



## Charles "Tone" Reid

October 21, 1952 - August 24, 2020

Charles "Tone" Reid - October 21, 1952 - August 24, 2020

Charles "Tone" Reid, of Las Vegas, Nevada passed away on Monday, August 24th. Tone was a charming man with a big heart, a megawatt smile, and the ability to instantly create a loving community of "best friends" wherever he went. Tone's beautiful spirit and unrelenting positive outlook enriched and delighted all whom he encountered. He enjoyed an interesting, unique, adventurous and very fun life which began with his upbringing in the Bronx, New York as the eldest of eight sons and the second sibling in a line of ten children.

Creative, athletic and fearless, Tone attended Hight School of Art & Design in Manhattan and then performed in the Center Ring of the Ringling Brothers Circus in 1970 with the King Charles Troupe. The King Charles Unicycle Troupe was, and continues to be, a group of Black performers who play basketball on their unicycles. They were recruited by the Ringling Brothers Circus and became the first Black performers who gained instant popularity as a Center Ring act. For 12 years, Tone travelled to every state in the US and around the world with Ringling Brothers, appeared on national television programs, such as Ed Sullivan and Merv Griffin; and socialized with such luminaries such as Muhammad Ali and Paul Schaeffer - who became a life-long friend. In January 2020, The King Charles Troupe was inducted into the Circus Ring of Fame in Sarasota, Florida, the home of the Ringling Museum and Ringling College of Art & Design.

In 1981, Tone and the Troupe settled in Las Vegas where they joined the world-renowned illusionists Siegfried and Roy on stage at the Frontier Hotel on the Las Vegas Strip. This is also where he met his devoted wife, Julieta Elliott, who was an ensemble dancer in the production show. Tone and the Troupe continued with Siegfried and Roy and performed with them in Japan and Radio City Hall.

After many national and international performances, Tone put aside his unicycle, except for recreational purposes, and held positions as a personal trainer and as a Back Stability Specialist at Keith Kleven's physical therapy clinic. In 1998 he also joined the production crew at The Golden Nugget. To his family's delight, he shared stories about his work and the celebrities who invited him to join them after their shows. His meeting Prince was among the most exciting!

During his seven year residence at Silver Ridge Long-term Disability Center in Las Vegas, his grace and bright-light led many to refer to him as the "mayor." In typical fashion, Tone made friends, delighted the staff, uplifted other residents, even though he usually beat them at Bingo; and made the best possible life for himself in this new environment. The family is appreciative of the care and support that he received from the staff.

In addition to his wife, Julieta, Tone is survived by his large and adoring family: Audrey Dolginoff, his niece who lived with him and Julieta during many years as a teenager and young adult; his two sisters, Celeste and Jacqueline; his brothers Gerald, Howard, Christopher, David, Keith and Guy; his aunts Anne and Chickie; his uncle Charlie; nephews Damon, Brandon, Jonathan, Aaron, Gregory, Keith, Jr., and Jarvis; nieces Zoe, Mayrose, Elizabeth, Sara, Brenda, and Jennifer; brothers-in-law David Lee, Carl Beatty, Mark Dolginoff DVM, and Mark Dobeck, sister-in-law Estella Dobeck, and numerous cousins and other family members. Tone was preceded in death by his brother, Jay.

Because of the tragedy of this pandemic, most of these loved ones cannot give him the proper farewell that such an extraordinary man deserves.

However, there will be a memorial service at a later date to enable the many

people whose lives he touched in such a meaningful way to pay tribute to this beautiful spirit!

# Tribute Wall



“ 42 files added to the album 155532



Affordable Cremation & Burial Service - January 29, 2025 at 10:03 AM

TA

“ Unfortunately he never got to meet his son he shared with a woman he met in Long Island, New York. His son's name is Charles Cornelius Little who now resides in Yorktown, Virginia. A decision was made by one of his brothers not to disclose this information.

Taniesha - July 30, 2023 at 05:30 AM

ED

“ Charles "Tone" Reid

Estelle Elliott Dobeck - September 03, 2020 at 08:49 PM

ED

“ Tone, May your light and spirit shine freely with God's grace. Your presence will be sorely missed by your families and friends. We love you

Estelle Elliott Dobeck - September 03, 2020 at 11:59 AM

ED

“ *Tone, We will miss your presence deeply and greatly. May your spirit be with God and flying free.* ”

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**Estelle Elliott Dobeck** - September 03, 2020 at 11:14 AM

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“ *Charles "Tone" Reid* ”

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**Estelle Elliott Dobeck** - September 03, 2020 at 11:02 AM

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“ *Charles "Tone" Reid* ”

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**Estelle Elliott Dobeck** - September 03, 2020 at 10:52 AM

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“ Charles "Tone" Reid

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**Estelle Elliott Dobeck** - September 03, 2020 at 10:05 AM

ED

“ *Charles "Tone" Reid*

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**estelle elliott dobeck** - September 03, 2020 at 09:24 AM

