









## 100 THINGS TO DO IN AMARILLO

Tumbleweed Smith

Eric Miller spent 21 years as director of Amarillo's tourist Bureau. He was looking at a list of books titled "100 Things To Do" in various cities like San Antonio, Dallas and Houston. He decided to write one about Amarillo so he called the publisher. told what he wanted to do and got the job. Six months later he handed in the manu-

**Tumbleweed Smith** 

script. His book, 100 THINGS TO DO IN AMARILLO BEFORE YOU DIE, came out in September of last year.

Eric says he got a legal pad and started writing about things in Amarillo. "They all had to be real quality," he says.

"Some are big, some small. I got to about 75 or 80 real quick. My book doesn't mention just the top things to do, just some things to do. At book signings I have a big sign saying 100 THINGS TO DO IN AMARILLO. Some people come up and say 'really?' I visit with them for a while and tell them 100 don't even scratch the surface. I've already started on my next list. I want to do a second edition."

One thing mentioned in his book is The Big Texan Steak Ranch, which serves a half a million meals every year and has done so for decades. The restaurant serves a 5-pound roast and anyone who eats all of it in less than an hour gets it free. If they don't finish they pay \$72. One guy ate 2 of them in the allotted

The thing that draws the most people to Amarillo is an art installation on Interstate 40. "It's just so quirky," says Eric. "Over a million people stop there each year. It's ten vintage Cadillacs from the late 40s to the early 60's buried nose first into a field west of town. It may have been the first real off the wall public sculpture ever done in the US. It'll have its 50th anniversary in 2024."

Eric says the number one tourist attraction in Amarillo is the Palo Duro Canyon, the second largest canyon in the United States. "If you miss the canyon you miss the whole panhandle experience," says Eric. "It's the only canyon where you can drive to the bottom. It's open 35 days a year. It's where the outdoor drama TEXAS is staged."

The biggest sections of his book are history and culture. The city has lots of museums and art activities including symphony, opera, ballet and live theater. "It's all professional and well done and it's right here," says Eric. "That surprises so many folks."

One interesting place is the RV Museum on south Interstate 27. It has a history of RV travel including some early campers made from freight wagons.

The portion of highway 66 that runs through Amarillo has become a lively place with shops and restaurants. In 4 years the famous highway will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Eric says because Amarillo is easy to get around you can do several things in one day. "That's one thing about our little town. It's pure convenience."

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**Answers On Page 3** 

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## Rose Mary Beaudin

Funeral mass for Rose Mary Beaudin, age 85 of Yantis, TX will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 26, 2022 at St. James Catholic Church with Father Mark Dunne officiating. Interment will follow at Arbala Cemetery with Josh Taylor, Ronald Taylor, Buck Nichols, Kathy Nichols, Bryan Nichols and Rudy Crist will be serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held the day prior, Wednesday, May 25, 2022 from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. Mrs. Beaudin passed away on May 21, 2022.

Rose Mary was born on March 2, 1937, in Reilly Springs, Texas, to Irvin Floyd Nichols and Connie Mae Hunt. She married David Hilderbrand of Sulphur Springs and had a daughter JoAnn Taylor. She also raised a nephew, Norman (Buck) Nichols, and niece, Norma (Tootsie) Atchley, who she called her own. Early in Rose Mary's life, she worked at Texas Instruments in Dallas and moved back to Yantis to work at H.D Lee

Plant. At one point, Rose Mary divorced and with that she bought a tractor which she didn't know how to drive, but she did know how to farm. She had her father make up the rows and she began a 35-year career as a lady farmer. Then, she married Emanuel Beaudin "Frenchie". They both kept farming. During the springtime Rose Mary would pick poke salad to go and sell. During the fall, she would dig sassafras, pick up pinecones and mistletoe. Everyone knew Rose Mary as the produce lady. There was nothing she loved more than to be in her garden barefoot and feel the sun on her back and the wind on her face. Rose Mary loved what she did so much that she did it into her 70s. She loved all the people she met on a day to day basis. Rose Mary was a faithful member of St James Catholic Church.

She is survived by her daughters, Jo Ann Taylor and husband Richard of Yantis, Texas, Norma "Tootsie" Atchley and husband, Bob of Sevierville, Tennessee; son, Norman "Buck" Nichols of Yantis, Texas; brother, William "Bill" Nichols of Duncanville, Texas; grandsons, Joshua Taylor and wife Kathryn, Jessie Nichols, Brandon Nichols; granddaughters, Kathleen "Katie" Atchley, Jennifer Nichols; and great-grandchildren, Mackenzie, Kimberly, River and Jaden.

Rose Mary was preceded in death by her parents; husband; and brothers, Derwood, Earl and Scooter Nichols.

Arrangements under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



## Matthew Charles Worsham

Matthew Charles Worsham, age 35, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, passed away May 16, 2022.

Matt was born on August 20, 1986, in Dallas, Texas, to Dr. Joe Grant and Janice (Welch) Worsham. Matt graduated from Sulphur Springs High School and went on to attend The University of Texas in Austin. A talented actor, he was highly involved in theater and was a connoisseur of the arts. Matt shone light and kindness on every person he encountered. He was precious to and well-loved by all who knew him.

Matt is preceded in death by his doting parents and survived by many loving family members and friends. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, May 25, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Brain Trauma Foundation, https://www.braintrauma.org/donate Arrangements under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at www.murrayorwosky.com



## Jerry Ferguson

Jerry Ferguson, age 81, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, passed away on May 21, 2022, at Christus Mother Frances — Sulphur Springs. Jerry was born on January 31, 1941, in Hopkins County, Texas, to Charlie J. and Iona (Rosinbaum) McCool. He married Carleen London on June 1, 1963. Jerry was a veteran of the United States Navy. He worked as an electronic engineer for Texas Instruments and for Hathaway Instruments in Denver, Colorado.

He is survived by his wife, Carleen; twin brother, Jackie L. Ferguson; brothers, Douglas McCool and wife, Larie, and Mark McCool; sisters, Phyllis McCool Russell, and Judy McCool Pilcher and husband, Jerry; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Ronnie McCool. Arrangements under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. The online register can be signed at

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