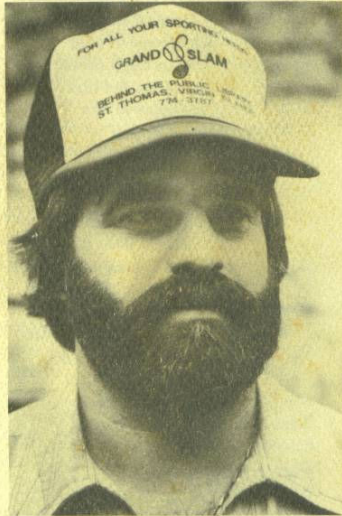




*In Loving Memory*



Gene Edmund "Butch" Cerge  
1949 - 1988

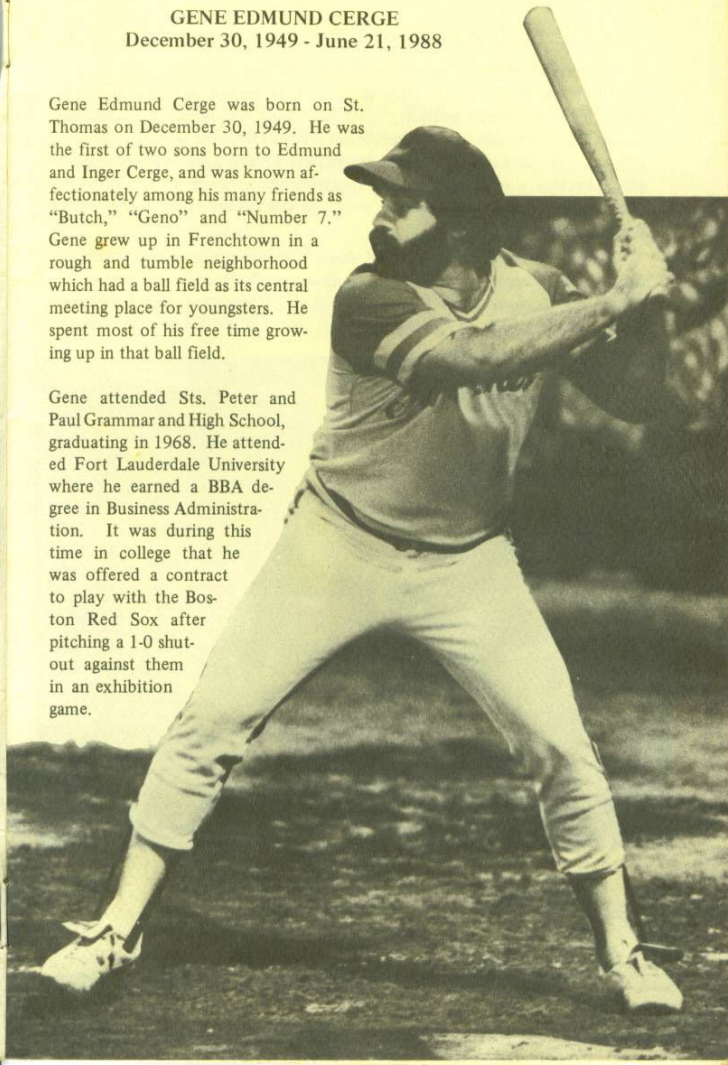
SERVICES  
Monday, June 27, 1988  
Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral  
10:00 am  
Interment at Western Cemetery

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**GENE EDMUND CERGE**  
December 30, 1949 - June 21, 1988

Gene Edmund Cerge was born on St. Thomas on December 30, 1949. He was the first of two sons born to Edmund and Inger Cerge, and was known affectionately among his many friends as "Butch," "Geno" and "Number 7." Gene grew up in Frenchtown in a rough and tumble neighborhood which had a ball field as its central meeting place for youngsters. He spent most of his free time growing up in that ball field.

Gene attended Sts. Peter and Paul Grammar and High School, graduating in 1968. He attended Fort Lauderdale University where he earned a BBA degree in Business Administration. It was during this time in college that he was offered a contract to play with the Boston Red Sox after pitching a 1-0 shut-out against them in an exhibition game.



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He married his high school sweetheart, Joelle Armand, and they had three children together: Shandra, Caeli and Derrick.

Upon his return to St. Thomas, Gene held various positions at Chase Bank, including credit analyst. He later joined the family business and managed La Caravelle at the Frenchman's Reef Hotel for several years. In 1980 he went on his own when he started Grand Slam, a sporting goods store which became a meeting place for sportsmen and women on St. Thomas. It was a highly successful venture which he was on the verge of expanding at the time of his passing.

During these years he involved himself in his community by serving as a board member of the following organizations: the Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Conservation Recreation Activity Committee, Boy Scouts of Mafolie, Rotary Club of Charlotte Amalie and Calypso Wings. He was the





program moderator for the most popular sports program in the territory, WSTA's "Sports Talk" on "Lucky Tutteen."

He will probably be best remembered as the president and team captain of the Cable TV Apaches softball team, player on the Bolero and Education Slow Pitch teams and the Jesters and Hawks Baseball Clubs. It is ironic to note that just last month his nomination by the governor to fill a vacancy on the Board of Elections had been ratified unanimously by the 17th Legislature.

His exploits as the "King of the Bands" endeared him to the members of the Gathering of Eagles Carnival Troupe and the community as a whole. He won seven titles – five of them in a row. A feat which will remain in Carnival record books for years to come.

But his greatest contribution to our society was the first commitment he made to make this place a better one for all of us. He did this by utilizing his talents to the maximum, by giving all he had, by becoming a role model for those youth aspiring to a career in sports. He was truly the Pete Rose of the Virgin Islands. There is no doubt in anyone's mind that he was and is a shoo-in for induction into the Sports Hall of Fame.

This is how he lived – this is how he would like to be remembered.

### Survivors

MOTHER . . . Inger Cerge

BROTHER . . . Steve Cerge

WIFE . . . Joelle Cerge

DAUGHTERS . . . Shandra and Caeli Cerge

SON . . . Derrick Cerge

AUNTS . . . Juliana Greaux, Edna Delong,  
and Ruby Maxon

UNCLES . . . Anthony and Jean Cerge,  
Augustine Quetel, Axel and Julian Magras

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