Nazwisko JASIEWICZ

Imiona MARIA **Pseudonim**

Z domu BRONAKOWSKA

Data urodzenia 05.01.1937 **Miejscowość, kraj** Bronaki-Olki, Polska

Data śmierci 27.09.2020 **Miejscowość, kraj** Grudziądz, Polska

Lat życia 83

Adres cmentarza Londyn

Źródła: Tydzień Polski nr 41 (9.10.2020)
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Zawód nauczycielka **Tytuły naukowe** .....

Rodzaj wojska ..... **Stopień wojskowy** .....

Odznaczenia .....

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Tydzień Polski Nr 41
3-11 October 2020 (32 i 9)

Ś.P.

MARIA JASIEWICZ

z domu Bronakowska

Urodzona 5 stycznia 1937 r. w Bronakach, Gmina Jedwabne,
zmarła 27 września 2020 r. w Grudziądzu.

Pochowana w Londynie.

Żegnają w głębokim smutku
Córki: Agnieszka, Ilona i Ewa
Wnuki: Leon, Halina i Emil



Other lives

Maria Jasiewicz obituary

Ilona Jasiewicz

Wed 16 Dec 2020 11.00 GMT

My mother, Maria Jasiewicz, has died aged 83 from complications related to Covid-19.

Her early experiences of war, occupation, poverty and the Holocaust informed her worldview and principles. At an early age she lost three siblings: Halina, 12, to typhus (caught while being forced to dig trenches for the German army), Zenon in a traffic accident and Marian due to illness. Her remaining siblings, Edek and Janina, lived to adulthood but also predeceased her.

Maria was born in her ancestral village, Bronaki Olki, near Łomża in north-eastern Poland, where her parents, Wacław Bronakowski and Stefania (nee Dąbrowska), owned farmland. She passed entrance exams for a school in Łomża but was denied a place as her parents were landowners, and instead went to board at a liceum in Jelenia Góra, on the other side of Poland.

Maria studied pedagogy at Gdańsk University (1960-63) then worked for many years as an educator at boarding schools in Kościelec and Pruszcz Gdański. It was in Pruszcz in 1970 that she met our father, Juliusz Jasiewicz, a gulag survivor and

veteran of Anders' army (the informal name for the Polish armed forces in the east comprised primarily of liberated PoWs) who settled in London after the war. The communist regime took an interest in their relationship; their letters were intercepted and informers spied on Maria.

She moved to London in 1972 and my parents were married in Merton register office in London the same year - devout Catholics, they weren't able to marry in church as Juliusz's first marriage had ended in divorce. They settled in Wimbledon, and Maria took evening classes in English. She worked as a teacher at the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Polish Saturday school in Putney, preparing students for their GCSE Polish exams, and becoming a valued member of the community both at the school and in the church parish. When Juliusz suffered a heart attack in 1986 and was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1993, Maria became his primary carer.

Maria loved cooking and baking, and was an expert mushroom-picker - having grown up in the Podlasie region of Poland, she could identify birds, plants, herbs and trees. The natural world was a map she knew well. I have memories of picking wild mushrooms on Wimbledon Common and sorrel in the adjoining Cannizaro Park.

Despite illness and mobility issues, she kept a small flat in Gdańsk and visited her family there when her health allowed. A vivacious, curious person, she had many dear friends and loved spending time with her daughters and grandchildren. She became ill with Covid while on holiday in Poland.

Juliusz died in 2001. Maria is survived by her daughters, Agnieszka, Ewa and me, and her grandchildren, Leon, Halina and Emil.