



Charles Bernard Nero

July 4, 2020

Charles Bernard (“Brother,” “Mon,” and “Chief”) Nero transitioned into eternal life on July 4, 2020 at the age of 96. He was the son of the late Jake Nero and Octavia Shelmire Nero. He was predeceased by his sisters Ethel and Helen, and his brother Clarence. He was the faithful, loving husband to the late Mary Bumpus Nero for nearly 62 years. Brother Nero is survived by his son Dr. Charles I. Nero, son-in-law Dr. Baltasar Fra-Molinero; grandsons Carlos and Bernardo; beloved goddaughter Cheniere Rene Douglas Thomas; a host of cherished nieces and nephews, grand-nieces and nephews, kinfolk, and friends. Born in 1924, in the small town of Clinton, Louisiana, at an early age after the tragic death of his father, his family migrated to New Orleans in the midst of the Great Depression. Despite the obstacles of intense poverty, soul-crushing racism, and the death of his youngest sister who was killed by a speeding car, he and his family persevered. He was raised in a Christian environment. As a child he attended Philips Memorial Methodist Church. He and his wife became lifelong members of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, first at Garner Memorial (1954-1961) in Decatur, Alabama and at Calvary Tabernacle (1961-2020) in New Orleans where he served as a member of the choir, the financial secretary, and president of the Steward Board. Education played an important role in Brother Nero’s life. He was a proud graduate of the then newly built Booker T. Washington High School. He graduated from Alabama A&M University in 1951 with a BS in Social Studies and Physical Education. At Alabama A&M he was lauded as a singer and a

gifted athlete, earning letters in football and track. He earned an M. Ed from Southern University in Baton Rouge in 1972. He did further studies at Indiana State University, SUNO, Delgado, and Xavier University. His teaching career spanned over forty years including tenures at New Hope Elementary School near Huntsville, Alabama, at his beloved Ralph J. Bunche Junior High (later Bunche Village), and at Meisler Middle School. His community involvement is beyond measure. He was a member of the Jefferson Retired Teachers, Bunche village Civic Association, True Democrats, Board Member of the Jefferson Parish Council on Aging, the Congress of National Black Churches, the Alumni Association of Alabama A&M University, and the Lafon Nursing Home Auxiliary. A tenor, gifted with the "voice of a bird" some said, he performed at countless weddings, funerals, religious and civic functions. Brother Nero was a member of Mt. Olive Lodge #21 and Eureka Consistory #7 and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. We express deep gratitude to Rev. Duane Hill, Sr., Rev. and Mrs. David Hoey, Kathy Franks, sister-in-law Ruby B. Nero, Cheryl Monroe, Karl Nero, Charles L. Bumpus, Wylodene Bumpus Cooper, the Bunche Village community, an exceptional team of caregivers, and the unceasing love and visits to daddy from our Baton Rouge kinfolk shepherded by our dear Evelyn Nero Lee (and her children and siblings). Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend a Visitation Only from 9:00 am to 10:00 am at D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Avenue on Saturday, July 18, 2020. Due to COVID-19, attendance is limited and please follow social distancing guidelines; also, a mask is required to attend service. Interment: Providence Park Cemetery. . Arrangements by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, New Orleans, LA.

Cemetery Details

Providence Park Cemetery

8200 Airline Dr.
Metairie, LA 70003

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 18. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Rhodes Funeral Home - Washington Avenue
3933 Washington Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70125
(504) 822-7162
<https://www.rhodesfuneral.com>

Tribute Wall

DM

“ *Doris Wells Mullen lit a candle in memory of Charles Bernard Nero*



Doris Wells Mullen - July 19, 2020 at 01:41 AM

VB

“ *Gone home to be with the Lord, But Never will be Forgotten here on Earth. I Love You Uncle Nero.(R.I.H) Rejoice In Heaven, Singing in the Heavenly Choir (How Great Thy Art) Love You Always Uncle Nero. your Niece Venesha Bumpus.*



Venesha Bumpus - July 18, 2020 at 01:49 PM

VB

“ *Venesha Bumpus lit a candle in memory of Charles Bernard Nero*



Venesha Bumpus - July 18, 2020 at 01:30 PM

ML

“ *Myrnal Lowe lit a candle in memory of Charles Bernard Nero*



Myrnal Lowe - July 18, 2020 at 09:15 AM

SG

“ *Charles Bernard Nero was such an awesome man with such a beautiful soul..... #JDMMiddleSchool*



Sherrie Grindle - July 18, 2020 at 03:36 AM

DJ

“ *Debra Johnson lit a candle in memory of Charles Bernard Nero*



Debra Johnson - July 17, 2020 at 11:59 PM

CR

“ *Cedric Lebranch Red lit a candle in memory of Charles Bernard Nero*



Cedric Lebranch Red - July 17, 2020 at 11:58 PM

AV

“ *Mister Nero was my and my husband teacher when he was at New Hope Coach the boys basket ball team. My heart goes out to the family.*

Annie L. Verge - July 17, 2020 at 10:50 PM

FG

“ *Uncle Nero you will be truly miss and your great niece Felicia Gaiter loves you so much*

Felicia Gaiter - July 17, 2020 at 07:56 PM

AM

“ *Mr. Nero was one of the kindest people I have ever known. He was a admired by both students and teachers. I frequently think of him singing “Danny Boy” at the talent show. He will be missed.*

Adele Mangipano - July 17, 2020 at 07:52 PM

AM

“ *Adele Mangipano lit a candle in memory of Charles Bernard Nero*



Adele Mangipano - July 17, 2020 at 07:45 PM