. While your writings will leave behind a rich tapestry of memories and contributions.

My deepest condolences to your beloved family, of whom you often said, "were your last sources of joy, optimism, and strength."

Rest in peace, Uncle Michel. Your legacy will live on in our hearts and memories.

And a quote from Uncle Michel.

"This is the true meaning of prayer; the important thing is not to know whether the prayer works but simply to pray"

ΑΙΩΝΙΑ ΣΟΥ Η ΜΝΗΜΗ

Καλό Ταξίδι Θεε