

In Loving Memory



Joseph Theodore Berry
"Coat"

April 18, 1925 - July 8, 1996

Funeral Service

Monday, July 15, 1996

Viewing: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

John Thomas Memorial Chapel

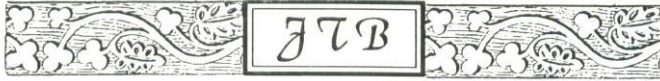
Viewing: 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Mass: 2:00 pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Interment at

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cemetery
Majolie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands



Survivors

WIFE

Cassilda C. Berry

SON

Clifton A. Berry, Sr.

DAUGHTERS

Francia M. Brin, Delrise Berry, Maureen Bryan,
Donna Berry, Sandra Johnson, Lois Boyle

DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

Zoraida Berry

SONS-IN-LAW

Gene C. Brin, Sr., Lawrence Bryan,
Edward Johnson, Wardell Boyle

GRANDCHILDREN

Gene C. Brin, Jr., Kory Brin, Shelli Brin, Francois Brin,
Clifton Berry, Jr., Jessica Bryan, Charlotte Smith, Drew Smith,
Christopher Smith, Tiffany Boyle, Brian Boyle

SISTER

Juanita Questel

SISTER-IN-LAW

Una George

BROTHERS-IN-LAW

Viggo Niles, Louis Niles

Pallbearers

Gene C. Brin, Jr., Clinton George, Edward Matos,
Lee Questel, Wardell Boyle, Ricky Berry

Honorary Pallbearers

Gene C. Brin, Sr., Lawrence Bryan, Clifton Berry, Sr., Edward Johnson,
Juan Ayala, Sr., Kory Brin, Ivan Greaux, George Querrard, Sr.



Joseph Theodore Berry *"Coat"*

Joseph Theodore Berry was born on April 18, 1925. He was the third child of Phillip and Lucy Berry. He attended school under the tutorage of Arturo Watlington, Sr., in this building, which served the dual purpose of a classroom and a place of worship.

At the age of four, he lost his mother. Because of the hardship of being raised by a single parent of four children, at the age of thirteen, held two jobs and entrusted all his earnings to his dad. At age sixteen, he had to use the same earnings to cover the burial expenses of his father. This experience coupled with the upbringing of his father, developed in him a keen sense of responsibility, discipline, financial planning and organization. These characteristics were manifested throughout his life.

Joseph married his childhood friend, Cassilda Niles and from this union came eight children, the firstborn being deceased at age six.

Joseph entered the United States Army on December 5, 1952, and served six years. He received the following citations: Korean Service Medal with 1 BBS, United Nations Service Medal, ROK Pres Unit Citation and Good Conduct Medal. Using the experience he gained while serving in the Army Corp of Engineers, he was able to enter the construction industry on his return to civilian life.

Joseph was a happy-go-lucky, free spirited, comical, loving and caring person. Being the comical person that he was, he one day jokingly modeled his sister's petticoat among friends. They then gave him the nickname "Coat" which he became known by throughout his lifetime.

Coat opened his home to one and all. He hosted numerous North-side community functions there, especially the fund-raising dances held to build the Mafolie Clubhouse. He was known to be the life of the party. However, his children dreaded his grand entrance at social functions in his glittering, gold, one-of-a-kind Liberace-styled suit. There was also the fond memories of Coat's children gathering around



him at night. They loved to hear his bedtime stories. However, he never failed to tell the same two stories of The Three Little Pigs and Goldie Locks and the Three Bears.

As much as he loved parties and a good time, Coat loved to debate with his family. The debates over politics, religion, geography, family disputes and money, often times, ended with no conclusion because he believed he was always right. However, no one departed angry because he would turn everyone's frustrations into a laughable situation by displaying his typical affection for his family.

Joseph "Coat" Berry loved his wife and children. He was a good, loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle. He was the peacemaker in the family and the neighborhood.

We could not understand losing him at this time and so suddenly. But in looking for an answer, we turned to the Lord's Word, which says "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away." (James 4:14)

We give thanks and praise to God for the time He blessed us with Coat. May he rest in peace.

