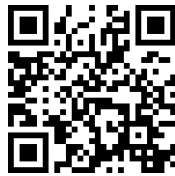




Mallery "Mal" Mele

DEC 2, 1933 - JUN 6, 2012



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Mallery "Mal" Mele

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Mallery "Mal" Mele, founder of Mele Printing, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, June 6, 2012, at the age of 78.

A native of New Orleans, Mal moved to Covington in 1974 and became a leading businessman and familiar social figure in West St. Tammany through a variety of venues.

Mal delighted in every aspect of life and was widely appreciated for his endless energy and direct conversation. A Navy veteran and former co-owner of two popular French Quarter establishments, Harry's Place and the Café Pontalba, Mal found his real business niche in printing. He founded both Molenaar/Mele Printing in New Orleans in 1970 and Mele Printing in Covington in 1985, now one of the top five commercial printers in Louisiana.

Mal joined The Exchange Club of West St. Tammany Parish as a charter member and earned an unprecedented five "Best of Show" awards as a leading member of the Greater New Orleans Bromeliad Society, the River Ridge Bromeliad Society and the Baton Rouge Bromeliad Society. The Exchange Club has instituted an annual lifetime service award to be named "The Mal Mele Award."

A familiar figure at the Covington Farmer's Market every weekend, Mal delighted in sharing wide-ranging conversations with passers-by and keeping track of the town's latest political and economic happenings. Plant sales were secondary to great conversation and charitable involvement; he once gave almost 300 of his best plants to a church youth group to help fund the renovation of an abandoned gymnasium. "I just needed something to fill up my time," he once explained. "After years of raising plants, I saw one day in the newspaper that plant collectors from all over the Western Hemisphere were coming into New Orleans for a big tropical plant show. We loaded up a trailer and hauled a bunch down there. I tell you, we had no idea what we were doing, but we drove back across the Causeway with 16 blue ribbons and



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the Best of Show award.”

For 16 years before his death, he also claimed loyal and successful membership in Alcoholics Anonymous.

“My own ‘higher power’ made a difference in my life,” he said recently. “I can look back now and know that, because of Him, I made a difference for the better in a lot of other people’s lives as well.”

Mal was the grateful husband of Susan Michelle “Mich” Dubea Mele and the former husband of Carol Mele and Liz Mele. He was the much-loved father of Mallery Mele, Jr., (Tammy) and Lisa Mele McCollum (Mike). The son of Charles Matthew Mele and Claire Hacker Mele, both of New Orleans, Mal is also survived by one brother, Charles “Chuck” Mele; six grandchildren, Christina, Amanda, Morgan, Catherine, Mallery and Matthew; and two “adopted sons,” Edward Ramsey and Dwaine Payne. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral service at E.J. Fielding Funeral Home, 2260 W. 21st Ave., Covington, LA 70433 on Saturday, June 9, at 12:00 noon with visitation on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. until service time.

Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family would prefer donations in memory of Mr. Mele to be made to the Exchange Club of West St. Tammany Parish or the Louisiana Chapter of the ALS Association.





Events

Mallery "Mal" Mele

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Visitation


 **Saturday**, June 9, 2012


 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM CT

 **E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services**
2260 W 21st Ave, Covington LA 70433

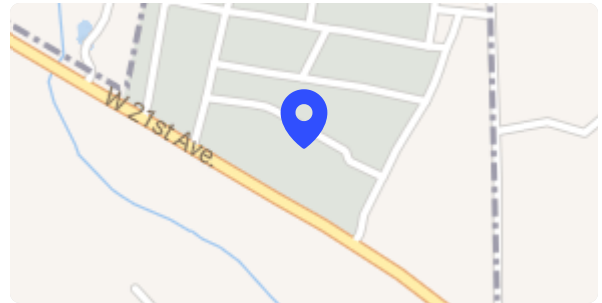


Funeral Services

 **Saturday**, June 9, 2012

 12:00 PM CT

 **E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services**
2260 W 21st Ave, Covington LA 70433





Tribute Wall

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E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services shared a **Tribute Video**.



