

# Guidry, Jules "Nonc Jules"



## **Cajun Band Leader and Musician**

Nonc Jules was born in Church Point, Louisiana. He was raised and lives in Carencro, LA. As a child he only spoke French and he had to learn English when he started his first grade in school.

After graduating from Carencro High School in 1962, he attended USL in Business and then began his State Government career working for the Lafayette Charity Hospital in Lafayette filling the position of accounting. Guidry also served his country in the Louisiana Army National Guard, 256th Infantry Brigade Headquarters Company from 1964 to 1970. He transferred his State employment to the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL) IN 1981 to 1988 as there Accountant. He retired from State Government in 1988 after having served for 35 years.

Since June 01, 1983 every Sunday afternoon, 12 Noon to 3 PM, Nonc Jules has been a fixture at KRVS 88.7 FM Radio Acadie as the producer Host of the very popular French Radio Program "Le Bal de Dimanche Apres-Midi" (The Sunday Afternoon Dance). Nonc Jules plays Cajun, French & Creole music by all of the recorded artists and also interviews musicians and various guests. KRVS is also listened to worldwide on [www.krvs.org](http://www.krvs.org). Nonc Jules has a very large listening audience and receives calls locally and worldwide.

Occasionally Nonc Jules can be seen hosting the live Rendezvous des Cajun Saturday evening show at the Liberty Theater in Eunice, LA. Jules plays his accordion, sings and explains the Cajun music, language and culture to visiting tourists on weekdays at Vermilionville Bayou Historic Museum (BVD) in Lafayette. Nonc Jules has also led the Cajun Music Band "Nonc Jules & Lachez-Les" since 1986 and has performed at festivals, restaurants, organizational events, etc.

Nonc Jules is one of the pioneers in organizing Cajun music jam sessions in the Lafayette area which focused on helping the talents of younger aspiring Cajun musicians; many of those who later developed into professional well known musicians. Those jam sessions began with a small group of about fifteen friends that gathered at someone's house to play Cajun music. Then suddenly developed into a very large group of families and friends getting together every first Saturday of the month from 1985 thru 1987. Many memories and many new friendships were made during these times.

Nonc Jules is a religious family man and enjoys spending time with his wife and best friend Mary Lou Vincent Guidry, his daughter Kimberly Guidry, his son-in-law Guy Guidry and his grandson Ian Reese Guidry. Nonc Jules also enjoys gardening and continues to enjoy meeting new friends and promoting and preserving our Cajun heritage, music and culture.

Updated January 19, 2017 by Natchitoches-NSU Louisiana Folklife Center Staff

