



Mr. John Marvin McNamara

FEB 11, 1932 - JAN 14, 2023



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John Marvin McNamara passed away peacefully on January 14, 2023, at the age of 90. He was born in New Orleans, Louisiana to the late William Marvin McNamara and Pearl Melvin McNamara. He is survived by his children, Sharon McNamara-Horne (William), David McNamara (Sandy), Richard McNamara (Felipe). John was the proud grandfather of Jeff Bentivegna (Ashlee), Chris Bentivegna, Lynn Burton (Neal), Will Horne (Laura), Thomas Horne (Rachel), Aaron McNamara (Janie), Greg McNamara (Alexis), Laura Macias (James), Ryan McNamara (Rachel), Kylie McNamara and Andrew McNamara. He had 15 great grandchildren. John was preceded in death by Juanita Schultzs McNamara, his loving wife of 67 years. Known to his friends as “Jack”, McNamara graduated from Warren Easton High School in New Orleans. He attended Louisiana State University and was a member of the LSU band before transferring to Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, where he was a band member, drum major, and earned a bachelor’s degree in music education. He later obtained a master’s degree plus 30 in education from Nicholls State University in Thibodaux. Jack began playing the trumpet as a child and always knew he wanted to be a band director. He was a school band director in Houma, Eunice and Church Point, Louisiana. Throughout his 35 years in the classroom, he taught music and mentored thousands of students from elementary through high school. Known as “Mr. Mac” in the classroom, he was always the teacher trying to push his students to achieve more than they thought possible. He cherished the moments when they realized they had succeeded. Jack was also a longtime member and conductor of his churches’ choirs, a youth leader, a fund-raiser and a promoter of the performing arts in Terrebonne Parish. After retiring as a teacher, Jack had a passion for gardening, researching his Irish ancestry, and writing a book that encapsulated his lifelong interest in music theory



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and education. He loved to travel, a passion he shared with his wife Juanita as they visited much of North America, Europe and several South Pacific countries. He lived in Japan while serving in the U.S. Army.

At age 90, he was still entertaining his neighbors and friends at his senior residents' home playing his cornet at pre-Saints game lunches. He never lost his love of music and the joy of sharing that passion with others.

Relatives and friends are invited to the Funeral Service at First United Methodist Church, 203 N Jefferson Ave, Covington, LA 70433 on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 11:00 AM with visitation from 10:00 AM until service time. Interment will follow the service at Greenlawn Cemetery, 1005 Western Ave, Hammond, LA 70401. Please Share a Memory on the Tribute Wall at www.ejfieldingfh.com






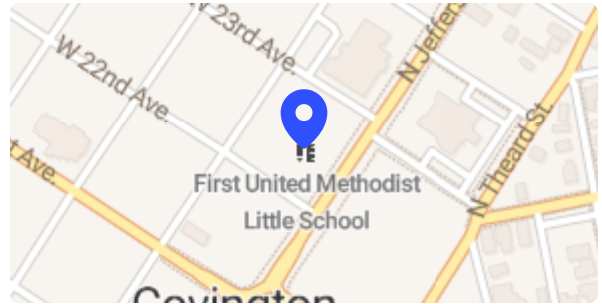
Events

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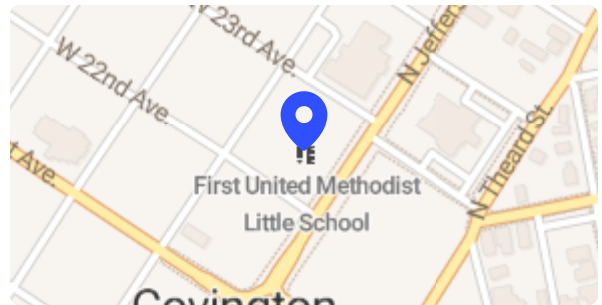
Visitation

-  **Saturday**, January 21, 2023
-  10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT
-  **First United Methodist Church of Covington**
203 N. Jefferson Ave., Covington LA 70433






