



## Claude Andre Levet

March 17, 1958 - October 19, 2018

Claude Andre Levet, age 60, passed away peacefully on October 19, 2018 after a courageous battle with brain cancer. He was a native of Garyville/Lions, LA, and resided in Charlottesville, VA. Claude graduated from Loyola University New Orleans in 1982. He was a living historian who viewed history thru his "Wet Plate" collodion photography. Claude was a devoted and loving husband to his wife, Zebee McCullough Levet for 14 years. Loving brother to Lawrence "Larry" Levet (JoAnn), Emilie "MiMi" Blank, Yvette Dornier (Benny), Angelique "Angel" Aycock, and Jacques Levet (Yvette). He will also be sadly missed and forever remembered by his numerous nieces and nephews, extended family, and dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Myrtle P. Levet; father, Carl L. Levet; brother, Carl "Putsy" Levet; and nephew, Lawrence "Perry" Levet.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation at St. Peter's Catholic Church, 1550 Hwy 44, Reserve, LA on Saturday, November 3, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Arrangements by Millet-Guidry Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Peter Cemetery

1550 Hwy 44  
Reserve, LA 70084

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 3. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter Catholic Church  
1550 Hwy 44  
Reserve, LA 70084

## Mass

NOV 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter Catholic Church  
1550 Hwy 44  
Reserve, LA 70084

# Tribute Wall

GE

“ *My word. Oh my word. What a loss. Such a great person. The universe is diminished.*

george - July 19, 2019 at 12:27 PM



“ *Heart breaking. I stumbled on this sad news accidentally. Like everyone else who knew Claude's open and welcoming personality, my world is a bit darker now. Like so many others, I have always treasured the images he made and was always flattered that he included some of my sittings in his collection of faves. The one of me and my fiddle that made it onto the cover of Camp Chase always felt like a special bond between us. Claude would roll down the sides of his tent at night and I and a few selected friends would knock out old time fiddle tunes late into the night. Those are very happy memories. Thank you for them Claude.*

Philip Levy - December 05, 2018 at 12:52 PM

TM

“ *Our prayers and condolences are with your family. So sorry for your loss. May God comfort and guide you. God Bless. Tom & Beverly Monk.*

Tom Monk - November 03, 2018 at 12:21 AM

CM

“ *On behalf of the 28th Alabama Infantry Regiment, Company H, reenacting unit of which Claude was a member, we all extend our sadness at his passing. He is missed and will be fondly remembered for many years to come. Our sorrow, prayers, and condolences are with you, his family, and his many friends. Rest In Peace buddy.*

Craig Morris - November 01, 2018 at 04:54 PM

AS

*Thank you....*

Angel Aycock sister - November 07, 2018 at 09:19 PM

JF

“ Angel, Yvette, Larry, Mimi Jacque and families, we were so sorry to hear about Claude. We had been praying for him when we found out about the cancer. You have our deepest sympathy. May God console you with his love and give you peace. Love and prayers, Jenny and Donald

---

**Jenny Fuselier** - October 30, 2018 at 10:10 AM



“ Very saddened to hear about Claude's passing. I will forever be amazed by the work he did as a wetplate tintype photographer at re-enactments as well as his photographic and graphic artwork he did for colleges, businesses, movies, TV shows, and particularly the photographs of the actors in the opening credits of the movie "Gettysburg." Claude deserves an incredible amount of recognition in how by teaching many others the trade of tintype photography he has kept the medium alive for generations to come. Claude was a gentle soul and a very kind man who had a heart of gold and was a very dear friend to my dad and I for many many years. He was always so helpful and generous with his time and talents, and would always lend a hand without asking for anything in return. He did so many great things for us from helping out at re-enactments to assisting with home repairs to helping us launch our company website. Claude had so many incredible experiences in his life and crossed paths with so many people. From meeting and working with various celebrities to just happening to be in New York City on 9-11, he always had an amazing new story to tell. It didn't matter who you were or where you were from, almost everybody in the re-enacting hobby seems to have known or met Claude at some point in their lives, and they've always had great things to say about him. I will always cherish my memories of Claude and never forget the fun we had with him. Whether it be traveling with him to re-enactments, to visiting him or having him as a guest at our home on many occasions. it was never a dull moment with Claude and his cronies around. I still have the tintypes he took of me as a youngster and I wish I could have had more taken as I got older. My deepest sympathies go out to Claude's wonderful wife Zebee, his many family members, and all his friends. My thoughts and prayers are with you. May his memory be eternal. The world has lost a true artist. He will be sorely missed us all.

