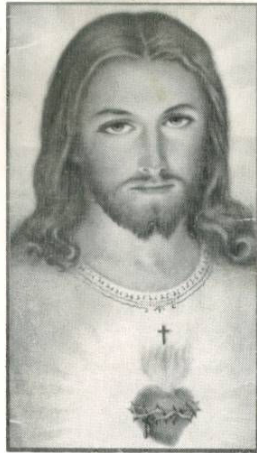




In Thanksgiving
for the Life of
Joseph Berry
1925-1991



VIEWING . . . 8:30 - 9:30 AM
JOHN THOMAS MEMORIAL CHAPEL
SERVICE . . . 10:00 AM
ST. ANNE'S CHAPEL
MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991
INTERMENT AT WESTERN CEMETERY

Joseph Berry

August 27, 1925 - July 8, 1991

We have gathered here this day to celebrate in thanksgiving for the life of Joseph Berry and to bid our final farewell to a very special husband, father, brother and friend.

Joseph was born on August 27, 1925 on the Island of St. Kitts, to Mary Elizabeth and Claude Emmanuel Berry. His early years were spent in St. Kitts, however his love for the sea soon took him to surrounding islands and St. Barths, birthplace of his father. His youth was spent in St. Barths with his aunts and cousins. Very soon thereafter, he took to the seas on his sailing vessel, carrying cargo between islands. As fate would have it, one day out at sea he and his crewmen encountered a terrible storm which destroyed his boat and threatened his very life. Someone was looking out for him, for he was rescued by a passing ship which was on its way to St. Thomas. Once on St. Thomas, he very quickly made many friends. Joseph, at this time, became acquainted with the Quetel family and shortly thereafter married Anne Florina Quetel. His early years on St. Thomas were spent working at several jobs, one of which was for the government at the old water pump house in Lindberg Bay.

Joseph's love for the sea was soon to be rekindled and he reestablished himself and made a name for himself in the fishing community of Frenchtown from the 1960's to 1989, shortly before his illness. Joseph loved to dance and sing, but his love for the accordion, piano, guitar, banjo and harmonica were quite evident. He soon became the father of two sons and one daughter. He left behind a legacy to his two sons - a love for the sea, and to his daughter - a love of music and dance.

Joseph enjoyed sitting on top of the old cistern next to his house, to work on his fish traps. Many times I would just gaze at him and watch the contentment on his face. He was a true seaman and sailor. He was in the sea and the sea was in him.

Joseph Berry had many trials in his life, but for the most part, he was content and satisfied. He was a special man whose patience seemed to span the seas. He was not pretentious and was never fond of material things. He prayed a lot to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and somehow always knew he was in His care. Many times when the weather was not exactly befitting of an escapade at sea, he would tell his wife reassuringly, "don't worry, the One above is with me." He always returned home safely.

I remember every now and then, going with him to deliver fish to some of his customers. It seemed to me at one point that surely everyone on St. Thomas must know him. From every direction you hear someone call out, "Berry, you got some fish for me?" These words, I know, I will never hear again, but they will always linger in my memories and will always be treasured in my heart. And finally, as we bid farewell to you, Dad, I feel very privileged and honored to have been given a father such as you. May our blessed Saviour embrace you lovingly until we see you again.

Marie Rose Rivera





Survivors

WIFE . . . Anne Florina Berry

SONS . . . Claude Gabriel Berry, Michael Joseph Berry

DAUGHTER . . . Marie Rose Rivera

DAUGHTER-IN-LAW . . . Linda Berry

SON-IN-LAW . . . Jorge Luis Rivera, Sr.

SISTERS . . . Marion Berry, Mary Barrate

BROTHER . . . Phillip Berry

SISTER-IN-LAW . . . Marie Octavie Greaux

BROTHERS-IN-LAW . . . Leon Quetel, Anthony Quetel

GRANDCHILDREN

Rose Lynn Rivera, Jorge Luis Rivera, Jr.

Marcos Gabriel Rivera, Matthew Joseph Berry

Many nieces and nephews,
family and close friends.

Pallbearers

Claude Gabriel Berry, Michael Joseph Berry

David Greaux, Bobby Vante, Hector Quetel

Dean Greaux, Patrick Greaux, Mark La Place

Honorary Pallbearers

Jorge Luis Rivera, Sr., Livet La Place,
Pierre Ledee, Sebastian Greaux