

Al Jarreau Celebrates George Duke

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Al Jarreau pays tribute to the late George Duke and their 50 year friendship with the new CD, *My Old Friend: Celebrating George Duke*. Jarreau sings a number of Duke's tunes with personnel that includes Lalah Hathaway, Stanley Jordan, Marcus Miller, Dianne Reeves, Jeffrey Osborne, Gerald Albright, Kelly Price and Dr. John. The album comes out August 15th but it can be pre-ordered via [PledgeMusic](#). Those who choose to purchase the CD through PledgeMusic have the option of also buying various VIP packages that include show tickets and a chance to meet Jarreau during soundcheck.

2013 R.I.P.



Chris "Mac Daddy" Kelly One half of hip-hop duo Kriss Kross



Jim Kelly Martial artist and actor



George Duke Jazz/Fusion legend



Nelson Mandela Activist revolutionary and former president of South Africa



Richie Havens Folk singer and opening act at Woodstock



Cordell “Boogie” Mosson Bass player for Parliament/Funkadelic



Donald Byrd Jazz/R&B legend and jazz educator



Leroy “Sugarfoot” Bonner

Vocalist, guitarist, writer and producer for The Ohio Players



Bobby “Blue” Bland

Modern blues singer



Albert Murray Jazz critic and author



Yusef Lateef Jazz musician

George Duke Memorial Service

Watch [live streaming video](#) from [centriclive](#) at [livestream.com](#)

George Duke’s memorial service was held in Los Angeles Monday and several musical luminaries attended including Stevie Wonder, Chaka Khan, Lalah Hathaway, Marcus Miller, Dianne Reeves and others.

R.I.P. George Duke

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Jazz fusion legend [George Duke](#) passed away last night at the age of 67 at a Los Angeles hospital according to Motown alum Scherrie Payne. Duke's career spanned four decades and started in the '60's when he recorded his first album as The George Duke Quartet. The San Rafael, California native soon developed diverse musical chops playing with the likes of Sonny Rollins, Jean Luc Ponty, Frank Zappa and Dexter Gordon. He came closest to the mainstream with his '70's funk hits ["Reach For It"](#) and ["Dukey Stick"](#) but most fans adore his jazz R&B output that has featured Rachelle Ferrell, Stanley Clarke, Deniece Williams, Regina Belle, Chaka Khan, Anita Baker, Teena Marie, Jill Scott and his cousin Dianne Reeves. Songs like ["No Rhyme, No Reason"](#) and ["Sweet Baby"](#) proved that the meeting between jazz and R&B was not always contrived but could be classy and emotionally sincere. ["I Want You For Myself"](#) was another funk tune of his from the '70's that spread his legend in the dance music world. Duke also worked with Miles Davis on the albums *Tutu* and *Amandla*. His music has also been a sample mine for Madlib, Daft Punk, Kanye West, 9th Wonder and Ice Cube. Last month he released his final album [Dreamweaver](#) as a tribute to his wife Corinne who died of cancer one year ago.