



Lolis Edward Elie

April 4, 2017

Lolis Edward Elie departed this life on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at the age of 87. Son of Theophile Jones Elie and Elizabeth Elie; father of Dr. Migel Elizabeth Elie and Lolis Eric Elie; brother of Carol Elie, Patricia Elie; and the late Doris Elie Richardson, Floyd Elie, Freddie Elie, T. J. Elie, Jr., Joyce Elie Verrett, Caston Elie. Godfather of Suzan Richardson, Avis Joseph, Donald Butler and Dr. Christian Fauria Robinson. He is also survived by three grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Relatives and friends of the family, pastors, officers and members of Louis A. Martinet Society, Broadway Mission Baptist Church, Writers Guild of America, First Street Peck Wesley United Methodist Church, Christian Unity Baptist Church, Bethany United Methodist Church, First Unitarian Universalist Church, St. Augustine Catholic Church, Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, also employees of Censeo Health, LLC of Dallas, TX, members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Louis Armstrong Jazz Camp and N.O. Jazz & Heritage Fest and Foundation Inc. are invited to attend a public visitation at D.W. Rhodes Chapel, 3933 Washington Ave. on Friday, April 7, 2017 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2017 at St. Augustine Church, 1210 Gov. Nicholls Street at 10:30 am. Visitation will begin at 8:30 am. Reflections will begin at 9:45am. A Jazz Funeral will follow. Interment: St. Mary Cemetery. Arrangements by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Ave. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Louis

Armstrong Jazz Camp (louisarmstrongjazzcamp.com) or Children of Haiti Enhancement Foundation (cohef.org).

Tribute Wall

SH

“ *My sympathy and condolences to family. You are in my prayers and thoughts. Lolis was the first person to see my potential and offered me the chance to work with him in the legal field without any prior knowledge of same. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity this act afforded me throughout my career. He was the greatest.*

Sarah A Haskins - April 08, 2017 at 06:26 PM

LG

“ *It is hard to remeber that I am one of the last members of the Adams Family who were neighbors of the Elie Family on Alvin Calendar Street. My oldest memories of Llolis were those of a young man who was studying to be a lawyer. I sat on Alvin Calendar on Thursday with tears in my eyes and saw all those faces from so very long ago. Eric and Miguel, you are in my thoughts and prayers.*



Louella P. Givens - April 08, 2017 at 11:18 AM

KT

“ *In memorium, the great griot of Storyville. Deep respects go out to our family friend and mentor. And our condolences to the immediate and extended family, to whom he was priest, prophet, and pal. Lolis was one of the very few truly wise people I've ever actually known and I'll ever and forever be honored by the privilege it was to be his friend. Peace out Big Chief. The Lawd's going to have some fun tonight.*

Kurt Thometz - April 08, 2017 at 08:57 AM

LB

“ Lynn Buggage lit a candle in memory of Lolis Edward Elie



Lynn Buggage - April 08, 2017 at 07:55 AM

LH

“ Lolis taught me so many things, expanding my horizons, making me aware (in the 70's) of white privilege and the divide between the super rich and the rest of us. He never seemed to lose patience with my ignorance and confusion. His generous actions saved my husband and possibly our family. Our son, Elie, was named after Lolis to honor him and his wisdom. Always loved. Never forgotten.
Lee Hoffman

Lee Hoffman - April 07, 2017 at 10:06 PM

AS

“ RIP, Mr.. E, a life well lived. Thank you for your kindness and wisdom. Attorney Anthony J. Stewart.

Attorney Anthony J. Stewart - April 07, 2017 at 07:50 AM

 Marita
Rivero

“ *Lolis came into my life through music. WWOZ was a community radio station as was WPFW-Pacific FM in Washington, DC, a jazz station I managed. The then New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation director, Tom Dent, found us and created a shared history based on our large volunteer staffs, on the growing pains we both moved through and our deep love and respect for culture and the music. Lolis, whose service on the NOJH Foundation Board and friendship with Tom were noteworthy, kindly extended himself to me and supported the vision of a radio partnership.*

Earlier, Wynton and Branford had made WPFW a key stop on their tours in the early-mid 1980s. The DC station's extension to 'OZ and the NOJHF seemed natural. Later joined by WGBH-Boston--which I later managed--we were absorbed by many in New Orleans as sister stations, committed colleagues on behalf of media and the art form, and as friends. New Orleans had much to teach as it does now and Lolis was a master, if I may borrow from our South Africans friends, a madiba.

Lolis became a touchstone for me, and our infrequent but steady calls or visits stretched through these decades. His son and others near him became part of my life's tale.

Lolis himself was a wonderful storyteller, a cultural archivist, a raconteur of New Orleans lore and American history. I like to think of him in the courtyard of his art-filled home, entertaining magnificently, night air full of its music--frogs loud among the ensemble, Lolis there at ease in a sterling life, frank in speech, humor-filled, and as always engaged in the world.

May he Rest In Peace. My condolences to his family and family of friends.

*Marita Rivero
Executive Director,
Museum of African American History, Boston and Nantucket*

Boston, MA

Marita Rivero - April 07, 2017 at 06:20 AM