May 12 at 10:19 AM

MM

Mich Mele posted:

To the man I Love & Miss very much. You were my everything and I was put on this earth to "Take care of You". My life is so lonely but I know that you are in a much better place with no suffering. We will meet again and till that time I LOVE YOU.... Love always

June 29 at 4:30 PM

LM

Lisa Mele Mccollum posted:

It has brought such sadness to loose my "daddy." We shared a very special bond. My dad taught me to love life, value friendships, to be involved in our community, to be passionate about my interests, and to accept people where they are in life. He never met a stranger and that quality alone brought him many life long friends. I thought I knew all my dad's good qualities but during his service I learned of his humility towards mankind. I now know that is one of his greatest blessings and I pray I will follow in in steps. I love you daddy.

June 15 at 2:04 PM

BJ

Beverly Jones posted:

Mich, I am so sorry to learn of Mal's passing. He will be missed by many I am sure. I always think of you two when I think about Roy's Diner. May God be with you at this time of sorrow.

June 13 at 1:42 PM

BK

Bill And Sybil Klopff posted:

Please accept our deepest sympathy for your loss. Mal was a wonderful person and will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

June 12 at 7:59 PM



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CM

Chuck & Harriet Mele posted:

Brother, brother-in-law you will be missed. Our memories will last for the rest of our lives. Some bonds can't be broken even in death.

June 12 at 6:16 PM

JR

Julie And Randy Cox posted:

We are sorry for your loss and know how much he will be missed.

June 12 at 4:54 PM

HM

Harriet Mele posted:

Mal strange your interest in plants is so connected in the way that I look at life. We start out as seeds planted by God and then it is up to us to nourish ourselves. Your plant was beautiful it grew into a beautiful flower. Somewhere along the way while the plant still was beautiful the root was in danger. Then God sent you the fertilizer that you needed to grow into the person he wanted you to become. The fertilizer was in the form of your friend Dave. He planted a new seed in your mind and you ran with it; your root became healthy and you became the man that God wanted you to be. I noticed the change years ago; but it wasn't until I heard Dave speak at your funeral that I became aware of how God had changed your life. One day at a time. You will be missed by both Chuck and I.

June 12 at 4:47 PM

MG

Mr & Mrs James J. Georgusis posted:

Our hearts are heavy, letting you go, but our Heavenly Father has taken you home. R I P dear friend we will remember the laughs, conversations and good times we were blessed to share together. You will always be with us in our hearts. Love ya lots, Jimmy, June & Ginger

June 12 at 1:55 PM

BG

Butch & Joan Gaudet posted:

Mich, you are in our thoughts, hearts and prayers.

June 12 at 11:49 AM



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KB

Kathy Burkert posted:

Lisa and Family I am so sorry for your loss. I know how much you all will miss him. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Love to all Kathy, Max, Hunter and Hayden Burkert

June 12 at 11:08 AM

BD

Beth Dowling posted:

I have such wonderful memories of Mal -- a creative and caring person that always had time for friends. Good night, dear Mal, you brought love and kindness to everyone in your life. Beth (Gosse) Dowling

June 12 at 9:04 AM

PB

Peter Briant posted:

Mal has been a great friend for 60 years.I will miss him greatly...Peter B

June 12 at 6:36 AM

SW

Steven & Debbie Weiss posted:

Mal when it's all said and done. If were lucky enough to have 5 great friends were very fortunate. Mal you have hundreds of great friends and I am lucky enough to be one of them. We have had so many good times together. You my best friend will be surely missed. Love you partner! Steven

June 12 at 5:26 AM

CD

Corey Dubea posted:

I never remembered Uncle Mal being pushy about religion and politics. I guess that's why he had so many friends because his interest was people. His favorite greeting when meeting someone was always "Hey Pal!!!"

June 12 at 5:23 AM

PS

Pemmie & Reynolds Sheasby posted:

Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss...our thoughts are with the family during this difficult time. Mal was a special person and he will be missed. Pemmie & Reynolds

June 11 at 8:52 AM



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GM

Greg Moise posted:

Condolences to the family from a very old friend. I knew Mal as a young man. We were in the carton business together.