“ There are so many lovely memories of Tone in my family's life. My twin, Julieta, added a wonderful addition to us, when they married, that helped to enrich my life and others. She and Tone lovingly and with open arms accepted those whom I brought into their lives and home. Tone took care of my daughter, Audrey, as if she was his own, and helped keep an eye on Nathan, my stepson, with the same care and patience. Tone was "cool" and their friends were more than happy to be entertained by him. Uncle Tone and Aunti Ju were an integral part of my children's lives and well known by their friends. Tone was not only cool, he was charming, intelligent, humorous, quietly strong, handsome, and creative. He and I had great fun making costumes for little Audrey, even after late hours of Siegfried and Roy rehearsals! The rubik's cube was a standout. Audrey's first request and a surprising one. Tone was stunned and kept saying "Don't you want to be a princess?!!" But Audrey asked and Uncle Tone delivered [ I helped ]. My immediate and extended family spent many Christmases together in Las Vegas, Maryland, and Montana. It was a large multi ethnic group with a variety of personalities and Tone was part of it. He brought a vast, varied musical taste and perspective that was not only educational but rounded out my overly classical immediate family. Tone's last active Christmas was in Bozeman, Montana. Tone's life changed drastically, for himself and my twin, in the last seven years, but his innate character stayed the same. Tone was a beautiful man with a substance of character that he was able to maintain, regardless of the crippling disabilities that had occurred to him. He faced these past seven years with God's grace, quiet fortitude, and immense dignity. A dignity difficult to maintain under his circumstances, yet Tone never waivered. He never complained or made things difficult for others even as he became more cognizant and aware of himself and his surroundings. I loved and respected Tone as an extension of my twin, his incredibly strong and loving wife, and as much as my siblings. He was and always will be an integral part of my immediate and extended family. My family and I offer our condolences to the Reids, Tone's family, for losing such a lovely family member. May all your beautiful memories of him and each other maintain him in your

*hearts and lives. Estrellita Dobecksister in law*

**Estelle Elliott Dobeck** - September 02, 2020 at 11:54 PM

JE

“ Charles "Tone" Reid

**Julieta Elliott** - September 02, 2020 at 11:25 PM

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**Julieta Elliott** - September 02, 2020 at 11:25 PM

JE

“ With my families, I thank All of you for your kind condolences and sweet acknowledgment of Charles Tone Reid. With these 3 men by my side , we said our final farewells to Tone yesterday , a bright Saturday morning -August 29/20.Due to the current health situation, there was no formal funeral services for Tone.Floyd Sweets Harrison, Melvin Mel e Mel Evans , and Mark Dolginoff: these men encompassed Tone's life as a young man performing with the King Charles Troupe-Ringling Brothers Circus- to moving to Las Vegas as a specialty act on the Strip- Siegfried & Roy Show- and to belonging to an exclusive club- as a brother-in-law.♥️ I would like to make clear that Tone did not have Covid -19. However, he was as much a victim from it due to the prolonged confinement and loss of physical contact with loved ones and friends.SILVERRIDGE did a wonderful job in their care, especially in these trying times.Please sign, leave photos and anecdotes on his obituary websites. His family and friends back East as well as my scattered family around the country will get to share your memories. On Tone's birthday, a year from now, we will celebrate his Life with joy and exuberance. With love, Julieta Elliott

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**Julieta Elliott** - September 02, 2020 at 11:25 PM

MK

“ Dear Julieta and family, Mere words can't describe the feeling of loss of such a special person Tone was to so many people. His light will shine continually as the memory of him will never be forgotten. I believe Keith was there to greet him with a big smile and hug and they're reminiscing about old times now. Know that where there is deep love, there is deep grief.... Let it flow and know your heart will never be the same. Live your life in ways that honor Tone's legacy of love and light. With love, Mary Kleven

MARY KLEVEN - August 31, 2020 at 05:50 PM



“ Charles "Tone" Reid

August 31, 2020 at 02:10 AM



“ Charles "Tone" Reid

August 31, 2020 at 02:10 AM

JE

“ Charles "Tone" Reid

Julieta Elliott - August 31, 2020 at 01:30 AM

SL

“ In memory of a very special friend who will be greatly,

Sherry Lindt - August 30, 2020 at 10:47 AM

TT

“ Tony was always a sweet gentle spirit, he will definitely be missed. Tina Thompson (sister of Ernest aka Clyde formerly of the King Charles troupe)

Tina Thompson - August 30, 2020 at 04:08 AM

SL

“ To the most gifted & talented person I've ever met. Thank you for always sharing so freely. May all the Love & Joy you gave us follow you into the LIGHT, which has to be infinitely brighter now. Your "Art Deco Buddy" Scott

Scott Linker - August 29, 2020 at 12:06 PM

PK

“ I'm so thankful to have known Tony over the years. No words will do justice to the impact he has had on his friends and co-workers over the years. Much love to Julietta and Tony's siblings during this time.

Peggy King - August 29, 2020 at 11:36 AM

FH

“ My dear friend - my brother - my hero, Blessings.

F. "Sweets" Harrison - August 29, 2020 at 11:31 AM