

Tao

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After an opening ceremony, all those gathered were asked to write on white index cards any

negative energy or memory that is filling their minds or blocking their way to peace. Some brought objects reminding them of such a block.

In a long line, each participant ripped and threw the cards, or objects, into a large box, which then

was brought out of the room.

Next, they wrote on cards words to describe the future qualities and realities they'd like to manifest in their eyes. These were set out on altars, some anchored with Chinese relics to amplify

the energy and, in so doing, make them more noticeable to the gods.

A grand ceremony was conducted over the altars.

Afterwards, the abbot, who has some 10,000 followers worldwide, described the Taoist cosmological landscape. Using

obituaries

Death Notices

Armada, Carol Morris Plains; Bradley Braviak Funeral Home
D'Alessandro, Joseph Jersey City; William J. Leber Funeral Home
Hagelgans, Walter Whippany; Bradley-Braviak Funeral Home
Hanson, Dorothy "Diane" Lake Hopatcong; Leber-Lakeside Funeral Home
Natoli, Margaret; Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home
Teepel, Jason; Prout Funeral Home

CAROL ANN ARMADA
AGE: 80 • MORRIS PLAINS

Carol Ann Armada, 80, of Morris Plains, passed away on Friday, Nov. 14, 2014 at Merry Heart Health Center. Carol was born on Jan. 12, 1934 in Englewood, lived in Leonia, then moved to Morris Plains in 1963. She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. George J. and Grace C. (nee Olsommer) Ellis. As a teenager, Carol won a beauty contest which launched her modeling career. She was a print model, for hair designs and toothpaste. Her family discovered her portfolio and were amazed how beautiful she was as young woman. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. Carol loved visiting her son Scott and family in Maine. She loved to take cruises with her family. She enjoyed needlepoint, crocheting and making afghans for her family. Gardening was also a favorite pastime. She volunteered at Morristown Hospital and was the past president of the Republican Club of Morris Plains.

She was predeceased by her three loving husbands, Bernard, William, and George. She is survived by her two sons, Lance and wife Suzanne and Scott and wife Raeanna. She was the loving grandmother to Danielle, Jesse, Jeremy, Jaclyn and Justin Fraser. She is also survived by her brother, George Ellis and her nephew, Deron Ellis.

A visitation will be held on Monday, Nov. 17, 2014 from 2 to 4 & 7 to 9 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2014 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Bradley-Braviak Funeral Home, 49 Whippany Road, Whippany, NJ. A service will follow at 12 p.m. in the Chapel at Restland Memorial Park, East Hanover, NJ and interment will be in Restland. In Carol's memory, donations can be directed to Alzheimer's Association, 400 Morris Avenue, Suite 251, Denville, NJ 07834. For further information and to send a condolence, please go to www.bradleyfuneralhomes.com.

JOSEPH D'ALESSANDRO
AGE: 56 • JERSEY CITY

Joseph D'Alessandro, age 56, of Jersey City, passed away on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014 at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, NJ. He was born Feb. 26, 1958 in Bronx, NY. Joseph was a kind, sensitive man who loved his family and had a passion for singing. Joe was a senior scientist at Energizer Holdings Inc. in Allendale, NJ. He was an undergraduate at Stockton State College with a BS in Chemistry. He held a Master's degree in Education at Mansfield University, PA. Joe also was a local Real-Estate agent at the Coldwell Banker in Jersey City.

He is survived by his loving mother; Josephine D'Alessandro; 3 siblings, Michael D'Alessandro,

Mary Fraser and her husband Albert, and John D'Alessandro; his dear friend, Andres "Danny" Santos; his nieces, and nephews; his dog, Lulu; and by many other family members and friends.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 12:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Mountain RC Church, Long Valley, NJ on Monday, Nov. 17, 2014. Final interment will be handled privately by the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Joseph's memory to Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, 383 Main Avenue, 5th Floor Norwalk, CT 06851. For online condolences and information visit www.williamjleberfh.com.

WALTER A. HAGELGANS
AGE: 87 • WHIPPANY

Walter A. Hagelgans, 87, of Whippany, passed away on Monday, Nov. 10, 2014. Born and raised in Hazleton, PA, Walter lived in Hanover Twp. for 58 years. A veteran of the US Navy, he served during the Korean War. He was a tool & die maker, whose dedication to the trade led him to work for 45 years for the same location, even though the company changed hands over the years. Walter retired at the age of 85 from Biomet in Parsippany. He was a proud member of the Navy Cruisers Association. He was very active in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Morris Plains, and most recently volunteered at the Interfaith Food Pantry. Walter loved spending time outdoors working in the yard and traveling to the Navy Cruisers Association annual reunions.

