



Atlas Fruge

Atlas was born July 15th , 1924 to Artemon and Oline Fruge, Sr. and was brought up in in Eunice , Louisiana area. He married Bernella Aucoin and had five children .

In 1934 at the age of 10 Mr. Fruge started playing the accordion . Later he then learned to play the violin , guitar , steel guitar and piano . In 1939 he played his first dance which was referred to at the time as a “Country House Dance.” His dad played the fiddle and he and his brother played the guitar.

He first heard the steel guitar in 1940 where the band was Leo Soileau and “Daddy Red” was playing the steel guitar at Club Avalon in Basile , Louisiana. “ Daddy Red “ influenced him greatly and Mr. Fruge watched every move he made on the bandstand. Mr. Fruge then decided he wanted to play the steel guitar. He started with a standard guitar and used a little bottle instead of a steel bar.

J. B. Fuselier about 1940 had a little hillbilly band and he used to bring his accordion to the dances and would play a few French Songs and as time passed, French Songs were requested more and more . When his steel guitar player quit , he asked Atlas to play the steel guitar with his band and this is where Mr. Fruge got his “ Big start”. On November 15th 1987 , he was honored for his “Contribution and Participation in Preserving the Cajun French Music Tradition and being on of the True “Pioneer's of Cajun Music “!

Atlas Fruge has played with other musicians in their band such as Nathan Abshire, Lawrence Walker , Andrew Cormier , Cleven Fontenot , Sidney Brown , Joe Bonsall , August Broussard , Jesse Lege , Ervine LeJeune , Allen Thibodeaux ,and Isaac Leger .