

# *In Loving Memory, Nora Saidi Khacheturians*



It is with deep sorrow that we passing of Nora Saidi Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at her 9:00 AM Central Time.

Nora joined ACEI in 2006 and Director of the credential was instrumental in helping quality control of the ensuring all completed standards. She was one of the education. Her career in until the mid-1960's. Prior to that returned to Iran and became the

Administrator at the American Presbyterian Hospital in Mashhad, Iran. Nora was then hired as a licensed translator by AFME now AMIDEAST in Tehran. She was promoted to Executive Director of AFME and a few years later founded her own company, EDWAM (Education with America) Services Institute, in Tehran where she helped counsel and place Iranian students at U.S. universities. In 1980, as the Islamic Revolution took its hold, she left Iran under perilous conditions and after an arduous journey through Turkey, and Europe, she decided to head to the U.S. where her daughter, Jasmin, was attending college in California and her son, Alan, was at a boarding school in Connecticut. Her main goal was to be with her two teenage children in the U.S. where she immediately located an immigration lawyer (one of her former students) in Chicago who helped obtain political asylum for herself and her family.

share news of the peaceful Khacheturians, at age 88, on home in Liberty Hill, Texas at

assumed the role of Executive evaluation department. She to develop policy, and the department's output by evaluations met approved originals in international international education didn't begin after having studied in the UK, she

Once in the U.S., after a brief respite in San Diego, she was hired by ELS Language Services in Los Angeles, CA and tasked with building and operating the University Placement Service where she continued counseling and helping students, but this time her focus wasn't just on Iranian students, but from around the world looking to study in the U.S. Not one to remain idle, after retiring from ELS in 2006, she joined ACEI and remained as its Executive Director until last week.

She enjoyed her final two years at her new home in Texas to be closer to her two granddaughters. She busied herself with tending to her rose garden, feeding the birds, baking, knitting and from time to time reviewing evaluations.

She has left an empty hole in all our hearts but the number of people whose lives were forever changed by the counsel they received from Nora in furthering their education and leading successful careers are too many to count. Nora lived a stoic and humble life, that is; she never once boasted about any of her achievements. She was friend, surrogate mom, and advisor to so many, and most importantly a devoted and caring mother to her children.

Besides her children, Nora is survived by her granddaughters, daughter and son-in-law, several nieces, cousins and many friends and colleagues.