

Anna Mari Aguirre (1951-2020)



Anna Mari Aguirre passed on Friday, May 8th, 2020, as she succumbed to a long illness. May she Rest in peace. Agur maitia Anna.

To all those who have known Anna Mari, she was an exemplary person within the NYC Basque community and Diaspora outside Euskadi.

Her eloquence, straight forwardness, humor, intelligence, resourcefulness along with well eloquent and rational manner of speaking will be greatly missed.

Anna was born and raised in New York and was a model of embracing Basque Culture. In her youth she along with her brother Martin participated in the group of Dantzaris of the then Centro Vasco Americano* (The name would later be changed to Eusko Etxea of New York) where her parents, Andoni & Irene were long standing and well regarded members and Officers of Centro Vasco Americano.

She also taught the dances to younger children of Basques in New York as a teenager and young adult.

She went on to work on Society of Basque Studies in America and was a Board Member of the Basque International Cultural Center Center of which both were founded by Dr. Emilia Doyaga.

For many years she was nominated and also acted as the Delegate from Eusko Etxea of New York to the North American Basque Organization (NABO) where she attended their Annual Conferences. She also took Euskara Classes taught at Eusko Etxea and in particular Itziar Albisu, a former President of Eusko Etxea and would go so far as to go to Itziar's house for personal lessons. She involved family & friends in many of her endeavors in her long time participation in Eusko Etxea.

Her work as a VP at Deutsche Bank, New York Headquarters led her to also teach courses on International Banking at NYU.

During recent years, during which time she battled her episodes with cancer ups and downs, she fulfilled her Bucket List and traveled the world far and wide. It was always a pleasure to hear of her adventures as it always brightened her face.

The above is from my personal experience and perspective, obviously I have had great admiration of Anna Aguirre.

* I also participated in Dances with them and have known the family since only a couple years of my arrival to NYC from Oñati, Gipuzkoa.

Respectfully,

Enrique Arana
Board Member of Eusko Etxea of New York

PS: Presently, due to current environment, a Memorial Service will be postponed until a later more appropriate date to pay respects when we hear from immediate family.