Predeceased by his wife, Betty and son, Glenn; Walter is survived by sons, Robert of Long Branch, and Mark of East Hanover; grandchildren, Matthew, Christopher and Alexis; and his beloved companion of many years, Nancy Ayala.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 131 Mountain Way, Morris Plains on Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014 at 4 p.m. Contributions in Walter's memory may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675. Arrangements by Bradley-Braviak Funeral Home, Whippany. For additional information or to leave the family a message of condolence, go to www.bradleyfuneralhomes.com.

DOROTHY "DIANE" HANSON
AGE: 71 • LAKE HOPATCONG

Dorothy "Diane" Hanson of Lake Hopatcong passed away quietly Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014 at home surrounded by her family. She was 71. She was born and raised in Morris Township before moving to Lake Hopatcong 44 years ago. A graduate of Madison High School, her extreme devotion and hard working nature came through in all her job experiences. "The glue that held the family together", Diane loved to shop and vacation with her husband and family and was an avid sports fan of her grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her son, Michael (1972); and her mother, Mary Rita (1960). Beloved wife of Bruce (34 years). Cherished daughter of Frank Maiello. Devoted mother of Suzanne Bergeron, Denise Holleriter, Tara Jean Brown, Kristin O'Malley, Tara Beth Griswold, Todd Hanson and the late Michael Rooney (1972). Loving grandmother

of Jacquelyn, Renee, Travis, Samantha, Christopher, Ashleigh, Justin, Logan, Tyler, Jessica, Alyssa, and Michael. Dear sister of Patrick and Teresa Maiello. Also survived by many special nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Diane's Life Celebration on Tuesday, Nov. 18 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Leber-Lakeside Funeral Home, 150 Landing Road, Landing. A Funeral Service will be held in the funeral home at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19. The funeral home will open at 9 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her memory may be made to MZB Center for Cancer Research, c/o Bruckner Oncology, 2320 Eastchester Road, Bronx, NY 10469. www.bruckneroncology.com. For further information and to share a fond memory please visit www.leberlakeside.com.

MARGARET THERESA NATOLI
AGE: 79 •

Our beloved Margaret Theresa Natoli, aged 79, was called home to our Heavenly Father on Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014. Born Oct. 8, 1935 in Jersey City, Margaret met her future husband, Robert during one of the summers that they spent in Lake Parsippany, NJ when they were children. They were married in Parsippany on Nov. 14, 1954. They had four sons and went on to enjoy sixty joy-filled years of marriage. Margaret graduated from Snyder High School. She worked as a clerk at the Morris County Library, an administrative assistant at Allstate Insurance, and a sales associate at Epstein's Department Store. She enjoyed many volunteer opportunities including den mother for the Boys Scouts and chairwoman for the Parsippany, NJ Elk's Ladies Crippled Children Committee. She helped at the hospitality desk and knitted blankets for newborns at Seton Southwest Hospital. She also knitted prayer shawls for the Diocese of Austin. Margaret served as treasurer for the Golden Hearts and the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary of St. Paul Catholic Church, where she was a parishioner. Besides knitting for her family, Margaret enjoyed playing cards and board games with her dear

husband as well as with family and friends. She created ceramics and enjoyed cooking big Italian meals for her family. She loved swimming and bowling, and she never missed any of her son's sports games. She cherished her grandchildren and loved singing, dancing, laughing and spending time with them.

Preceded in death by her parents, Jeanette and Vincent Saponar Sr.; and her sister, Cathy. Margaret is survived by her husband, Robert Natoli; siblings, Joan and Louis Beneduci, and Vincent and JoAnn Saponar Jr.; children, Bob and Judy Natoli, Tom and Kathy Natoli, Ken Natoli and Dawne Witwer, Al and Kerri Natoli. Grandchildren, Rob and Kellie Natoli, Matt Natoli, Katie and Dan Salivar, Missy Natoli, Emmie Natoli, Angelina Natoli, Adriana Natoli; great-grandchild, Averie Mae Natoli.

A memorial mass will be held at St. Vincent Martyr Catholic Church, 26 Green Village Road, Madison, NJ 07940 on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014 at 12 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to The Blood and Tissue Center of Central Texas in Margaret's honor. Donations can be sent to 4300 N Lamar Blvd, Austin, TX 78756 or by donating online at http://www.inyourhands.org/donate-blood/give-money/. Nomi, God blessed us with a mother who would show us by example how to love our family consistently and selflessly. Your love will live on in all of us. Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, South Congress, 2620 S. Congress, Austin, TX 512/442-1446. You may view memorials at www.wcfish.com.

