



Harry Lee LaFleur

Harry Lee Lafleur was born on October 23, 1933, in the community of Swords, Louisiana. At about the age of six or eight, his grandfather who was also a fiddle player inspired him. His brother, Raymond, also played music with the legendary Iry LeJeune and Harry would often watch them play. This is when he became interested in the guitar, which he played for many years before switching to the fiddle. He played a variety of musical instruments, in addition to the guitar and fiddle. Over the years Harry performed with legendary Cajun musicians such as Dennis McGee, Iry LeJeune, Leopold Manuel, Nathan Abshire, Wallace “Cheese” Reed and many others.

Among his songwriting credits include two songs, *La Contre Danse à Pèrepère*, and *La Vie Est pas Donné*, written for a film entitled “Allie Baines Meets the Cajuns” which was released in England. Other recordings include the waltz, *The Memories of My Life*, *La Reel à Harry*, *Tout Le Tour Du Grand Bois*, *La Derniere Minuit*, *Prairie Cajun Breakdown Saut Crapaud*, *Danse 'Tit Cajan*. Also in the 50's Harry had his own radio show on KSLO Radio in Opelousas, Louisiana.

Over the years Harry and his music have been used in various documentaries to promote Cajun music and he has been given the Master Fiddle Award as well as The Pioneer Award. He is the founder of The Cajun French Music Association and the Annual Le Cajan Festival and Music Awards. Harry is known for his love of French music and he has worked in many different

areas of the country, including area festivals, universities and the World's Fair. Harry never tires of educating people about Cajun music. He was instrumental in getting the local museum to donate an entire room to exhibit pictures of Cajun pioneer musicians who were responsible for our musical heritage. Many of these musicians are deceased; however, some are still alive and continue to bring lots of entertainment to the younger generation.