June 11 at 4:54 AM

WH

Wesley & Joyce Harper posted:

LISA WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO YOU & YOUR FAMILY. MAY YOUR MEMORIES GIVE YOU STRENGTH & HELP EASE YOUR PAIN IN THESE DIFFICULT DAYS AHEAD. WE LOVE YOU, JOYCE & WES

June 10 at 9:31 AM

JH

Jessica Harper posted:

LISA, WE ARE SO SORRY FOR THE LOSS OF YOUR DAD. YOU ARE IN OUR THOUGHTS. LOVE JESSICA & JONATHAN

June 10 at 9:26 AM

NM

Noel Maestri posted:

We are so sorry for the loss of Mr. Mele. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the entire family at this time. Noel & Gayle Maestri

June 9 at 8:15 AM

DD

Dave & Debbie Diamond posted:

Our hearts are aching at Mal's passing, but they are also full of rich memories of our good friend. Things just won't be the same without Mal. He always had a smile or a joke or a bit of wisdom to share. We loved him like family. Our love and prayers are with Mich, Mallery & Tammy and their children, and Lisa & her family. Love, Dave, Debbie, Sam & Luke Diamond

June 9 at 8:00 AM

RL

Roy & Mina Lilley posted:

Mich, Lisa and Mallery, our condolences for your loss.

June 9 at 4:25 AM



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MA

Marjorie Alleln posted:

Mich snd family. So very sorry for your loss. What a wonderful man. Two very special buddies are together again.

June 9 at 3:49 AM

ET

Eddie M. Taylor posted:

A long time friend is gone,I will miss him. No more saturday chats. May his soul rest in peace. Ed Taylor

June 9 at 3:40 AM

HH

Harold Huffman, Jr. posted:

You will be sincerely missed, my friend.

June 8 at 3:48 PM

AF

Albert F. Ott posted:

To Mele Family, Please accept our deepest sympathy. We will remember Mal fondly and will keep him and his family in our prayers. Sincerely, Carol & Al Ott

June 8 at 2:27 PM

SV

Sherrie Smith And Flora Vandenberg posted:

We are so sorry for your loss and we will be keeping you and yours in our prayers. God Bless and keep you.

June 8 at 1:41 PM

DP

Danielle Poirier posted:

I'm so sorry for your loss mrs. Mich. My prayers are with you and your family in this time of need. Your friend! Danielle(the vets office)

June 8 at 1:04 PM



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DC

Doug Casey posted:

Dear Mallery We are thinking of you. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. Doug and Connie Casey

June 8 at 11:49 AM

CM

Candy Modeen posted:

Dear Mich and family, Please accept my heartfelt sympathies on the loss of our Mal. What a very special man he was to so many of us. Mal always made me feel so very special and I will never forget his kindness, concern for others and his ability to carry on great conversations! God Bless you all.
Love, Candy

June 8 at 6:37 AM

LF

Lesslee Fitzmorris posted:

A true gentleman and a wonderful member of the Covington/Mandeville community. Thank you for being a friend! Our long standing business relationship extends back to the beginning. His expertise and advise helped us tremendously. Your legacy lives us! Love and prayers to all, Lesslee

June 8 at 6:27 AM

LP

Lorraine And Neal Pendleton posted:

Our heartfrlt condolences to the Mele family during this time of loss.

June 8 at 6:14 AM

SM

Stacie Manuel posted:

So very sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our prayers.

June 8 at 5:40 AM



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PI

Paul & Betty Isley posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you Mich, Mallery, and Lisa. Death is never easy but it comes for all of us. Betty lost her Dad last year and I lost my Dad in 2003 and my Mom in May of 2010. I will always remember Mal's warmth, his laugh, and his wonderful insights into life and people—and his superb talent for growing Broms. We wish all of you all the Best.

June 8 at 4:47 AM

JB

Jeannie Bell posted:

My sincere condolences. Mich, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. So sad to read the news. Jeannie

June 8 at 4:14 AM

DR

Dale Ramsey posted:

Mal was truly indeed a great man. He will be missed by many people. We will certainly miss him at our bromelaid meetings with his knowledge of the plants and of course his sense of humor. I am so fortunate to have met and known a remarkable person.

