

# Entertainment

## Ebony Etchings, etc.

### "IN MEMORY OF A GOOD FRIEND CHUCK MANN..."

A phone call from Ed Burbridge last Wednesday made me aware of the fact that Chuck Mann had died Tuesday evening behind the wheel of his automobile from a massive heart attack. This was sad news, because Chuck Mann was indeed a long time friend and associate. We has shared many moments and memories together. He officed with me for several years, and I worked closely with him back in the early seventies helping to make his dream a living reality in the production of his "Soul and Blues Awards."

He was born on March 7th,

1934 in Terrell, Texas. Carlos Clinton Newmon was his name, Chuck Mann was the professional name he took on. He played professional baseball with the Chicago Cubs in the mid 50's. He was 58-years-old when he passed, and he is survived by his mother Anne B. Penny Newman and his son Andre L. Newman.

Our friendship started shortly after I had relocated from Teaneck, New Jersey, to Los Angeles better than 30-years ago. At the time he was a disc jockey on KGFJ Radio Station, broadcasting from midnight to 3:00 a.m. from the window of Dolphins of Hollywood Record Store. I was

new in town, but I had some notoriety going for myself as manager and guiding force in the resurging career of jazz singer Etta Jones, whose hit record "Don't Go To Strangers" was one of the hottest records around at the time. As Etta's manager, Church and I had a mutual ground to meet and talk on. Shortly thereafter, I agreed to work with and create a new on-the-air image. We came up with the concept 'Mann at Midnight,' and his show and image took on a new meaning to late nite listeners. It also increased the parade of recording artists wanting to be interviewed, and have their records played in the window of Dolphins of Hollywood by 'Mann at Midnight.'

Following his stint as a mid-night jock on KGFJ Radio Station, he opened a record store, while I opted to get back in the record business by taking on the challenge of re-establishing Kent/Modern Records as a major force in the music industry. "Rock Me Baby" by B.B. King, "Black Nights" by Lowell Fulson, Johnny "Guitar" Watson's "Gangster of Love," Tina Turner's sizzling hot version of "Please, Please, Please," and the top ten hit recording of "Peaches And Cream" by the Ikettes, were a few of the chart riding releases that came about during my tenure as General Manager of Kent/Modern Records. When I left that operation to become the National Trouble Shooter for Berry Gordy's Motown

Records, I recommended that Chuck Mann replace me. Chuck was hired to replace me, and stayed with the company a couple of years.

When I caught up with him some years later his entrepreneurial drive led to him quitting his position at the network studio to try his hand at becoming a successful independent television producer.

In the early 70's I provided him with office space in my suite of offices on Sunset Boulevard, and years later he came up with the idea of producing and taping his "Soul and Blues Awards" television special at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. The finished results made him a forerunner to the many award shows now honoring African Americans in the music field!! Even though his early day efforts got very little industry cooperation and acceptance, he pushed on to bring to fruition his dream of establishing his "Soul and Blues Awards" as an annual premier television special to recognize and honor the many unsung or unheralded black folk in the music and entertainment business way back then.

Chuck also went through living hell trying to get his finished product aired for black folks to see

The overall rejection and results left a scar on Chuck Mann that never really healed, but he persevered and pushed on to conquer new fields of endeavor.

Prior to his death Chuck had established the All American Youth Foundation to combat the rise of crime and drug addiction in Los Angeles communities. He was also in the process of activating his annual "Soul and Blues Awards."

"Chuck Mann is no longer with us, but the memory of all that he was and all that he gave to all of

## SENTINEL-VOICE TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1.) MY LOVIN' - En Vogue
- 2.) COME TALK TO ME - Jodeci
- 3.) PLEASE DON'T GO - Boyz II Men
- 4.) I'LL BE THERE - Mariah Carey
- 5.) JUMP - Kriss Kross
- 6.) LIVE AND LEARN - Joe Public
- 7.) IN THE CLOSET - Michael Jackson
- 8.) TAKE ME BACK - Kathy Sledge
- 9.) GOODBYE - Tevin Campbell
- 10.) HONEY LOVE - R. Kelly

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

### NEW #1 SONG: MyLovin' PICK HIT OF THE WEEK: Honey Love

FURTHERMORE: En Vogue finally takes the top spot from Kriss Kross with Jodeci right on their "high" heels; Boyz II Men keeps saying Please Don't Go yet they could be on their way to a decline in the Top 10; R. Kelly moves into the T'10 with a def slow jam that earns the PHOTW honor and just may eventually slide into the #1 slot;

GOTTA SAY WHATS UP TO: Lonesome Stacy from KCEP-FM88, who after three years of hosting the Quiet Storm, is steadily sendin' out the freshest slow jams over the air and through your speakers - *Keep 'em hype Stacy!!!*

P2THE-E-A-C-E WW Top 20 listing compiled by D.J. Willie-Will



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us who knew him and cherished his friendship goes a long way in keeping his memory alive.

In closing we would like to repeat Chuck's favorite phrase, and we quote, "When I look into the mirror of life, I certainly gonna miss you; but we take heart

knowing that you're gonna be with our Lord and Saviour away from the troubles of this troubled old world.

You'll also be with the real 'soul and blues' legends, who have gone on before you to be with the Lord.

### MICHAEL JACKSON PAYS FOR FUNERAL

LOS ANGELES - Pop star Michael Jackson paid for the funeral of a 9-year-old boy killed in his Watts home by a stray bullet.

Jackson was moved to help with the expenses after reading that the parents of Ramon Sanchez, Jr. could not afford to bury their son, said Mary Sutton, a Los Angeles County victim services representative.

The Youngster was drinking a glass of milk May 6 when an errant bullet pierced the kitchen window of the family apartment and struck him in the head. He died hours later at a hospital.

Sutton said Jackson's representatives called her just days after Ramon's death to relay the entertainer's offer of assistance.

In addition to funeral, mortuary and cemetery costs, Jackson paid for a headstone, Sutton said. She declined to say how much the singer paid.