



Mr. Grant St. Julian Jr.

February 13, 1931 - March 7, 2019

Mr. Grant St. Julian, Jr., 88, of Peoria, Illinois transitioned from this life at 12:55 PM on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at the Proctor Retirement Home Hospital. Grant was born on February 13, 1931 in Beaumont, Texas to Grant, Sr., and Leah (Hebert) St. Julian. Grant was a musician, scientist, author, lecturer, civil rights advocate, husband and father. He began playing trumpet at age 10, participated in junior high and high school bands, and received a full music scholarship for four years from Samuel Huston College, Austin, Texas. It was in college in 1948 when his passion for jazz began. In December of 1949 he was initiated into the Gamma Lambda Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. After receiving his B.S. in biology, Grant served with distinction in the U.S. Army in Korea. Grant went on to earn a Master's Degree in microbiology from the University of Texas at Austin. Grant's scientific career began in 1959 at the United States Department of Agriculture, Northern Regional Research Center in Peoria. At the Research Center, his major contributions were in the area of biological control of insect pests. Grant published 60 original scientific papers, and his work has been quoted in several books and review articles.

Grant belonged to a number of national and international professional societies and received more than 30 honors and awards. He served on numerous local advisory boards, including the Illinois Arthritis Foundation, Heart of Illinois United Way, Peoria Housing Authority, Tri-County Urban League, the Salvation Army, and the Contemporary Art Center. Grant was also a longtime board member of The Heritage Ensemble. Grant was the chair of the Peoria Human Relations Commission from 1960-1964 and served as one of Peoria's Fire and Police Commissioners from 1964-1970. He was also a co-creator of the St. Julian Family Scholarship, which annually awards scholarship funds to a college-bound high school senior who is a member of the Peoria Tri-County Urban League's Tomorrow's Scientists, Technicians, and Managers Program. As a Life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Grant and eleven other brothers chartered the Peoria Alumni Chapter on November 17, 1973.

In 1990, after 32 years at the Research Center, Grant retired and returned more fully to his love of music. Grant devoted himself to playing his trumpet and took up the flugelhorn. He played with various local Midwest groups, most notably the Illinois Central College Jazz

Band. Grant's relationship with the College led him to create the Grant St. Julian Keep Jazz Alive Scholarship, an annual, endowed scholarship for promising musicians. Music was not Grant's only passion. He was a culinary artist who prepared all family meals and regularly showcased his talents at large holiday gatherings. He was known for his beautiful garden, filled with colorful flowers and carpeted with a lush lawn. Grant's greatest passions in life, however, were his wife, Jeanne, and their three children, Grant III, an attorney in Dallas, Texas; Andrea Renee, an attorney in San Diego, California; and Tanya Suzanne, a training and development professional in Kansas City, Missouri. Grant met Jeanne at Huston-Tillotson College, Austin, Texas when the two were 19 and 22 years old respectively. Grant remained enamored with Jeanne for the next 63 years of their marriage and showed his love for her every day of their lives. The two adored each other. Grant was a dedicated and affectionate father whose children cherished him. In addition to being survived by his wife and children, he is survived by his daughter-in-law, Judy St. Julian, a son-in-law, Michael Alexander, two grandchildren, Andrew (Paige) St. Julian and Stacie (Peter) Paciorek, and five great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Winona Elizabeth St. Julian Frank.

The Funeral Mass will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, March 16, 2019 at Holy Family Catholic Church at 3720 N. Sterling Avenue. Father Giles Gilbert will be the Celebrant. Visitation at Holy Family will begin at 9 AM and will include a 10 AM musical tribute and a 10:30 AM Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Ritual Tribute.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to any of the following:

the Illinois Central College Grant St. Julian "Keep Jazz Alive!" Scholarship, Peoria Tri-County Urban League's TSTM St. Julian Family Scholarship or the Alzheimer's Association - Peoria Office.

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Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at Simonsmortuary.com

Events

MAR **Visitation** 09:00AM - 11:00AM

16

Holy Family Catholic Church

3720 N. Sterling Avenue, Peoria, IL, US, 61615

MAR **Funeral Mass** 11:00AM - 01:00PM

16

Holy Family Catholic Church

3720 N. Sterling Avenue, Peoria, IL, US, 61615

Comments



“ When Uncle Grant and Aunt Jean would come to Beaumont, everyone was so happy. He loved Edward and wanted the best for him. Very insightful, spiritual, and gracious! I'm better for having been in his presence. Condolences to everyone.

Dr. Velina Haynes Johnson - Yesterday at 03:44 AM



“ As you and your family hold on to precious memories of Grant and the longevity of your lives together, we will hold all of you up in prayer at this difficult time. May God continue to comfort you and keep you especially during this time of sorrow.

