Saturday, August 11, 7pm
Collingwood Park, San Francisco
Free

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence is holding a memorial service for Sister Boom Boom (aka, Jack Fertig) at Collingwood Park. Family and community colleagues representing various aspects of Jack's rich and wondrous life will offer eulogies. Please bring rose petals, glitter, banners, photographs and flags to honor our latest "Nun of the Above."

On August 5, 2012 at 9:30 PM, Sister Boom Boom succumbed to liver cancer in the loving presence of his partner Elias Trevino and dogs, Chloe and Perry. Jack was also known to many as teacher, astrologer, artist, and a devout and faithful scholar of Islam.

Sister Boom Boom was a key Queer pioneer who took Queer Consciousness to the mainstream. In 1982, Sister Boom Boom nearly won a Board of Supervisors seat by running a uniquely San Francisco campaign of radical politics and nun drag. She won 23,124 votes with her occupation listed as "Nun of the Above." A year later, Boom Boom ran for the 1983 mayoral

race against incumbent Dianne Feinstein and, as a result, San Francisco passed a law that requires candidates to only use their legal names on the ballot. This law is often referred to as the “Sister Boom Boom” law.

Due to internal disputes, Jack Fertig broke from the Sisters in 1985. Jack Fertig went on to pursue his Divine calling and became an award-winning astrologer and respected Queer Muslim activist. He was also an avid organizer in the leather and sober communities. Cleve Jones, AIDS activist and creator of the NAMES Project AIDS Quilt, remembers Sister Boom Boom as a “dear friend” and a “fierce advocate for the poor and immigrant communities.”

In 2009, a mysterious figure in a burqa appeared at the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence 30th Anniversary Exhibition at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. The black silhouette revealed herself as “Sister Boom Boom XXX.” When asked about the name change in a 2010 interview, Sister explained, “Sister Boom Boom is my slave name. Now that I’m Muslim, I’m Boom Boom XXX!” Since the 30th anniversary, Sister Boom Boom XXX had started to reconnect with the Sisters at socials and select public events. Earlier this year, Sister Boom Boom spoke on a “Sister Spirituality” panel for San Francisco’s Gay Buddhist Fellowship. This would be her last event in habit.

Sister Boom Boom XXX, legendary change maker and hot ginger, joins our Nuns of the Above. We honor the amazing Queer power that manifested as Sister Boom Boom and we will ensure our Sister’s legacy is not forgotten. In lieu of gifts or flowers, please donate to Grateful Dogs Rescue or LYRIC for LGBTQ Youth.