---

**Chris Zaharias** - October 27, 2018 at 01:03 AM

AR

“ Claude was my teacher and mentor, but more than that, a true friend. The first day I met him was during orientation at Southeastern. I was introduced to him by my high school teacher because I was interested in video production - he offered me a student job at the end of that 15 minute introduction. From there he taught me many things - cameras, history, politics, pop culture, and life lessons that I still recall on an almost daily basis. He created many opportunities for me, from arranging for me to attend trade conferences with him as a student, teaching me the wet-plate process, a graduate assistantship that paid for my post-graduate degree (something I had not thought about doing until he made the opportunity available), and as a reference as I started my professional career. Anything I was ever interested in, Claude found a way to support and offer help or insight along the way.

*I am not special - he did these kind of things for so many other people, and he was very low-key about it. I'm only now realizing how many people he affected in this way as I hear stories amongst friends of his, most of whom I never knew. He certainly left a legacy in all of us.*

*I will miss the random phone calls/emails/messages, either to pick my brain or when I had questions for him, or just catching up about what we've been up to.*

*What an exceptional man...You are gone, but not forgotten.*

*My deepest sympathy to Zebbee and to Claude's family. You are all in my thoughts.*

---

**Andrew Richmond** - October 23, 2018 at 11:31 AM

AF

“ I work with Claude's wife Zebbee. Claude was a gentle giant. I saw him in the office during tax season. He would bring the accountants dinner. I also went to lunch with him and Zebbee and he treated us. I am so glad I got to know him. May his soul rest in peace. I know the angels are taking care of him now and he is peaceful and out of of pain.

*Ann Folger*

---

**Ann M. Folger** - October 23, 2018 at 09:33 AM

DW

“ Claude was a great man, a role model and a friend. He is in my prayers as are all of his friends, family, and colleagues.

*Eternal rest grant unto him oh Lord! Let perpetual light shine upon him! May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in God's peace !*

*May Mary escort you to God's Throne and present you to Christ to dwell in glory forever old friend.*

---

**Deacon George Wunderlih** - October 23, 2018 at 07:12 AM

ML

“ Angel and family, we are so sorry for your loss. You will be in our thoughts & prayers.

*Sincerely, Eddie, Marilyn & Lori Lambert*

---

**Marilyn Lambert** - October 22, 2018 at 10:52 PM

EP

“ My condolences to the Levet family on the passing of Claude. I remember Claude from our grade school days and our paths crossed a little bit after that. Claude was a kind and gentle person. May his soul rest in peace.

*Earl Perque*

---

**Earl Perque** - October 22, 2018 at 09:55 PM

SB

*Claude was a craftsman and a natural teacher always willing to share with others. He was a lovely man and a gentleman of the old style. I will miss him. -Steve Bunker*

---

**Steve Bunker** - October 23, 2018 at 11:06 AM

SW

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believe in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life, John 3:16." We are deeply saddened to hear the passing of Claude (" Gentle Giant"). Words are totally inadequate to express our true feelings, but please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

