

Celebrating The Life Of
Buddy Cooper



TEE OFF ~~ August 29, 1957
TO THE CLUBHOUSE ~~ March 11, 2018

THE BELL HOUSE // 149 7th Street // Brooklyn, NY 11215
Sunday, March 25, 2018 – 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm

SCORECARD NARRATIVE

Buddy was born Edgar Leon Cooper IV and was the first of four children born to Edgar Leon Cooper III and Joan Ripley Cooper. Buddy was born in Philadelphia, PA, and lived all around the world from Hawaii and California out west to Japan and back again, including Georgia, Virginia, Washington, DC, New Jersey, and New York. This not only helped make him a man of the world, but it also made his embrace of the New England Patriots, San Antonio Spurs and Cincinnati Reds totally baffling.

Buddy's intellectual curiosity developed early. He questioned how things work and why, all the time. He spent a lot of time asking and reading to gain answers. Perhaps this is to be expected when you are the son of a doctor and an educator.

Buddy was fond of warm locations (golf is easier that way) and during his years as a family man, he traveled with his wife, Rose, and sons, Niles and Kendal, to Jamaica, Bali, Australia, Spain, France and several of the Hawaiian Islands.

Buddy found his calling with the game/addiction known as golf, not simply as a player, but also as a teacher and most importantly as a teacher for students of ALL ages and stages, blind and seeing. His penchant for teaching also found an outlet as coach for the baseball teams of Niles and Kendal over the years. On one of their annual boys' trips, they drove around the country visiting various baseball stadiums and taking in a game as they went.

Once the Director of Instruction for over 9 years at the Bronx Golf Center in the city of New York, and a golf professional for over 28 years, Buddy started in the business in Philadelphia, PA at historic Cobb's Creek Golf Club. Prior to moving to New York City in 1996, Buddy was the General Manager and Head Professional at historic Freeway Golf Course in Sicklerville, the first African American owned, 18 hole course in the US. He was most recently a staff instructor with the Kate Tempesta Urban Golf Academy in New York City and at Marine Park Golf Course in Brooklyn, NY. He was also an instructor at Jim McLean Golf Academy at Chelsea Piers in New York City. Teaching all levels of golfers, including local pros and competitive juniors, he oversaw the Jim

McLean Junior Golf Academy each of his two years on staff. Additionally, Buddy was a staff instructor of the Jim Colbert/Jimmy Ballard schools with the Family Golf Center of the Bronx.

Buddy's teaching philosophy was centered on the athleticism of each student and he was known for customizing an instruction program based upon a student's athletic background. If there was little or no prior athletic experience, then he would start beginning or high handicap students with learning basic athletic movement. This phase was supported with the belief that all great athletes had to learn athletic movement somehow and that no one is born knowing how to swing a golf club. Once athletic movement and balance are understood, along with drills to support the learning process, progression toward applying these movements to build a successful golf swing can be made at alarming speed. Finally, along with precision club fitting, Buddy provided direction for students to develop their most important piece of equipment, the body, via his association with area fitness pros and the Golf Studio at Marine Park Golf Course.

Buddy leaves to cherish his memory a host of family, friends, students, and colleagues; practically everyone he ever came in contact with. But certainly at the top of that list are his sons Niles and Kendal; and siblings Laura, Richard and Jocelyn.



TODAY'S COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

**FRONT NINE – Gather and Mingle
(Par equals noon to 12:45)**

**AT THE TURN – Remarks
(Par equals 12:45 to 1:45)**

**BACK NINE – Celebrate the Life of Buddy!
(Par equals 1:45 to 3:00)**



Our Lives Matter by M. Maureen Killoran

We come together from the diversity of our grieving,
To gather in the warmth of this community
Giving stubborn witness to our belief that
In times of sadness, there is room for laughter.
In times of darkness, there always will be light.
May we hold fast to the conviction
That what we do with our lives matters
And that a caring world is possible after all.

Afterglow by Helen Lowrie Marshall

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,
To dry before the sun
Of happy memories
That I leave when life is done.

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In lieu of flowers, please consider a gift to the BUDDY COOPER  
MEMORIAL GOLF FOUNDATION. The Foundation funds will be  
used to arrange an annual golf tournament, in Bud's honor, that  
will help promote golf and subsidize golf lessons for children.  
<https://www.gofundme.com/buddy-cooper-memorial-golf-fdn>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Family appreciates the many comforting expressions of love and  
sympathy extended during this challenging time.

**FORE ...**