



Selmon "Sonny" Corkern, Jr.

July 19, 1952 - July 30, 2023

SELMON ALTON "SONNY" CORKERN, JR. AGE 71

And a resident of Franklinton passed away Sunday morning July 30, 2023 at his home. He was retired after a long career as the director of maintenance and repair with International Shipholding Corporation. Sonny's duties through the years included designing ships, inspecting barges and other things. He had said that during his career he traveled to 40 different countries all over the world. He was always talented working with his hands, and even as a young child took things apart to see how they worked and rebuilt them. Sonny and his father built his house from the ground up, doing all the carpentry, plumbing, electrical, painting and finishing, something he was very proud of. He enjoyed woodworking, making tables and many other items for his family and friends. Sonny also enjoyed planting and taking care of orchid flowers and had hundreds of them on his property. He and others formed a non-profit orchid society organization, Phal Fanatics, which provides seminar education opportunities for people and scholarships to students. He always loved being outside in the beautiful nature and spending quality time with his family.

Survived by:

Wife of 49 years: Phyllis Walker Corkern of Franklinton

Daughter and Son in law: Taffenie and Fred Mizell of Franklinton

Son and Daughter in law: Selmon "Corky" Corkern, III and Aubrey Khachatryan of Abita Springs

Grandchildren: Van Walker Mizell,
Finn Wyld Corkern,
Hadley Violet Corkern,
Natalie Hope Khachatryan

Sister and Brother in law: Jannell and David Davis of Talisheek

Sisters in law: Thelma Bryne of Texas,
Brenda Walker of Lafayette

Also numerous nieces and nephews

He was preceded in death by his parents Selmon Alton Corkern, Sr. and Marie Antony Corkern and other family members

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home (1109 Bene Street, Franklinton, LA) Thursday August 3rd from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. A funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel at 2:00 pm Thursday with Father Pedro Prada officiating. Burial will follow in the Bonner Creek Baptist Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers memorial donations to Phal Fanatics at www.phalfanatics.org

Pallbearers: Selmon Corkern, III, Fred Mizell, Van Mizell, Justin Magee, Tim Blackwell, Tom Bryne

Honorary Pallbearers are Finn Corkern, Kent Taylor, David Norris

Tribute Wall

JM

“ *Judy McCasland Micelle lit a candle in memory of Selmon "Sonny" Corkern, Jr.*



Judy McCasland Micelle - August 01, 2023 at 02:33 PM

JM


May God rest his soul in sweet peace. Praying for the family.

Judy McCasland Micelle - August 01, 2023 at 02:35 PM

CJ

Your dad was always patient with the questions I had regarding my orchids. We use to share stories about him living in Louisiana and me in Florida. He was a gentle soul and will be missed by many. May he tend to his orchids from above! Will miss you, Sonny!

Cathy Jenns - August 01, 2023 at 07:03 PM


Dorothy
Carmadell

“ *I had the pleasure to meet your Dad at the Phalfanatics symposium in California on July 15th. We've been friends on Facebook but that was our first meeting in person. What a pleasure to meet him. We celebrated our July birthdays at dinner.*



Dorothy Carmadella - August 01, 2023 at 12:39 PM

RS

“ One of my first memories was of Uncle Sonny taking me with him and Aunt Phil to do the newspaper route out in the country. We were talking and laughing. I wish I could find a photo of us. I'm sure I have one somewhere. I remember Gamaw and I visited Uncle Sonny and Aunt Phil after they got married and were living in a "barn", I thought it was the coolest thing. I remember him always being in nature. It's wonderful how many countries he's seen and how he was a hands on person. I'm impressed by his woodworking talent.
May he rest in peace.

Rene Schenck - August 01, 2023 at 10:59 AM

KG

“ His spirit and kindness will stay with us.
I pray for peace and comfort for his family.
Karl Gerber

Karl Gerber - July 31, 2023 at 11:59 PM

SW

“ Sonney was always so giving with his vast knowledge of the various types of orchids. I learned so much from him. He will be greatly missed in our orchid world.

Sharon Warner, New Richmond, WI

Sharon Warner - July 31, 2023 at 10:39 PM

CF

“ Hopefully you are tending the orchid greenhouse in heaven my friend. My deepest sympathies to Sonny’s family and friends. Your orchid family will miss you dearly.
Crystal Freeman-Kolehmainen

Crystal Freeman - July 31, 2023 at 10:16 PM

CF

“ With deepest sympathies,
Christopher Foret

christopher foret - July 31, 2023 at 06:52 PM