



## Joseph "Joe" Sumter Sr.

April 7, 2020

Our charismatic and beloved Joseph "Joe" Sumter Sr. entered into eternal rest on

Tuesday, April 7, 2020 in Ochsner Hospital from complication from the COVID-19. Joe was born October 16, 1940 in Charleston, South Carolina. He was raised in a God- Fearing Home by his mother the late Mattie Mae Jefferson, the late Everette Jefferson(stepfather) and the late Emma Mallory Sumter(grandmother) all are greeting him today at the Pearly Gates of Heaven. Joe was the oldest of six siblings

Joe was educated by the South Carolina Public School System and upon his completion and for a better future, he enlisted in the US Army at Fort Jackson, S.C. After servicing his time and given an Honorary Discharge, he moved to the District of Columbia with his biological father and his family. Joe being an achiever landed the job of his dream. He was employed by the US Government Printing Office as a professional printer. There he married Gertrude Haskins and they raised five children, eventually the marriage came to an end.

Joe adventurous spirit returned him to South Carolina where he worked at South Carolina Navy Base as a professional printer. In South Carolina he met his soulmate Leola Calvary vacationing from Brooklyn, N.Y. His charismatic personality lured her back to her hometown of South Carolina after months of persuasion. To fulfil their dream, they were married and located to New Orleans, La. In New Orleans they became biological parent of one child and

adopted parent to another. In New Orleans, Joe was employed and retired from the US Government Navy Port of Embarkation as a professional printer. Joe the entrepreneur “The Record Man” met and was inspired by the proprietor of Eddie Three Way Record Shop to create a family business. Joe and his soulmate Leola opened their first business. Joe’s Record & Sweet Shop in Harvey, La. They employed family members and local residences. The business ran for over 10 years. During that time Joe worked at various print shop and attended Straight Business College for evening classes. After the closing of Joe’s Record & Sweet Shop a new business emerged Crescent City Medical Transportation which also ran for several years. This business was well managed with an office manager and two drivers who embraced their passengers with love. Joe had a selfless soul and someone who was involved in the enrichment of his community. He was the coach for the football little league team at the local playground and was the neighborhood children mentor. Joe the family provider for several years worked at Southeastern Louisiana Blood Center where he remained until Hurricane Katrina ripped New Orleans apart. Joe generous love and affection for other befriended several young adult employees of the center and to them he became their “Papa Joe”. For the love of people Joe began driving for Uber and Lyft shared drive and with his loving personality, he embraced everyone with love.

Joe was a praying warrior and a faithful member of Second Zion Baptist Church of Marrero, taught and lead by Pastor James N. Brown. Joe was a member of the Pride of Algiers Lodge #102. For over 30 years Joe has been an active member of the Zulu Aid & Social Club until the angel took him home. He served faithfully on several committees. In 2004, he was elected Mayor of Zululand and selected his soulmate Leola as his First Lady. That reign brought a cheerful heart to him as well as his krewe riders. Again, Joe embraced another establishment Progressive Printing Services for which he became a printer for the Zulu organization, The Jug Social club (Krewe of NOMTOC) and Warren Easton Charter High School (Winter Formal Cotillion) to name a

few. Joseph Sumter, the dreamer, legacy will never be forgiven.

He leaves to cherished his memory his soulmate of many years Leola Calvary Sumter; two daughters, Janice Coatney (Thurmon); two grandchildren Devin and Destiny Coatney; and Donna J. McManus; two grandchildren; Quincy and Shanequa Manigault and one great grandson. Five sons: Jonathan O. Sumter (Timolyn), two granddaughters: Janae and Jaxon Sumter. Glen Leon Sumter (Gladys); the late Joseph Perry Sumter Jr, the late Anthony Sumter (Brenda), the late granddaughter Tranae Sumter and step granddaughter Shanae A. Singleton (Andrew) and three grandchildren; the late Alphonso Sumter, and entrusted father to Alvin S. Calvary and Asia C. Trim. Three sisters, Veronica Jenkins, Emily J. Duggins and the late Frances Penney; five brothers: Everett Jefferson Jr. (the late Georgianna), Clarence Jefferson (the late Ella), Silas Jefferson (Jenell), Kenneth Jefferson and the late James Bernard Jefferson (Sadie). He was a loving protective-warrior, solid rock, to his children his grandchildren nieces and nephews. His fondness farewell to his dearest aunt Annabell "Lil" Shands, families, friends and those that knew and loved him. Joe's favorite scripture was Psalm 23 The Lord is my Shepherd and now he's with his loving shepherd. Our love for Joe is endless and he will be missed, farewell to our Mr. Joe, Papa Joe, Papa, The Record Man and just Joe.

Arrangements by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Avenue.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Deepest love and prayer to family of Joe Sumter. We were next door neighbors of daughter Janice Coatney and family for many years. We know how devastating this loss is to family. May God bless and provide comfort to all. Julia Jones, Monique Davis, Grant Henry, Brice Davis. Now in Bossier City*

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**Julia Jones** - May 08, 2020 at 07:04 PM