



Constantin "Chris" Kerageorgiou

DEC 7, 1927 - FEB 4, 2007



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Constantin "Chris" Kerageorgiou on Sunday, February 4, 2007.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Forbes Kerageorgiou; his daughter, Charleen Leiva; his granddaughters, Charlotte Idoff, Christine Leiva and Jennefer Leiva; his great-grandson, Charlie Idoff; his brother, Salvas Kerageorgiou; and two sisters, Cecile Ravet and Meline Durandeu.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Suzanne Dahlstrom, his mother, Maria Catramadu Kerageorgiou; his father, Evangelos Kerageorgiou; two brothers, Vasili Kerageorgiou and Antoine Kerageorgiou; and a sister, Caliopie Fondis.

Aged 79 years. In 1943, at the age of 16, he was part of the French Underground, until he joined the French Army in 1945, serving the Army until 1946.

Chef-Proprietor Constantin Kerageorgiou's remarkable talents for hospitality have made him an internationally recognized cuisinier. Chef Chris, as he is commonly known, was born on December 7, 1927 in Port Saint Louis Du Rhone, France. He traveled to America in 1947 and began his long tutelage as baker, cook, waiter and maitre D'. For 25 years he accumulated knowledge, always with the idea to use his background and skills to open a truly Fine French Restaurant. Finally, on September 26, 1972, his dream was realized as La Provence held its grand opening.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the Funeral Services on Friday, February 9, 2007 at 11:00 AM at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, 1200 Robert E. Lee Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70124.

Visitation on Thursday at E.J. Fielding Funeral Home, 2260 West 21st Avenue, Covington, LA 70433 from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM, and again on Friday, AT THE CHURCH from 10:00 AM until service time.

Interment will follow on Friday at 3:00 PM at the Toomer Cemetery in Lacombe, LA. In lieu of flowers, the family would prefer donations to St. Michael's Special School, 1522 Chippewa St., New Orleans, LA 70130, (504) 524-7285.



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The family has entrusted E.J. Fielding Funeral Home of Covington, LA with arrangements.



Tribute Wall

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JL

Jim And Jackie Lark posted:

Chris was the epitome of Hospitality! We celebrated our Engagement at La Provance Restaurant. That lovely memory will be in our hearts forever. We will keep your family in our prayers at this time. We are so very sorry for your loss of such a wonderful man!

February 9 at 7:00 PM

TC

Tim & Lila Crotty posted:

Our condolences to the family of Chef Chris. My family enjoyed a wonderful french meal while my mother was still alive. She would speak often of the great rabbit dish Chef Chris prepared for her that day. When my daughter returned from Paris she enjoyed the classic Chevre Chaud which Chef Chris prepared especially for her. Our special thoughts to Basil and Debbie Funti, our good neighbors who we know will miss Uncle Chris very much.

February 8 at 7:00 PM

JE

Joyce And Tony Engolia posted:

Dear Karen, You may not remember us. We met you through Dee Dee Popich. We did not see Chris too often, but it was always a joy. He was such a dear. One time he told me he loved my potato salad. That was quite a compliment, coming from the likes of him. We will miss him. Sincerely, Joyce and Tony Engolia

February 7 at 7:00 PM

KT

Kelly Trainor posted:

My deepest condolences. My prayers are with all of us who are mourning the death of this wonderful man who everytime i spoke with him, made my day that much brighter. I looked forward to going to work because of him. It just won't be the same. He is in a much better place, we can all be sure of that.

February 7 at 7:00 PM

DR

Drs Jennifer & Frank Robinson posted:

We fondly remember the many fine meals and pleasant times that Chef Chris offered us. We will miss a fine person.

February 7 at 7:00 PM



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EW

Eli Wilson posted:

My condolences to all of Mr. Chris' family. Having worked under Chef Chris from 1979 to 1982 he was a mentor to me as a late teen in the midst of a troubled cross-road. Not so much as a Chef to student, but as a guide and a goal. My step-father Bob Bachman had known Chris since the re-vamping of Hollowell's (Now La Provence) and approached Chris asking him if he had a job opening for me, since I had an unfortunate problem in high school and "needed to get a job". Mr. Chris said, "Eli. Come in. Work with me. I will show you a way." So I did. Good God Almighty. At that time Mr. Chris was a Godsend of moral and discipline. "If you love cooking, if you live this profession and care for it like I do, I will send you to France and you will learn as I did." I'm sorry... I'm crying now... as I did tonight at his wake. I have so much to tell how this man changed and influenced my life. If you care to know, please email me at ewilson@i-55.com. I will share with you. Mr. Chris. Wherever you may be. At 79 God took you too soon. You had so much more to give to others. Your picture will forever hang on my hearth and your spirit will always be watching over table 51. Eli Wilson.
Covington, LA

February 7 at 7:00 PM

HH

Harry A. Hernandez posted:

"CHRIS" had the personality trait of "Don de Gente" that won him many friends-I was very fortunate to have known him. May the Lord secure his soul. My deepest sympathies to his family - you are all in my prayers. Godspeed.

February 6 at 7:00 PM

OP

Olive & Bob Putfark posted:

Godspeed, Chris !

February 6 at 7:00 PM

KH

Kenneth Holditch posted:

It is almost inconceivable to me that Chris is gone. I can say without exaggeration that LaProvence was my favorite restaurant. To think that I will never have another quail gumbo or that I will never have a witty conversation with the magician who prepared it and came out to speak to us afterwards, to see if we were satisfied and that we were eating well. We always were. Chris will live long in the memory of serious diners in this area.

February 6 at 7:00 PM



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Milton J. Fontenot posted:

TO MR. CHRIS'S FAMILY I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE TO BE CHEF CHRIS'S BUDWEISER SALESMAN FOR 25 YEAR'S AND AM PROUD TO HAVE KNOWN HIM MY DEEPEST REGARD'S TO ALL OF YOU AND HIS FAMILY HIS PRESENCE WILL ALWAYS BE WITH US. MILTON

February 6 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Constantin by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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