*S. O. Wynn (coworker) and S.L.Wynn*

---

**S O Wynn** - October 23, 2018 at 02:28 PM

JZ

*As a re-enactor and sulter I have known Claude over 30 years, We met somewhere on the road and by vocations we continued to meet up and travel along with two other Sutlers in a van caravan. We often slummed Motel 6's and campgrounds on the road as a group and all got to be great friends, When he was living in Mt, Jackson, Va, our group slept on his front porch and in our vans, all leaving together like a circus train. Claude was always feeding us and/ or taking us to the best places to eat. He had a great sense of humor and was always telling us stories of his funny road experiences. Every time we saw Claude he kept us laughing. He was also a kind and loyal friend. He would give you the shirt off his back. Claude was always there to help me, whether it would be help in fixing my van to get me back on the road, coming up and helping me with plumbing projects, in short, he was always there when I needed him! He set the example of what a person with a big heart should be like, Then there was his photographic eye and creative talent. He helped me get my first website up and running. His skills were astounding. Visiting him in Reserve, meeting his mom and a few of his family was a wonderful experience. On my first visit, they all treated me like one of their own. I told him to give Zebee a call one day in Nashville and the rest of it is history. Janet and I extend our heart filled condolences to Zebee and the Levet family. We loved Claude and thank him for his kindness and friendship over the years. We shall miss him, Claude our dear brother and friend. May the good Lord keep all of you in his care. John Zaharias and Janet Smith, Gettysburg, Pa.*

---

**John Zaharias** - October 23, 2018 at 06:06 PM

  
Debbie  
Gustafson

*To Claude's Wife and family, my deepest sympathy to ya'll. Over 34 years ago Claude was a good Friend and co-worker to my Husband Scotty as they worked at L'Obsevateur together. As I write this note I am reminded of the Bon voyage gathering we hosted for Claude as he set out on the Appalachian Trail!!! Praying for peace in your hearts!!*

---

**Debbie Gustafson** - October 24, 2018 at 04:57 PM

JD

*I am sorry your soul mate has left with the angels. May he rest in peace, and may you remember all the good times.....Love you.*

---

**Jacque Dumas** - October 26, 2018 at 12:28 PM

JC

*I first met Claude in 1987 when he came up the path to my primitive log cabin (I still live in) seeking to be my apprentice to learn the nearly lost art of wet-plate collodion photography. We hit it right off and soon we were pitching his big wall tent at many a civil war reenactment all over the eastern half of the country. Those were the "roaring camp" days of reenacting. We were it and two very busy lads! One duty Claude especially enjoyed was cooking over the campfire. Great gumboes could he feed us in style or any passers by! First I ever ate alligator. Claude went on to be one of the great mountain men of wet-plate collodion movement. Like myself, he liked to teach too. He taught some of the highest profile people known in the craft today free of charge and was there for all for any tips on the wet-plate process. Claude made the trip to my "Camp Tintype" numerous times just to visit or to pass on to me what ever surplus items related to the process he had for me. His really fine cast iron head-brace stand, super delux plate rack, silver baths, and a pallet of bright tin I still tap into for making the world's only Mammoth plate Ferrotypes. When he came to the annual Wet-Plate Jamboree here at "Camp Tintype" he more than sold his wares, he was considered a great sage to sit before. He will be remembered well by the old Jamboree regulars and sorely missed. A part of the great quilt of the wet-plate collodion movement has been lost and I for one sincerely grieve his passing. I do hope he's got the gumbo going in the great beyond! John Coffey, "camp Tintype" Dundee, NY 14837*

**John Coffey** - October 26, 2018 at 12:54 PM

BM

*There's not enough room to list all the wonderful visits & memories we have with Claude! And there are lots, thank goodness! Whether it was first in Staten Island. then in Louisiana, then in Glenmont & Eastfield Village in NY, it was always a treat to be with Claude. We especially remember Claude's visit to Staten Island, arriving on Sept 10 2001, with his friend (& our new buddy) Will Dunniway. We told them if they wanted to go to Manhattan, Monday, Sept 11 would be the best day to go since the weather was predicted to be really good. They arrived at the Staten Island ferry in time to see the first World Center building fall. What a day! They were trapped on Staten Island for several more days since all the bridges were closed to traffic. However they were soon on their way again. Happily we did have more adventures together which we also treasure. We will miss him a LOT! Rest in peace, our friend.*

*Bill & Judy McMillen*

**Bill & Judy McMillen** - October 29, 2018 at 01:08 PM



*Sic Transit Gloria Mundi*

**W Frank Mathers** - May 02, 2019 at 01:28 AM