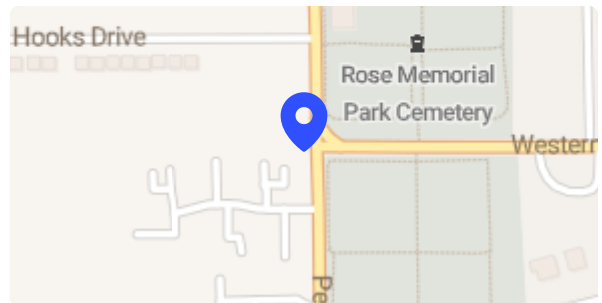
Funeral Service

-  **Saturday**, January 21, 2023
-  11:00 AM CT
-  **First United Methodist Church of Covington**
203 N. Jefferson Ave., Covington LA 70433



Interment

-  **Saturday**, January 21, 2023
-  12:00 PM CT
-  **Green Lawn Cemetery**
1005 Western Ave., Hammond LA 70401





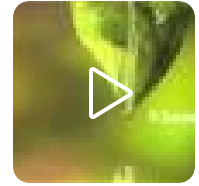
Tribute Wall

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



January 19 at 8:08 AM



Amie Arceneaux Morgan posted:

To David and family, Sending condolences on the loss of Mr. Mac. Godspeed and rest in peace sir. Amie Arceneaux Morgan and Buddy Morgan

January 27 at 4:44 PM



Pamela Williams Ross posted:

To the families of Mr. Mac, I'm a former student of Mr. Mac and I can remember how through he was with the field shows, concerts, and after school practices. We had fun. So I say to the families, Mr. Mac was a great person and an excellent band director! So I say again to the families "Look to the hills which cometh your help, because it comes from the Lord" Take your rest Mr. Mac, you will be missed!! I am Pamela Williams Ross a former band student

January 21 at 12:32 PM



Mark Waggenspack posted:

Mr. Mac taught me how to play the French horn the summer before the 11th grade at Terrebonne high school where I graduated in 1975. He was always very patient with me as I was trying to learn a new instrument to fill a needed gap in our band. He was a very good honest man who insisted that I use as good language as I could to express myself as I was quite sophomoric then. My memories with him will stay with me.

January 21 at 8:22 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the McNamara family.



January 19 at 6:57 AM



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BC

Bennet Crochet posted:

I cannot say enough about how Mr Mac inspired me. He was my private instructor from the day I began saxophone in grade school. He worked me through all of my successful auditions throughout my entire high school career. When I wanted to learn brass for the LSU marching band he picked up again. I no doubt still have books and sheets he gave me over the years. I am certain his contribution to the world of music and the lives of students is unfathomable. He will be missed.

January 19 at 6:49 AM

GF

Glenda Mooring Fanguy January 19 at 5:03 PM

Mr. Mac, you were truly one of the best music leaders at Terrebonne High School. A great teacher and mentor. You saw the potential in us, pushed us to our limits and we always came out on top. You taught us how to work as a team and made us responsible to teach our "little brothers and sisters", under class mates the rules of the band hall. You have left great memories as a band teacher. Praying for your family.

AJ

Alonzina Jy posted:

Mr. Mac was my 4th grade Band teacher at Village East then I followed him to Elysian Fields. He took me out of my shell. He showed me how to feel the music before you hear the music. We couldn't play but by that Spring, we sounded like any high school or college band around. He will be truly missed.

January 19 at 3:46 AM

VV

Vickie Vedros posted:

Mr. Mac was so much more than a teacher. I was at Evergreen Jr.High in 1963, first year it opened. He was my band director and twirling instructor. He took us on field trips to New Orleans to see THE SOUND OF MUSIC at the Saenger and the orchestra when they had a guest conductor. He wrote the school's Alma Mater. He arranged to make a record of our festival music. In twirling he taught me good posture and to hold my head up high. I wish I could have told him how he influenced my life when he was alive.

January 18 at 11:19 AM

OI

Oil States Industries posted:

A great man who will be truly missed. He was my director in the summer before I stated band at Lisa Park. Then from 8th grade thru 12th. Even though I was a little unruly he still stuck by me to help develop my talents. My dear friend rest in peace.

January 18 at 4:36 AM



Media

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

January 19 at 8:08 AM



Tom Mcmanus July 31 at 8:54 AM

Greatest band director Eunice High School ever had. Tom McManus



Memories only last if you share them

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



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