

NAME: **Giorgio Masero**
 DOB: 8th March, 1920
 Place of Birth: Vincenza
 Province: Veneto
 Date of emigration: 1951
 Date of arrival in Australia: Melbourne 2nd May 1951 Toscana
 Australian citizen: Yes



Immigration experience:

Dr Giorgio Masero was born in Vincenza, Veneto region, on the 8th March 1920. He was four when his father died in 1924, His brother Antonio, now deceased, was born in July 1924. In 1925 their mother Anna Dalla Pozza moved to Switzerland to work as a chef in order to help to maintain the family. The two young children were left in the care of her parents in Valmarana a hamlet very close to Vincenza. After his primary school, Giorgetto was encouraged to enter the monastery of Monte Berico where he completed his secondary schooling. He was an excellent student and he excelled in music, he had a beautiful voice, he loved to sing a solo the Sanctus of the Missa Angelorum. He left the convent before his vows, went back to his mother and enrolled in the University of Ca'Foscari in Venezia. He had just finished first year of his degree in languages and foreign literature when in 1941 he was called in the army.

He spent two years in the military academy of Arezzo and Ravenna. He completed his cadetship with honours and he was given the rare privilege of nominating the regiment of his choice to serve as Lieutenant. He chose Mestre at the door steps of Venezia, hoping to get permission to complete his studies, but it was not to be. He was sent to Greece, Eubea. He was there when news arrived, on the 8th of September 1943, that Italy had joined the allies. Dr Masero consulted with the 18 soldiers of his platoon and all decided to head for the mountains and join the Greek resistance, the Partisans. After wandering from mountain to mountain always on foot and helped by the Partisans and the Greek farmers, they make contact with an English Commando and reached Prevoza and eventually embarked for Taranto. It was March 1944.

Dr Masero, feverish and suffering with Malaria was sent home where he slowly recovered. He resumed his studies in 1946 at the University of Venezia. In 1947 he won a scholarship for the University of Genova and transferred himself there. In Genova he met Michelina Alberti, and he completed his studies. They married in 1950. They had seriously discussed the possibility of leaving Italy and migrating to Australia. They certainly had their plans and their dreams. Both with a University Degree they arrived in Australia on the 10th May 1951. Was Australia the promised land? Dr Masero never had such illusions, for a couple of years he moved from one casual manual work to another, then from kitchen hand to chef at the Ambassador Hotel, Adelaide.

In 1954 he founded the Masero & Co Pty Ltd for the production of wines, vermouths, marsalas, bitters, liqueurs, spirits, cordials and essences. His products were sold throughout Australia and exported overseas to various countries. He traded under the name of Alberti, the surname of his wife. Many people within our community still remember .
 Vermouth Rosso, Ferrochina, Sciampagnino, Orzata, Mentha, Vodka, Tamarindo, Chinotto, Amarena.

In 1954 he became tutor in Italian Language at the University of Adelaide, education department and Chief examiner in Italian, position he kept for 26 years.

In 1960 he founded the Dante Alighieri Society of which he remained president for 25 years.

In 1963 he sponsored 16 classes to teach Italian to the children of migrants and to teach Italian to the English speaking members of the Dante Aligheri Society

In 1963 he was the recipient of the first Silver Medal for Cultural Merit from Rome.

In 1966 he received the second Silver Medal for Cultural Merit from Rome.

In 1967 he was nominated Cavaliere al Merito of the Italian Republic.

In 1968 he was promoter and major sponsor for the Institution of the First Chair of Italians at Flinders University.



In 1971 he lost his wife Michelina in a Motor Vehicle accident.

In 1971 he received the second Knighthood of Cavaliere Ufficiale of the Italian Republic.

In 1975 he became a Knight of Malta

In 1980 he received a Gold Medal for Cultural merits from Rome.

1981 he was a bank Guarantor of \$600,000 for the completion of the First Italian Nursing Home in Adelaide.

In 1985 he was honoured with AM, Order Of Australia.

In 1986 he became Board Member and Vice President of the Italian Village, Position he held for over 20 years.

Dr Masero enriched our Italian Community, a Benefactor and a man of Vision and Culture

Rest in Peace

Obituaries

MASERO, Giorgio. Born in Vicenza, Italy on March 8, 1920. It is with great sadness that the family of Giorgio Masero announces his peacefully passing on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the age of 98 years.

Loving son of Anna Masero (nee Dalla-Pozza) and Antonio Masero (both deceased).

Beloved husband of Rachelina (deceased). Loving and dearly loved brother of Antonio (deceased) and loving brother-in-law of Angela.

Much loved and loving uncle of Alberto, George, Ana and Marcus, Silvia, Rosa and Nik, Monica and Andrew.

Adored and loving great-uncle of Gianni, Ricky and Michael; Daniel, Nicholas and Christian; Stefan and Natal; Nastasia and Maya; Antonio and Luisa. Loved and fondly remembered by his cousins Daniela, Renato, Silvio, Maria, Eda, Ida, Anna-Maria and families.

Our beloved Zio Giorgio was a hardworking, affectionate, devout and kind man who will be dearly missed.

He saw us grow up and always gave us his love, support and guidance.

You are now with your beloved wife and family. May you Rest in Peace.