June 8 at 3:42 AM

JT

Joel Treadwell posted:

My heartfelt condolences To Mich, Mallery, and families. I'm grateful for the memories of lunch with "the guys" and Mal holding court and asking everyone questions. Mal will be missed by many.

June 7 at 5:43 PM

TM

Terrie Mulligan posted:

With deepest and most heartfelt sympathy.....Terrie

June 7 at 5:12 PM

FA

Faith posted:

you are in my thoughts and prayers during this time

June 7 at 10:07 AM



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Steve Jacobs posted:

We are Incredibly Sorry for Your Loss

June 7 at 9:57 AM



Media

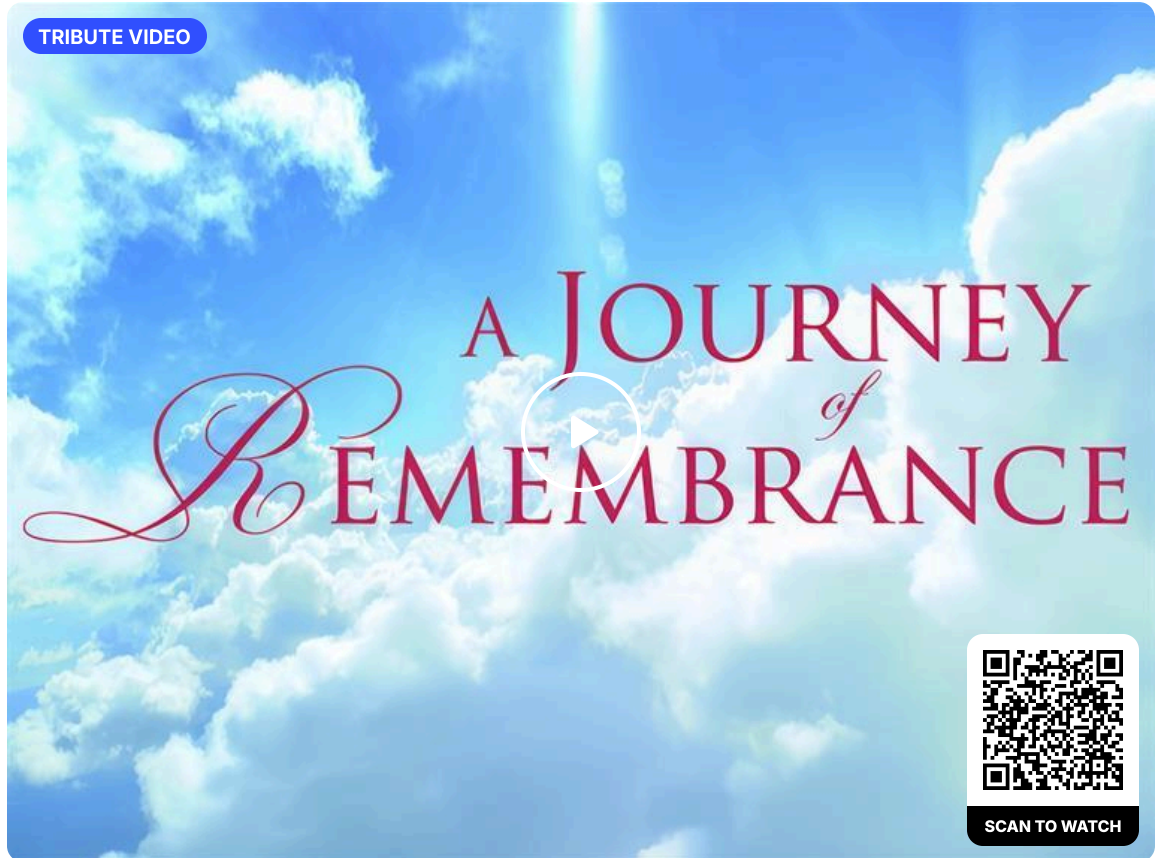
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May 12 at 10:19 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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