

## **Joseph Louis Murphy Sr.**

Born: January 15, 1936

Died: November 22, 2022, Albuquerque, New Mexico

High School: Albuquerque High School

His parents, Hannibal and Nellie named him after legendary boxer, Joe Louis. Joe served in the U.S. Air Force, the National Guard and was Vietnam combat veteran. Over his lifetime, Joe was a night club owner, actor, insurance agent, fighter, referee, trainer, promoter, and boxing judge. He has trained young people in boxing since the early 70'S and was still training young fighters at Jack Candelaria Community Center at age 83.

He gave direction and a home to fighters for over 40 years and helped many troubled kids to find a better path in life. Joe not only trained a young man in the scientific style of boxing, but he trained young people on how to live a better and clean life. What was the first thing he taught young fighters? The footwork, the jab, the hook? No. "I try to teach them respect," Joe told the Albuquerque Journal ... How to get along with other fighters and other people."

He dedicated himself to helping his community with his countless hours of service. He was rich by no means, but wealthy in his effort in helping young people see life in a beautiful way. He was a pillar in the impoverished part of our city, who helped anyone he could to have a better life.

### **Amateur**

- 1952 Began fighting as an amateur at the age of 16.
- Joe, a southpaw fought 495 amateur boxing fights with countless golden glove victories.
- State Golden Glove Champion.
- 1954 Joined the U.S. Air Force, during his enlistment, he started in professional boxing career.

### **Professional**

- When Joe was in his prime, he would pack the Civic Auditorium.
- He has worked along the likes of countless World Champions.
- The record was 37-3-1 with four knockouts as a welterweight.
- From May 1959 to December 1965, he would not lose a fight.
- After retiring at the age of 30, he became a boxing judge and referee.
- Joe is responsible for getting World Light Heavyweight champion, Bobby Foster involved in boxing as a youth.
- He appeared in the movie "Ripped Off" alternatively known as "The Boxer." Robert Blake was the featured actor. Tough Guy
- Appeared in an episode of the TV series "In Plain Sight."

## **Honors**

- Inducted into the New Mexico Boxing Hall of Fame.

## **Community**

- Member of the Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Boxing Advisory Committee - Chairman
- Member of the NAACP of the NW Chapter Rio Rancho
  - President

## **Family**

- Ruthie Glenn of Albuquerque
- Joseph Jr of Albuquerque
- Monique Robinson of Evansville, Indiana
- Sandi Selby of Albuquerque
- Antoinette Murphy of Bonaire, Georgia

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