



THE MUSEUM OF BAGS

MCLEAN, VA – Lee Lavinthal Forman, 59, an award-winning graphic designer, co-founder and trustee of the Museum of Bags Foundation, died Saturday, March 7 at Capital Hospice, Arlington, Virginia, after a two-year battle with cancer. Born in Trenton, New Jersey, she was graduated from Trenton Central High School in 1967 and from The American University, Washington, D.C., in 1971, with a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Design.

A recipient of multiple Metropolitan Washington Art Directors Club Awards, Mrs. Forman designed the official bag for the 2002 Washington, D.C. National Cherry Blossom Festival. Designing that bag was an extension of Mrs. Forman's lifelong interest in bags as cultural icons. That same year she and her husband, Howard Forman, took their collection of bags from around the world to launch the museum. Today the collection of more than 6,000 bags and artifacts range from the mundane to the opulent, from an 1898 grocery bag commemorating the Battle of Manila Bay to a recent Nieman-Marcus bag.

Mrs. Forman, was a past president of the New Dominion Women's Club and is listed in Who's Who In America, Who's Who Of American Women and Who's Who In The World. She also was a member of the Capital Speaker's Club, Friends of Blair House, Friends of the Botanical Gardens, Woodmont Country Club, and was an Ambassador for the Woman's Center, Vienna, Virginia. She also was a member of Temple Rodef Shalom and served on the Falls Church, Virginia synagogue's board of directors.

In addition to her husband, Howard Forman, she is survived by a son, Grant M. Forman (Michelle), of Ellicott City, Maryland; a daughter, Lauren I. Forman, of McLean, and a brother, Richard Lavinthal, of Falls Township, Pennsylvania.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 9, at Rodef Shalom, with burial at King David Memorial Gardens, also in Falls Church. Shiva will be observed through Thursday at the Forman residence.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to Capital Hospice, 4715 North 15th Street, Arlington, VA 22205, or the Cancer Center at Virginia Hospital Center, 1701 North George Mason, Drive, Arlington, VA 22205.

BAGS AS CULTURAL ICONS