

Hi Dear Marion,

I'm so sad that Gilbert is gone. I'm even sadder for you because I know he was your friend. All I know is nobodylit my fire.....and gave me hope as a Creole.....more than he did with his wittings. I used to hang onto every word he wrote in that Bayou Talk of the early years - - Gilbert's articles and your's were the only items worth reading.

Actually I think that Gilbert Martinput the spurs to the entire Creole Movement that has ocured in recent years. His early writing is what what put "organization" and "structure" to our many loose and varied ideas regarding who we were as Creoles. I think that Gilbert is the one who gave us the language and the words to use - - in intelligibly discussing who we are as Creoles. Gilbert is the one who did the real research on the meaning of "Creole".....and he shared those ideas with all of us. Not only did he share those ideas.....but his ideas were so unique and timely that they actually equiped hundreds of us to take up the public crusade in our own individual ways.

I know for a fact that Terril Delphin personally told me that Gilbert Martin was his "mentor". There may be reasons why Gilbert was never thrown into the forefront with regards to public recognition - - yet it is without doubt that his ideas.....and the tools of language which he gave us.....all served as a primary driving force behind the modern day Creole Movement in America.

Marion.....I don't have any email addresses to forward this to other than you. If you want to forward it please feel free. LOVE TO YOU..... :) J.O.S. :)