

Gustavo Marchini

By Ken South

The government of Arturo Illia, democratically elected in 1963, faced growing political opposition. As a result, the Armed Forces carried out a coup d'état that overthrew Illia in 1966 and began the *Argentine Revolution*. This government lasted from 1966 to 1973, led by General Juan Carlos Onganía.

Also, in 1969, on March 11th, in the midst of this political atmosphere, Mr. March was born in Buenos Aires, the middle of three siblings. He attended Lincoln Hall School, a British private school, where he learnt English and had an international Baccalaureate.

Mr. M found his passion for sports and music at a young age. He enrolled in several sports, representing his club Riverplate, where he started playing in the lower divisions of the club. He also became the school's DJ at 11, playing at parties, and serving as the school's "AV" tech during school life.

Soon secondary school life ended, and his parents were intrigued as Mum said, "Those hobbies cannot take you anywhere". So, at 18, he enrolled at the University of Buenos Aires to study Architecture during the evening, while working as an English teacher during the day.

Sexual life for Mr. March had been very confusing since he was a teenager, as he was always drawn to older men. Leading a bisexual life, as men stated "You stayed with the girl, and you play with the boys" which was very much of a Latin culture of those days.

So, soon after he graduated, at 25, he made the big decision to end his relationship of 11 years with his girlfriend and move to Australia, as his soccer abilities led him to coach and play for a professional team in Sydney, where he lived for a year and a half.

Mr. M aged 27 then, was then drawn to Europe, and travelled for six months before meeting his first life partner, an Irishman, Daniel, 32 years his senior. He was a musician, social worker and also a psychotherapist. The couple enjoyed six lovely years together living in London until Daniel passed away at the age of 67. For part of that time, Mr. M was part of the first class of employees to work at the London Eye Ferris wheel as well as resuming his work as an architect.

Mr. M returned to his love of amateur football (soccer) in London, but now with Gay football team leagues. With his team, named Stonewall FC, he won championships around the world, European competitions, and gay games.

In 2005, Mr. M aged 36, met his second partner, David, 43 years his senior. Mr. M describes David as a "Proud British"; born the same year as Queen, He volunteered to enroll on the Royal Navy during IIWW. In 2007 the couple had a civil partnership and for 14 years the couple enjoyed their London home and travelled extensively. David passed on in 2019 aged 93.

On one of their cruises, in 2016, Mr. M became acquainted with Jim, an American who used to work as an Inspector General for the US Army. They started a friendship and visited one another in London and in Florida from 2016-2018. Following David's passing, Jim and Mr. M became partners. Due to the 2020 virus, Mr. M brought Jim to live in London, where the couple got married. In Nov 2023 they departed the UK and moved to FTL. Jim is Mr. M's senior by 39 years.

Mr. M can be found almost any Tuesday eve at the mixer at Tropics.

