

Breaking news: Keyboard legend George Duke dies at age 67

Written by Genea Webb - Courier Features Writer Reprinted with permission, New Pittsburgh Courier
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Editors Note: According to Jazzwisemagazine.com, it has been reported veteran jazz, R&B, funk and fusion keyboard virtuoso George Duke has died at age 67. This news comes after a difficult period for the acclaimed keyboardist and composer whose beloved wife Corine passed away just over a year ago. The Radio Facts website states that Duke died on Monday, Aug. 5 but no other details have yet been confirmed as to the cause of his death, which comes while he had just launched his latest album, *Dreamweaver*, which he'd dedicated to his wife's memory. Below is an exclusive interview by the Courier with Duke last week. He never mentioned having any health problems.



Keyboardist, arranger, composer, and producer George Duke wants to give people something to think about and ponder when they listen to his music.

"The closest thing the Creator gives us to be God-like is the ability to write a song," Duke said from his California home. "There is a pool of audio soup and we dip our fingers into it."

Duke definitely gave his diehard fans and newcomers to his sound something to talk about and think about when he released "Dreamweaver" on the Heads Up label, a division of the Concord Music Group on July 16.

By his own admission, 'Dreamweaver' is Duke's most honest record to date. He wrote the songs for the disc after his wife, Corine, passed away.

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