

In Loving Memory



**Joseph Adolphus LaPlace**

*a.k.a "The Mighty Cha Cha"*

May 27, 1927 – February 10, 2004

**First Viewing**

Thursday, February 12, 2004

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

DAVIS FUNERAL HOME

**Second Viewing**

Friday, February 13, 2004

9:00 am – 10:00 am

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Mass**

10:00 am

Celebrant: Rev. Fr. Troy de Chabert-Schuster

Deacon: William Summer

Altar Server: Kevin LaPlace, II

**Burial at Sea**

Departing from Fish Hawk Marina

Survivors

Wife

Edna LaPlace

Children

Angela Bryan

Linda LaPlace

Debbie LaPlace (deceased)

Kevin LaPlace, Sr.

Sandra LaPlace

Julia Alsina

Grand Children

Eva Bryan Garcia

Joy Bryan-Silva

Jessica Martinezclark

Hannah Stansel

Kevin LaPlace, II

Great Grand Children

Fernando Silva Bryan

Sebastian Silva Bryan

Adam Rene Garcia

Brothers

Peter LaPlace

Paul LaPlace

John LaPlace

Sisters

Laura Brin

Alma Brin

Rita Bryan

Maria Berry

Many Other Relatives and Friends  
too numerous to mention

## Joseph Adolphus LaPlace

May 27, 1927 ~ February 10, 2004

My Grandmother Julie witnessed Charles Lindberg's plane swoop over St. Thomas in May 1927. Imagine her fright! She ran to the safety of her little house yelling "La fin du monde! La fin du monde!" (The end of the world! The end of the world!) A good scare made for a speedy delivery; she gave birth to Joseph Adolphus LaPlace soon after.

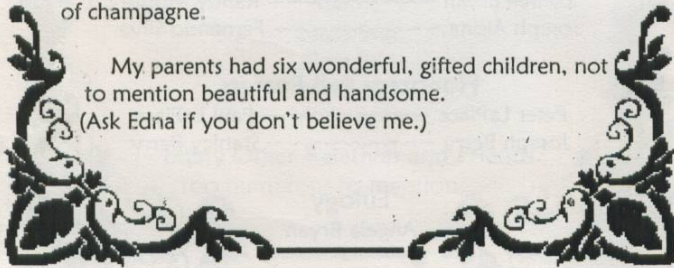
I don't think his childhood is anything we could relate to today. Everyday was hard times. His father, John Vitalis, better known as Tally, died in his early 40's leaving behind a wife and nine children.

In 1951, he was called to military duty to serve his country as a paratrooper in the Army. He was stationed in France and Germany. He credited the Army for the best education a man could receive.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 1953, he married Edna Lucinda Bryan at The Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Passaic, New Jersey. They were the Romeo and Juliet of Hull Bay – no joke!

They celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2003. He was in the hospital recovering from surgery and drinking "real pain killers" while his wife toasted their enduring love and respect for each other with not one, but two glasses of champagne.

My parents had six wonderful, gifted children, not to mention beautiful and handsome.  
(Ask Edna if you don't believe me.)



Joe LaPlace had numerous callings in his 76 years of life. Of course, he is well known as The Master Fisherman who shared his knowledge and love of the sea with all who were interested.

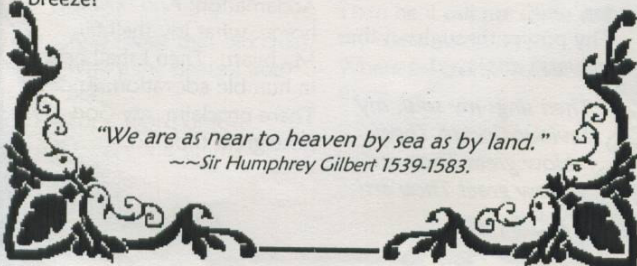
He worked for the Department of Fish and Wild Life. He taught at the College of the Virgin Islands. He not only promoted our Virgin Islands culture – he lived it. He was a natural born storyteller.

“The Mighty Cha Cha” loved good times and a good drink. He always carried song, music and dance in his heart. Always.

He was so many things to so many people; everyone has a story.

Finally, but most profoundly, he was a man of deep faith and there is no better demonstration of faith than a person who plants seeds in the earth and catches fish in the sea. His last days and final hour were spent wrapped in the comfort of his faith allowing him to ease his way out of his life.

Maybe St. Peter will meet him at the gates of heaven and being a fisherman himself, Joe’s admittance will be a breeze!

A decorative flourish consisting of two symmetrical, ornate scrollwork designs that curve upwards and outwards from a central horizontal line. The designs are intricate, featuring leaf-like patterns and swirling lines.

*“We are as near to heaven by sea as by land.”*  
~~Sir Humphrey Gilbert 1539-1583.