



Edgar Lawrence Chase III

February 21, 2024

Edgar Lawrence “Dooky” Chase III was born the only son of Edgar L. “Dooky” Chase Jr. and Leah Lange Chase on May 10, 1949 in New Orleans. He passed away on February 21, 2024, with his loving wife Alva by his side and surrounded by his family.

Growing up in the vibrant Treme neighborhood, Dooky was surrounded by his three sisters, Emily, Stella and Leah. Raised in a household rooted in faith and community service, Dooky was instilled with a sense of responsibility from a young age. His family's renowned establishment, Dooky Chase's Restaurant, was not just a business but a symbol of unity and tradition for the community, and beyond.

Given the nickname “The Prince” by his mother and sisters, Dooky was both celebrated and entrusted with the duty to always stand up for what is right. Guided by the values instilled in him by his family, he dedicated his life to serving others and making positive impacts on the world.

From a young age, Dooky displayed a deep-rooted dedication to social progress. In the 1960s, he actively participated in voter registration initiatives with the NAACP's Youth Committee. A trailblazer in integration, Dooky was part of the first integrated class at Jesuit High School, graduating in 1967. He continued his academic journey at Loyola University New Orleans, where he made history by becoming the first African American Class President. His

pursuit of knowledge led him to Columbia University, where he earned a Master of Business Administration, followed by a return to Loyola for law school.

Dooky's commitment to service extended to his military service as a Captain in the Marine Corps, and later, to his successful career at Price Waterhouse & Company and Cox Communication. His passion for education and leadership shone brightly during his tenure as the Dean of the Business School at Dillard University, where he dedicated over 20 years to shaping young minds and assuming various faculty and administrative roles. Testimony to Dooky's value as a thought leader was that after his retirement, he was asked by the University to return to manage its rebuilding as Vice President of Facilities.

Amidst his many accomplishments, Dooky's greatest source of pride and joy was his enduring love and unwavering commitment to his wife, Alva Jean. Married on December 23, 1973, they recently celebrated 50 years of marriage, a testament to their deep bond and shared journey through life's triumphs and challenges.

In 1975, Dooky and Alva were overjoyed to welcome twins, Travis and Trevor, into their lives, followed by the arrival of Edgar "Dook" IV in 1982. All three sons went on to pursue their education at Dillard University. As they started families of their own, Dooky embraced his role as a grandfather with open arms.

Upon the birth of his first grandchild, Caitlin, Dooky's title transformed to "Big Daddy," a name that would resonate with all his grandchildren, including Ava, Zoë, Lil' Trevor, Sidney, and Vito, along with their parents. Big Daddy's heart overflowed with love for his family and an appreciation for life's simple pleasures - indulging in all things chocolate, maintaining spotless walls, relaxing in his cherished leather recliner, staying active through biking and walking, tidying up around the restaurant, and savoring his daily morning ritual

of coffee and fruit with Granny.

An avid reader, Dooky was enthralled with historical research, and storytelling. He was also a deeply spiritual, devout Catholic; often reflecting on the role his faith played in his philosophical commitments, and perspective on all aspects of life. If you were one of the lucky ones, you were able to get a glimpse of the book he was working on – “Running on Raindrops”, a trilogy of historical fiction. His other works in progress included event planning for the Chase Family Foundations’ annual Juneteenth celebration and fundraising events, and project management of the restaurant’s Upper Room renovations.

Edgar served numerous boards, commissions and councils in his lifetime; some of the most recent include, the Chase Family Foundation, the Anti-Defamation League, New Orleans Public Radio (WNOE), Touro Hospital, The New Orleans Culinary and Hospitality Institute (NOCHI), Metropolitan Crime Commission, Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Louisiana, Inc., The New Orleans Opera Association, City of New Orleans Municipal Employees Retirement System, the New Orleans Botanical Gardens, the Bureau of Governmental Research, the Loyola University Board of Trustees, the City Park Improvement Association, Inc., the New Orleans Public Belt Railroad, the Board of Trustees of Our Lady of Holy Cross College, the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, New Orleans Museum of Art, the Millennium Port Authority of Louisiana, the State Board of Economic Development, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The Ambassador of the ideals of Liberty and Love, Dooky joyfully gave of his talents to be of service to others. He delightedly looked forward to the possibilities that each day brought, the prospect of a new project, the chance to meet a new friend, the opportunity to share in the celebration of others and the ability to show his gratefulness.

Edgar was preceded in death by his parents, Edgar "Dooky" L. Chase, Jr. and Leyah "Leah" Lange Chase, his sister Emily Chase Haydel, brothers-in-law Wayne Reese Sr. and Gary Darensbourg.

