



*Celebrating
the
Life of*

*Charles
Warren Magras, Sr.*

March 14, 1948 – April 4, 2007

Funeral Service

Thursday, April 12, 2007

Service: 1:00 p.m.

St. Anne's Chapel

St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Officiant

Rev. Dr. George Franklin

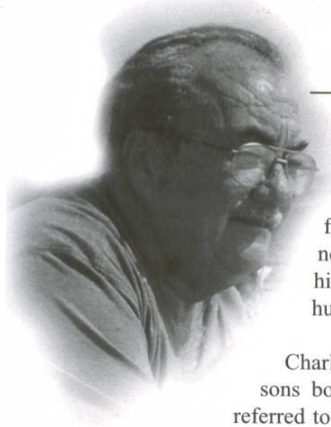
Sacristan: Clement Danet

Organist: Jean Greaux

Eulogy

Charles Warren Magras, Sr.

March 14, 1948 – April 4, 2007



Today, we gather here to celebrate the life of Charles Warren Magras, Sr, a patient and cheerful man who lived for his family and loved them unconditionally. Although he played no instruments – music fulfilled his life – if he wasn't singing his favorite song, there's no doubt he'd be heard whistling or humming it.

Charlie was born on March 14, 1948. He was the seventh of nine sons born to Louis Edward and Marie Annecia Magras and was referred to as "the lion" by his father. He was a 1967 graduate of Sts. Peter and Paul High School and would have celebrated his 40th anniversary of graduation with his classmates this year.

On March 9, 1971 he and Beverly were married and lived together for 36 years, always keeping family and the well being of the children their first priority. They raised three sons to become strong, responsible, respectable, productive members of society. This meant countless hours of homework, baseball, church activities and consistency in discipline. Charlie was proud of his family and it showed.

Charlie served his community in many capacities. In 1967, he joined a group of residents, led by a VISTA volunteer and took on the arduous task of raising funds to construct a Community Center. Most weekends were spent at food sales, dances and beach picnics to accumulate enough money for the foundation and then to raise the walls and roof of what is now The Frenchtown Community Center. If Charlie had one penny for each beer or johnnie cake he ever sold for this cause, he would have been a rich man. He not only provided the leadership, he did the physical work to accomplish the goal of providing a place of assembly, Senior Citizens center, bingo hall, study center, summer programs and dance hall for our residents and local organizations.

St. Anne's Choir was dear to his heart. It gave him an outlet to not only lead and conduct the choir but to express himself in song. His most recent production on Palm Sunday brought him highest praises from the parishioners as well as the clergy. It was his final occasion of glory!

Charlie and the Community Center partnered with "Partners for Health" some years ago when the call went out that our hospital was in desperate need of linens. In a matter of weeks they had raised enough funds to donate cases of sheet, pillow cases and blankets to replenish the hospital's supply.

As baseball was Charlie's middle name, he not only watched every Braves game aired on TBS,

The Lord is My Shepherd... The Lord is My Shepherd... The Lord is My Shepherd...

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under the auspices of FTCC, organized a team to enter the Frenchtown league and even won the championship several times. His boys and grandchildren have now inherited that same enthusiasm for sports - all are involved in baseball activities in the US.

Charlie loved politics and a microphone. As "Charlie Confused" he introduced and promoted many political candidates on the stomp - his favorites being his brother in law, Cain and his friend, Governor Cyril King. He was often encouraged to "throw in his hat" but always declined.

Charlie and American Airlines were synonymous. He loved his job, the airline industry and traveling to new places. He spent about 30 years with the airlines but did not wait until retirement to enjoy his travel benefits. Every summer the family traveled to various part of the world. Recently, because his sons and their families live in the US, he visited them as often as possible - several times per year.

It was traditional to have barbeques at Charlie's house if not camping at Maho Bay in St. John. "Chef Boy-a-Bee's" grill was always hot especially when we gathered to play dominos or poker. He cooked and ate with a passion; he tried new recipes on Bev and if she liked it (if there were leftovers) he shared with Aunt Julie, Uncle Butch, Tris and Marianne them.

Charlie, in more recent times, could be seen entertaining his grandchildren, taking care of his animal farm (chickens, fish, cats, dogs, birds and turtles), or his fruits (bananas, coconuts, mangos, mesples, plums, guavas), opening and closing Mr. Creole and looking after Julie and Butch. His retirement took him to a different arena but he still gave his all.

In a snippet, that was Dad. His funny stories and voice in the community will surely live on. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather, dedicated, warm and affectionate, a passionate and opinionated man, a hard worker, always jovial, "Captain Hot Water" (always busy), but always found the appropriate time to crack a joke or tell another funny story. There's an old saying that "if you need something done, ask a busy man because the others don't have any time." - That's why they came to Dad.

Dad, our family, the community and all of your many friends and customers will miss you and we vow to walk together with Mom and the rest of your family through this very difficult time and always.

There's a passage that I recently came across that reads, "Never be afraid that your life will end, be afraid that it will never begin." This one line alone sums up the short, but wonderful life Dad lived and the impact that he has left on us all.

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The Family Charlie Left Behind...

Wife

Beverly A. Magras

Sons

Charles W. Magras, Jr. / Chad B. Magras / Cory S. Magras

Daughters-In-Law

Line G. Magras / Decia A. Magras / Siobhan M. Magras

Brothers

Pastor Edward Magras / Gene "Jimmy" Magras / Harry L. Magras / Roy Kenny Magras

Sisters-In-Law

Jalma Magras / Dianne Magras / Florie Magras / Marianne Caraballo

Brothers-In-Law

Clement "Cain" Magras / Roberto Caraballo

Grandchildren

Adonis / Logan / Adonte / Charles III

Special Family and Friends

Elvina Aubain / Beatrice Greaux / Clement Aubin / Julie Aubin / Irene Richardson
Steve Magras / Jean Greaux / Lynette Quetel / Marie Magras / Joan Bennett-Williams
Donna Turbe Greaux / Red & Geraldine Bernier / Irene Quetel Greaux
Chris Laplace / The Homer Family
and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers

Charles Magras, Jr. / Chad Magras / Cory Magras / Greg Magras /
Jason Magras / Jonathon Sturgess / Steve Huggins / Philip DaCosta

Honorary Pallbearers

Pastor Edward Magras / Gene "Jimmy" Magras / Harry Magras / Roy Magras / Cain Magras
Roberto Caraballo / Clement Aubin / Gary Danet / Clement Danet