JASON ALEXANDER TEEPEL
AGE: 42 •

Jason Alexander Teepele, 42, has died as he wished. He died calmly at home on Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014 in Morristown, after a long and hard struggle with brain and spine tumors. Born in Plainfield, NJ, he grew up in Morristown. He had a BA from Rutgers University, where he was a Henry Rutgers Scholar, and received two Master's degrees, the first in Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh and the second in Computer Science from the University of Pennsylvania. He was in a doctorate program at the University of Brighton in England, focusing on linguistics and computer science, when tumor growth forced his return home.

He is survived by his parents, Jon and Faith Teepele; his sister, Elissa Teepele; and aunts, uncles, and cousins; his best friend Erik; as well as other dear friends, Anna, Todd, Tita, Eric, Claire, and Nynee. Jason loved language in all shapes and forms, from poetry (W.S. Merwyn), to literature (Thomas Pynchon), to all the jokes and puns

he would inflict daily on all those around him. In 2011, he founded the Barefoot Review, an online poetry journal for people with serious health issues and those who care about them. His greatest passion was music. He loved Arcade Fire and Ani DeFranco; the Beatles and the Beastie Boys; Beth Orton and Bjork; the Cocteau Twins and Carole King; the Cure and Coldplay; De La Soul and Dead Can Dance; Feist and Elton John; the Sugarcubes, Siouxsie and the Banshees, the Muppets, and Public Enemy; most of all, he loved the singer-songwriter Tom Waits. He was a loving, giving, and gentle spirit, who loved life and lived it with panache.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Cern Foundation for Ependymoma Research (www.cern-foundation.org) or the Helgott Research Institute at the National College of Natural Medicine (www.ncnm.edu). A memorial service will be held at a future date.



"The Living Tao," presented by the Mount Tabor Healing Center, is a day devoted to ancient Taoist healing principles led by Wu Cheng Zhen, the first-ever female abbot of the famed Changchun Taoist Temple with event organizer Mei Jin Lu, founder of the School of Eastern Culture and Philosophy.



PHOTOS BY BOB KARP/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Wu Cheng Zhen, the first female abbot of the famed Changchun Taoist Temple, got to take her rites in New Jersey on Saturday.

an interpreter, she said that human beings, who try to accumulate good energy and works, can die and become powerful souls and even ascend to the level of gods. Even among gods, she said, there are levels of spiritual perfection.

"There are gods for different territories and more powerful ones have larger territories," she explained, "much like a mayor rules a town and a president, a country."

People beleaguered by work, family, financial, and other problems, came to release their burdens and embrace a bright future.

Yamileth Garro of Dover, who studies meditation with Lu, said she came to welcome what she wants into her life in a positive way.

"If you're open to these kinds of things, you will feel something," she said. "If you're not, you probably won't."

The abbot used the occasion to officially start the U.S. Taoist Association, designating her student and disciple its top officers. Lu will serve as president here and Chi Wei, one of the world's foremost scholars in the I Ching and Feng Shui, will serve as vice president from China.

"You are very lucky to be at the first annual event. This will bring you auspicious luck beyond what I can describe," the abbot told the crowd. "Even things like this don't happen all the time in China. At ceremonies like this in China, there would be 1,000 people."

"This is just the beginning. I want to use the

U.S. Taoist Association as the first step to bring peace and harmony but, first of all, health, to you," she added. "Then you bring it to others. You are here today, and we have given to you. Just watch. You will change."

In an interview with the Daily Record, Chi Wei, who meditated for seven days to prepare to perform the ceremonies Saturday, explained the intricacy of each and every relic involved. He picked up a palm-sized, 800-year-old carved wooden box. It is made of wood, he said, because wood is from the earth.

"But it is wood that has been struck with lightning from the heavens," Chi Wei said.

"What I'm seeking to achieve in this country is to bring something that will resonate with people here so we collectively will elevate the heart and soul together," he added. "We want to bring this essence to all humanity to bring up health, bring up harmony."

Some people remarked that while there is lots of stress in the United States, there is hardly any ceremonial way to release it.

"When you think about it," said one participant, "the United States is a toddler and China is like a very old person. It stands to reason we could learn from them."

The Living Tao continues Sunday at the Ramada Conference Center. For more information, visit <http://www.thelivingtao.com/upcoming-events.html>

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