Edgar leaves behind a legacy through his loving spouse, Alva Jean Darensbourg Chase. His sons Travis Chase and Trevor Chase, Edgar "Dook" Chase IV. Grandchildren: Caitlin and Zoe Chase; Ava and Trevor Chase Jr.; and Sidney Chase and Edgar "Vito" L. Chase V. Daughter-in-law, Gretchen Fauria Chase, as well as former daughters-in-law, Chastity Haydel Chase and Minaxi Desai Chase.

His sisters Stella Chase Reese and Leah Chase Kamata. Brother-in-law James V. Haydel Jr., Brother and Sister-in-law Glenda and James "Jimmy" Llorens, and Sister-in-law Phyllis Darensburg and a host of nieces and nephews from the Haydel, Reese, Kamata, Darensbourg and Llorens families.

Relatives and friends of the family, Staff and friends of Dooky Chase Restaurant, Chapter IV, Members of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity Alpha Alpha Member Boule, The Bunch Club, and The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, Dillard University, The Music Community, also Priest and Parishioners of St. Peter Claver, Our Lady of the Rosary, Transfiguration and all neighboring churches are invited to attend a Visitation at 8:00am-11:00am on Thursday, February 29th, 2024 at St. Peter Clevar Catholic Church, 1923 St. Philip St. NOLA. Funeral Mass begins at 11:30 AM. Interment: St. Louis #3 Cemetery NOLA. Arrangement by D. W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Ave. Please visit www.rhodesfuneral.com to sign the online guestbook.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to the The Edgar "Dooky" Jr and Leah Chase Family Foundation in Edgar "Dooky" Chase III's honor. P.O. Box 791313 New Orleans, LA 70179 www.dookychasefoundation.org

Cemetery Details

St. Louis #3 Cemetery

3421 Esplanade Ave
New Orleans, LA 70119

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **29**. 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter Claver Catholic Church
1923 St. Philip St.
New Orleans, LA 70116

Funeral Mass

FEB **29**. 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Peter Claver Catholic Church
1923 St. Philip St.
New Orleans, LA 70116

Tribute Wall

MC

“ On behalf of the entire COX Family, organization and corporation we wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family. Mr. Chase was truly one in 1 billion! A genius with a heart of gold. I honestly thought someday he would ascend to the highest levels of Political office.

Mark W Cox - March 07, 2024 at 06:03 AM

GB

“ Dear Alva and Family,
We are so sorry for your loss. May God continue to strengthen you and give you peace during this time and always.

Kenneth and Gilda Boyd

Gilda Boyd - March 06, 2024 at 07:17 AM

DD

“ With our deepest sympathies and prayers for Alva and the entire family!

Darrell and Janice Dupuy

Darrell Dupuy - March 01, 2024 at 08:30 PM

SR

“ Attorney and Accountant are both competitive and extremely busy jobs. Again you are an icon that will never be forgotten. I remember hearing a High School classmate speak about how awesome you were in the Dillard University Business Department. Several years ago I remember my father the late Calvin De La Rose, Sr. providing support with transportation before or after school for your son Edgar Chase, IV now aka "Dook" and my brother Calvin Jr. May your soul rest in peace. “Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.”- Matthew 5:4



Shayla De La Rose - March 01, 2024 at 12:39 AM

JM

“ Joyce Mixon is sharing her deepest condolences to the family of Edgar Lawrence Chase III. -Delaware North

Joyce Mixon - February 29, 2024 at 07:11 PM

JG

“ Out hearts go out to you and your family. We are deeply sorry about the loss of Edgar (Dooky). As you grieve know that we are remembering and honoring home. We will remember him in many positive ways - always with a big smile.

James and Ernestine Gray

James and Ernestine Gray - February 29, 2024 at 11:26 AM

DG

“ Deborah & Cary Grant send heartfelt condolences to the Chase family & extended family. Please know that we are praying for you AND with you during this challenging time...

Deb & Cary Grant - February 29, 2024 at 10:53 AM

CB

“ To the Chase family, you have my deepest condolences. Mr. Chase was always a pleasant and kind gentleman. A few years ago, at a small function, he told me how delicious one of my desserts was. I'm sure it was something chocolate. God always knows when to call His precious children home. His spirit will always be with all of you. God Bless.



