



Larry G. Miller

Larry was born in Acadia Parish near Iota, Louisiana, July 7, 1936 to Abraham J. Miller and Alzena Leger, 97 percent of French ancestry, and grew up speaking Cajun French. His father played house dances on accordion later with Larry on triangle and spoons in family jams. Larry was 42 when he began to learn how to play and build accordions. He built accordions for 28 years producing just under 1100 accordions and taught 9 people how to build accordions through an apprenticeship of 240 hours including a grandson, Jay Miller.

Larry was one of the 26 founders of the Cajun French Music Association, served in almost every office including National President for three terms. He has dedicated a substantial portion of his life during those 35 years to the preservation and public education of Cajun culture by being the primary driving force for: [1] establishing the CFMA National Board structure, [2] formation of the “Le Cajun” Music Awards program, [3] Iota Mardi Gras Folk Life Festival, [4] the Cajun Music Hall of Fame & Museum in Eunice, [5] producing a book (1984) & CD You Can Play Cajun Accordion, [6] the French Gospel Choir of St. Joseph Church, Iota, Louisiana, in 2000, [7] two grants, 1987, 1988, conducted in depth research, documented oral history, photos, and route maps of respective Prairie Cajun Mardi Gras activities of western Acadian Parish, [8] Mardi Gras historical travel display.

Larry co-founded/managed a traditional Cajun band, “Moulin Rouge” for 13

years and recorded a cassette in 1986, CD reproduced. He has also devoted many years of traveling to numerous festivals/tours across USA, four in France and four in French Canada to play Cajun music, show hand-made instruments and give numerous Cajun Culture presentations. He has also done at least 200 school programs on Cajun music, culture and traditional Mardi Gras.

He credits much of the above with assistance of his wife Jackie Reed Miller.