

Lij Sebastyanos found much solace in the many family gatherings that took place at his aunt Princess Mahezant Hapte-Mariam's house as her home became a place of refuge and a place to share the family's common grief as well as laughter and joy with his cousin and best friend Prince Ermias and cousin Lij Simon Tesfaye as well as many other close relatives.

Later, Lij Sebastyanos travelled to the United States to pursue his bachelor's degree in political science at the University of California at Santa Barbara between 1979 – 1982, where he joined his cousin Prince Ermias Sahle Selassie who was also a student there.

Upon his return from University in the United States Lij Sebastyanos settled back in London and he always made sure he was near his aunt Princess Hirut (Ruth) Desta for whom he had a very special place in his heart.

Lij Sebastyanos did not return to his beloved homeland until after the Communist regime fell in 1991. He spent seven years in Ethiopia widening his connections and expanding his knowledge of this ancient and beautiful country. Lij Sebastyanos was an avid reader, philosopher, and deep thinker. He shared many inspiring thoughts and insights with family, friends and associates. To those who knew him well and to strangers he was larger than life, tall, handsome and dynamic. You could not miss him if he walked into a room as everyone's heads would turn. He was a sharp dresser, dashing, and debonaire in his choice of accessories whether it was a vintage watch, designer shoes, elegant scarves and matching gloves or his Italian orange spice eau-de-cologne. He was a royal and dignified Ethiopian in every sense of the word. He had a discerning taste with a sharp eye for beautiful photography and artwork which filled the walls of his home. He was a talented writer and master of words. He could express himself with great accuracy and he understood more than anyone else how the human mind worked. His high IQ served him well when he worked as a stock broker, financial consultant, and businessman over the many years he lived in London.

Above all, two things defined Lij Sebastyanos – his love for his family and his dedication and commitment to Ethiopia his beloved country of origin. He never once ceased to defend and articulate with great precision his point of view to all he came across. Always two steps ahead of everyone else, he had a remarkable ability to know exactly what was going on and was current on all aspects of Ethiopian affairs and political situations.

He was strong willed and could be very opinionated, but was also kind, thoughtful, and loved by many. Throughout his life Lij Sebastyanos kept in touch with both close and extended family members in London, the United States, and in Ethiopia as well as around the globe. He was a one-of-a-kind individual, unique and irreplaceable. He will be greatly missed. He died in his flat in London, on Sunday July 25 2021, a few months prior to his 61st birthday. He is survived by his brother Raphael, his aunts Kibirt Woizerit Metasebia, Princess Seble Desta and Princess Sophia Desta, his many cousins, close friends and extended family members that will keep his memory and legacy alive for a long time to come.

Lij Sebastyanos entire family would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of condolences, thoughts and prayers at this trying time. May our brother's soul rest in eternal peace in the arms of the Almighty.