Gene and Tracy Gathers - March 16 at 12:15 PM



“ Jean and family, My sympathy to all the family in this time of sorrow. Grant was a good man and enjoyed by all. I always enjoyed his performances at ICC with the jazz band. He really liked doing that. Ron Roberts

Ron Roberts - March 16 at 11:56 AM



“ I am saddened to hear of your loss. I remember his smile and warm welcome each and every time I visited. Always a hug. I am grateful to have seen him 2 years ago. The smile was still there. I know you will think of him often, each time family and friends gather, each time something wonderful happens in your lives. He will be missed, but always in your hearts. I wish you as much peace as possible in this difficult time.

Francine

Francine Coleman - March 14 at 04:56 PM



“ 3-13-19
Years have separated (1980) us but I remember and will miss my good friend and fraternity Brother Grant. His explanation to me as to what his scientific work entailed, a memory I won't forget. And the excitement we shared hosting Jazz pianist and fraternity Brother Billy Taylor. Prayers to Silhouette Jean and family.

Anthony (Tony) Thomas, M.H.A.
Past Polemarch

Peoria Alumni Chapter
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Anthony Thomas, M.H.A. - March 14 at 01:34 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Michael Alexander - March 13 at 11:16 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Simons Mortuary - March 13 at 03:09 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Grant St. Julian Jr..



March 13 at 10:22 AM



“ What a wonderful picture of Mr. St. Julian! His smile reminds me of the joy he brought to so many! He will truly be missed! Mrs. St. Julian, I hope you find some comfort in wonderful memories. Andie, Tanya and Trey..your father was a role model and his legacy will live on through you.

Heaven has new angel and trumpeteer!

Love, Catherine

Catherine - March 13 at 10:13 AM



“ I was sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. St Julian. He and his wife have been life long friends of my family. My condolences to his wife and children

Terri Bonds - March 12 at 05:35 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Amilcar Shabazz - March 12 at 03:36 PM



“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Amilcar Shabazz - March 12 at 02:12 PM



“ It was with great sorrow that we read the news that an old and gracious friend had passed. We have wonderful memories of his gentle smile and his amazing knowledge.

We send our sincere condolences to Jeanne and all his family.

Marcel and Patricia Hanard

MARCEL HANARD - March 12 at 11:50 AM



“ Ms. St. Julian, I am heart-broken to hear about the loss of your husband. I will be keeping you and your family in prayer. The Lord has received another angel!



Belinda Spencer-Little - March 12 at 01:51 AM



“ He always was full of life and love!



Stephanie Locke - March 11 at 10:15 PM



“ My heart is heavy and light at this moment. It is a rare moment when lights come into your life, which is nothing more than the Lord spreading his powerful spirit into your soul preparing the temple, your heart, to welcome his presence. God just got another horn blower upstairs that knows how to throw down in the kitchen. Grant St. Julian was one of a kind! I am so saddened for the loss to Jeanne and the St. Julian family, I understand the loss, but I know they know the Lord and Papa G is just getting the place tidy for all of us when we go home. All our love from the Miller Family in Las Vegas, Nevada. This family will always stay in my prayers. Love ya! K



Karmen Miller - March 11 at 09:20 PM



“ Jeanne, children and friends. My memories of Grant are so very happy. As a member of our “couple’s club” I remember his beautiful smile and his giving me sensible guidance when I was having a difficult time. Jeanne, you and Grant were good friends and I will miss him deeply. My love goes out you you, Trey, Andrea, Tanya, grands and other family members. Please keep your memories alive.

Beverly (Buck) Travis - March 11 at 09:01 PM



“ It is with deepest sympathy and sincere condolences we pray for Mrs. St. Julian and the entire family of the Late Mr. Grant St. Julian, Jr...A Great Statesman...a true Southern Gentleman and humanitarian with a serving heart. What a legacy... what a legend.

The Carter-Allen Family



Sherry Carter-Allen - March 11 at 04:23 PM



“ so sorry for your loss ,the hamer family

preston hamer - March 11 at 12:59 PM



“ My sincere sympathy and prayers. I remember fondly those times I spent with my paternal first cousin and how much proudly my Dad spoke of Grant Jr. May God strength Jeanne and all the family at this time.

Octavia Hebert Citizen - March 11 at 12:16 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Grant was a very friendly person and had a beautiful smile.



Evelyn Tate-Clayton - March 09 at 01:39 PM



“ Joanie Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Grant St. Julian Jr.



Joanie Brown - March 09 at 12:18 PM



“ Annettelucy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Grant St. Julian Jr.



annettelucy - March 09 at 12:19 AM



“ Mr. Grant was a very kind and talented man my family and I send our condolences and love to him and his beautiful family it was a honor knowing you.

Sheila - March 11 at 12:42 PM



“ My mom, Chaplain George Miller and I were just speaking on Papa G and Jeanne. A true love story. The Jazz community lost a diligent soldier and a wonderful human being.

Karmen - March 11 at 09:29 PM