



## CLEMENT TOCA

Emile Clement "Clem"

Toca passed away October 6th, 2015 in Las Vegas, NV. He was born October 17th, 1925 in Bay St. Louis, MS at 118 North Beach Blvd then known as Front Street.

He attended public schools in New Orleans and from an early age music was his life. He graduated S.J. Peters High School and immediately went to serve his country as a United State Marine Corps Bandsman serving both in World War II including the Pacific Campaigns, Guam, Iwo Jima and the Korean conflict.

Following the World

War II he was deployed to China for a year. Upon his stateside return he attended Loyola University in New Orleans where he received a B.M.E.

Upon graduation he was recalled by the Marines during the Korean Conflict. He spent this period of his life as a staff arranger for the Corps in Hollywood, California.

Once again discharged he moved on to a career teaching music at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama at which point he soon found himself developing the music program for the Catholic Diocese of Mobile.

He was involved in all things music and theatrical. He was mainly the band director at McGill-Toolen high schools. He continued his life as an educator for the Brothers of the Sacred Heart at St. Stanislaus College in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi and St. Aloysius in New Orleans, Louisiana.

It was during this stay in New Orleans where he would meet his wife Elizabeth Van Ness while teaching. They were married and in 1969 he "Ran Away with the Circus" and continued a long creative music life there until this day. While in the circus he changed music forever breaking the usual usage of Marches, Waltzes and Gallops filling them now with Jazz, Rock, Contemporary and even original pieces. He introduced electronic instruments to the circus world with synthesizers and electronic drums changing circus music to keep up with the sound of modern music.

Clement was preceded in death by his parents Emile Joseph Toca, Lucy Marie Bordages Toca and his very special Aunt Daisy Martha Bordages.

He is survived by his loving wife Elizabeth VanNess Toca, their son Emile Clement Toca II, his wife Armi and three sons Kevin Mitchell Quimby Toca, Alexander Toca and Aris Toca; son Gregory Mark Toca and daughter Lyric Rietta Wallenda Toca Arestov; son Glenn Barry Toca; daughters Deborah Toca Bird and Cheryl Toca Rambo.

Also a nephew, three nieces, grand nephews, grand nieces and the many students he loved dearly during his career as band director for the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

His life had a full gamut

of music in almost all aspects as an educator, a composer, an arranger, a conductor, a trumpet player and of course a bandsman in the Marines.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, October 20th, 2015 at 11:00am. It will be held at the Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, Beach Boulevard, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520.

There will be visitation for family and friends from 10:30am until Mass. Following Mass a military service will be held at St. Mary's Cemetery on Necaie St. at the Bordages family tomb.

Immediately following there will be a celebration of Clement's life which will be held at the residence of his childhood and lifelong friend, Gaines "Pamps" Kergosien. The address is 121 Carroll Ave, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 39520.

In lieu of flowers please remember him in your own way at your discretion or through a donation to a charity to help young musicians. Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis, MS is in charge of the arrangements.