

## VareseNews

### 9-year-old girl died in her bed; the whole town in tears

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**Ponte Tresa is an anguished and speechless town.** The cause of the sorrow has been the **sudden death of a 9-year-old girl, Martina Gambalunga, found lifeless in her bed** yesterday, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May. The child went to sleep like every evening and her parents found her lifeless the following morning: they immediately called the hospital, there was an attempted resuscitation and the transport to Circolo hospital in Varese, but everything was useless. **Martina, who would have turned 10 in September, arrived at the hospital already dead.**

Her parents, her father is a decorator and her mother is the owner of a laundry, couldn't do anything else than become aware of the tragedy. On the 1<sup>st</sup> May, but also today, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>, the whole town has been in tears for the child's sudden death: her family is well-known in Ponte Tresa (in the picture). **Many people showed solidarity, starting from the mayor Pietro Roncoroni:** "A terrible, split-second, sudden misfortune that struck all of us" he explains "The community is dismayed: they are very good people, well-known, who have been living in Ponte Tresa for ages. There are no words left, I can only express to them my solidarity."

This morning, when **Martina's school** reopened, on her desk there was a little angel, brought in by her parents. **The teachers of the Educandato Maria Santissima Bambina, in Brissago Valtravaglia, tried to explain what had happened to the school pupils:** "We told them that Martina went on a journey" commented on this **Sister Andreina, principal of the School** -"The children brought flowers and wrote letters dedicated to their classmate. It was a sudden event that struck all of us in a very strong, violent way. **Martina was a serene, radiant, affectionate child.** One of her classmates, who is a live wire, this morning told me that she helped him to be quieter. Her mum and dad brought here a small angel: we like remembering her like this."

The **child's body was taken to the morgue. The autopsy will clarify the causes of a death that occurred for natural events, which up to now have been unknown.** The little child was fine and she has never given signals that could make her parents think of health problems. **Martina's parents, instead of canonical wreaths, asked to the school and to classmates' families of the child to organise a collection:** in short time they will illustrate the terms for the fund-raising.

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