C.A. Brown - February 29, 2024 at 09:47 AM

CB

“ Because of when I worked for Dutch Morial, I always knew him as Lil' Dooky, and so I continued to call him that whenever we met because that is what Dutch called him. I had lied about my age to get the job at City Hall, where I eventually became Dutch's Press Secretary, but Dooky always treated me with respect despite my age at the time. He was only a decade older than me, but his kindness and attitude meant so much to me at the time, and I continued to count him as one of my favorite business leaders throughout my life. I am saddened to learn of his passing and respect your wishes to keep attendance today limited to those nearest to him and the family. I will miss him greatly.

cheron brylski - February 29, 2024 at 09:20 AM

RA

“ Our deepest sympathy for your loss. May your love and memories for this great man keep your families strong.
Be Strong in Your Faith! God's Blessings
R.Paul Aubert and family

Randy Paul Aubert - February 29, 2024 at 09:14 AM

LL

“ Farewell Fellow Blue Jay!
Leo Lay, Jr. - Class'67

Leo Lay - February 29, 2024 at 12:02 AM

TF

“ Our Condolences & Prayers to The Chase Family for your Great Loss, Husband, Dad, & the entire Chase, Haydel & Reese Family. He will be missed by all who knew him. May he RIP! Hold onto all those great memories of your loved one. Love The Staes Family

The Staes Family. - February 28, 2024 at 10:40 PM

DH

“ Deepest sympathy to the entire Dooky Chase family. Lil' Dooky, as we first called him when he was very young, will always be remembered for his sincere beautiful smile and his dedication to work and service in his beloved city New Orleans. RIP
Dr. Brenda Garibaldi Hatfield, PhD
Gonzales, Louisiana

Dr. Brenda Garibaldi Hatfield - February 28, 2024 at 02:56 PM

KF

“ I was pleased and honored to work with and share Deanship roles with Dr. Chase at Dillard University! He was a thoughtful, knowledgeable, and generous leader! My thoughts, prayers, and uplift are with the family!
Kassie Freeman



Kassie Freeman - February 27, 2024 at 11:24 PM

AA

“ We are planting a grove of three beautiful trees to honor our cousin Dooky’s extraordinary life and loving smile. Love always, cousins Alva, Little Eula, and Amina

Alva, Little Eula, and Amina - February 27, 2024 at 06:11 PM

AT

“ Alva T. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Edgar Lawrence Chase III.

Alva T. - February 27, 2024 at 06:08 PM

CD

“ I had the pleasure of meeting and shaking this gentlemans hand when I visited their restaurant for the very first time. He was so kind and welcoming. May he rest in eternal peace. Sending my sincerest condolences to his family.

Cassandra Doyle - February 27, 2024 at 01:21 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Edgar Lawrence Chase III.



February 26, 2024 at 10:20 PM

JW

“ Judith Dangerfield and Trevor Williams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Edgar Lawrence Chase III.

Judith Dangerfield and Trevor Williams - February 26, 2024 at 10:20 PM

TD

“ *The Saizan family sends its deepest condolences to the Chase family. May the memories of Edgar bring you joy. Mardi Gras on Orleans was/is the best. Edgar’s smile will be missed.*

Toki, Sandra, & Dianne - February 26, 2024 at 02:45 PM

YN

“ *Your friends at Delaware North planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Edgar Lawrence Chase III.*

Your friends at Delaware North - February 26, 2024 at 01:29 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Edgar Lawrence Chase III.*



February 26, 2024 at 01:29 PM

PL

“ *My heartfelt condolences are sent to Alva Jean and family as Dooky Chase III lived the example for young and old alike. Devoted to Alva Jean, family and community and who made a difference to NOLA. I am so glad that I had the opportunity to meet Dooky through Alva Jean on several occasions and mostly for his service to the Association of Government Accountants, a professional local chapter. “When Great Trees Fall” by Maya Angelou is truly Dooky’s legacy. Love, Peggy*

Peggy Lofton - February 26, 2024 at 10:34 AM

GD

“ We want to share with your family our prayers in this great time of need. Your husband and father will be greatly missed. Gerald & Phyllis

Gerald & Phyllis Darensbourg - February 26, 2024 at 09:34 AM

GC

“ Gloria Coleman-Brown lit a candle in memory of Edgar Chase



Gloria A Coleman-Brown - February 26, 2024 at 04:25 AM

JI

“ Please accept my deepest condolences to the family of Edgar Lawrence Chase III.
Joseph E. Burns III

Joseph Edward Burns III - February 25, 2024 at 08:13 PM

EA

“ Eugenia Adams lit a candle in memory of Edgar Chase



Eugenia Foster Adams - February 25, 2024 at 03:21 PM

EA

“Alva and family... "Death leave a heartache no one can heal. Love leave memories no one can steal." May the memories of your loved one and God love comfort you and mend your wounded heart.
God's love and peace,
Eugenia

Eugenia Foster Adams - February 25, 2024 at 03:20 PM

AB

“My condolences to the entire Chase family.

Anthony Barthelemy - February 25, 2024 at 12:40 PM

MH

“May God bless your family in this time of sorrow.

Myra Haydel and family



Myra Haydel - February 25, 2024 at 10:19 AM

MR

“Condolences to the Chase Family.

Maryam Raof - February 25, 2024 at 06:09 AM