

Metoyer, Allen "Al Gator"



Rock and Roll Musician

Mr. Allen Metoyer was born in 1936, in the Isle Brevelle Community in Natchez, Louisiana. Although he lived in several other places like Illinois and California, Isle Brevelle became his permanent residence and home. His parents were Severine and Edward Metoyer, both of whom taught Al how to speak some French.

Al worked as a security guard and a barber, but he has also played the keyboard with several bands over the past years. He learned to play rock and roll music in the 1940s and 1950s from Duma and Uke LaCour.

Al Metoyer's band has played many times monthly in the local community for many different occasions. Members of the band are: Preston Conant, sax; Doc Coutee, lead guitar and vocal; Tony Arceneaux, drums; Patric Dupree, bass and lead guitar; and Al Metoyer, keyboard and vocal.

The group has performed for dances at Wood Dance Hall, Natchitoches Jazz and Blues Festival, NSU Folk Festival, Natchitoches, and many other festivals within Louisiana. Big Al died in March 2005; his humor and love of the cane river are legendary, and he is greatly missed by the community and all who knew him.