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THE WILDEST, CRAZIEST CELLIST



Tumbleweed Smith

He wallows around in the dirt, jumps flatfooted from the ground to a table 4 feet high, makes guttural sounds and all kinds of strange and scary faces, acts like he has just escaped from the asylum and does all this while playing his cello, sometimes with a bow, sometimes strumming it like a guitar. He is a cross between Weird Al Yankovik, Jerry Lewis and Jim Carey but realistically they can't match Tumbleweed Smith his ultimate exercises in self-expression. He

lives in Carmel, California and performs his strange antics all over the country. He spends a lot of time in Texas, recently performing at the Folkmusic Festival in Kerrville. His name is Rushad Eggleston.

I saw him in the patio behind the French Company Store in Marathon. He was already into his act when I arrived and I sat close because I was hearing some interesting sounds and wanted to record them. The patio's floor is made of pea gravel and there are half a dozen picnic tables for the audience. A concession stand offered food and drink. The interesting sounds I was hearing were coming from a cello. A series of foot-controlled devices took sounds from the cello and changed them into all sorts of shrieks and rumbles. Sometimes he played a kazoo attached to the top of the cello.

When I first sat down I thought he was wearing some sort of flesh-colored shirt. But what I was seeing was real flesh. He had no shirt, just a couple of Mardi Gras beads around his neck. He wore pajama pants and tennis shoes. A train roared by and blew its whistle so he stroked his bow across the strings and made the sound of a train. He is one creative individual and a trained classical cellist. He studied at the Berklee School of Music in Boston (full scholarship).

He started his crazy stuff when he was with a folk band and jumped off the stage during a performance, still playing the guitar (he plays that and violin). The audience and his fellow band members didn't know what to think and that sort of excited him. He did some similar stuff with bands and finally started doing his solo act.

I interviewed this talented crazy person after his show in Marathon. "There were about 70 people in the audience when I started," he said. "About half of them left after about 15 minutes. I guess they couldn't stand the crazy stuff. But the audience grew the longer I played and people were very receptive." He is a wild man. He jumps on tables where people are sitting and sings, plays, makes faces and prances around. "People laugh and smile and seem to get some sense of relief and freedom and I think it makes them feel good. I'm kind of a stress reliever."

Sometimes during his act he'll play a little classical music with his bow. Then he'll drop the bow, pick up a cowboy hat and start doing a parody of a popular country song. Once he put a bucket on a table where people were sitting, jumped up on the table, kicked the bucket and fell down pretending to be dead. Never a dull moment.

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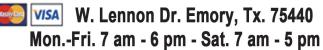




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Obits



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Coy "Cowboy" Vicars

A funeral service for Cov "Cowboy" Vicars, age 83, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home with Rev. Ed Lantz officiating. Interment will follow at Tira Cemetery with Aiden Brown, Brayden Brown, Kyle Jones, Brad Dodd, Dakota Robertson and Mark Davenport serving as pallbearers and Jimmy Anderson and Chandlyn Brown serving as honorary pallbearers, Visitation was held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Mr. Vicars passed away on June 24, 2022, at Christus Mother Frances Hospital – Sulphur Springs.

Coy was born on July 16, 1938, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, to Coy Leonard and Doris (Click) Vicars. He was a veteran of the United States Army. Coy served in the Korean War and started an orphanage called "Home of Happiness" in Korea. The orphanage is still open to this day as a school now. Cov worked as the personnel director of Grocery Supply, director of Texas Workforce Commissions and for Bell Thompson. He was the Mayor of Tira and served with Community Chest. Coy was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Tira.

He is survived by his son, Joseph Vicars; daughter, Cecilia Vicars; grandchildren, Heather Brown, Jade Kruczek, Zach Lee Moore and Laredo Brandenburg, and great-grandchildren, Aiden Brown, Brayden Brown, Chandlyn Brown, Riley Rechell, Wyatt Alexander, Max Ray, Lauryn Bradenburg and Leonna Bradenburg. Coy was preceded in death by his parents. Arrangements under

the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home.



Paul Matthews

Memorial service for Paul Matthews, age 58, of Como, Texas, will be held at a later date. Mr. Matthews passed away on June 19, 2022, at Christus Mother Frances – Tyler.

Paul was born on July 4, 1963, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, to Bruce and Jamie (Taylor) Matthews. He worked for Ocean Spray for 35 years as a machine operator and forklift driver. Paul loved the outdoors and searching for artifacts, but he loved his kids and his family most of all.

He is survived by his son, David Matthews; daughters, Amber Matthews and Jada Matthews; granddaughter, Audrey Gardner; sister, Meredith Matthews; and brothers, Pat Matthews and wife, Paula, and Lewis Matthews and wife, Donna.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Bruce and Jamie; brother, Mike Matthews; and sister, Abbie Matthews. Arrangements under the direction of Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home



Robert Jenkins

Mr. Robert Wade Jenkins, age 74, of Yantis, passed away at home on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Robert was born on October 31, 1947, in Sulphur Springs to the late Charlie and Eula (Hanson) Jenkins.

He graduated high school, and started college, before enlisting in the U.S. Army, where he honorably served in Korea, during the Vietnam War. Robert completed his service, returned home and began a 38-year career as a machine operator for Winzen Film in Sulphur Springs. In 1974, he married his beloved wife, the former Cindy Newman.

Robert had a never-ending appetite for knowledge and know-how, he was constantly learning, and trying new things. One of his favorite hobbies was classic cars, he could tell the car just by the headlights. He loved movies from an early age, as well as music, especially classic rock, and family history and genealogy. Robert a was a kind, soft spoken, hardworking family man, who loved and cherished his family over all-else.

He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Cindy Jenkins of Yantis; daughters, Tiffany Harrison and husband Derrell of Commerce, Stacey Batchelor and husband Paul of Yantis, and Katie Jenkins of Sulphur Springs; brothers, Moody Jenkins and wife Pam of

Temple, and Delray Jenkins of Big Sandy; sister-in-law, Jan Jenkins; grandchildren, Jazlyn Jenkins, Alexus Haught, Kyley Batchelor, Nathan Marshall Jr., Wade Batchelor, Madeline Harrison; two great-grandsons, Zayne Gerhart, Sawyer Jenkins; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Eldoras Jenkins, Randy Jenkins; and sister, Velda Price.

Robert did not want a funeral service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Hopkins County Genealogical Society.



Cassandra "Cassie" Devin (Gaddis) Cavaliere

Funeral services for Cassandra "Cassie" Devin (Gaddis) Cavaliere, age 35, of Jenks, Oklahoma, were held at 10 a.m., Saturday, June 25, 2022, at West Oaks Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Billy Walker officiating. A private family burial followed. Pallbearers were Phillip Cavaliere, Andrew Bell, Skylar Long, Peytin Long, Donny Gaddis, and Dubby Henton. A visitation was held at 9 a.m., prior to the service.

Cassie passed into eternity June 19, 2022, after a valiant battle with cancer. She was born on July 7, 1986, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, the daughter of Bobby and Anita Gaddis. She was best known for her big heart as well as being a proud Christian, devoted wife, and

Cassie is survived by her husband, Caleb Cavaliere, and sons, Jackson and Jayden Cavaliere, all of Jenks, OK; parents, Bobby and Anita Gaddis of Sulphur Springs; sisters, Connie Mancil and husband Jared of Magnolia, AR, and Corrie Gaddis of Sulphur Springs; numerous extended family; and a host of friends. She was preceded in death by an uncle, Shannon "Dunkle" Littrell; aunt, Becky Walker; and grandparents, Bill and Helen Gaddis.

Miscellaneous

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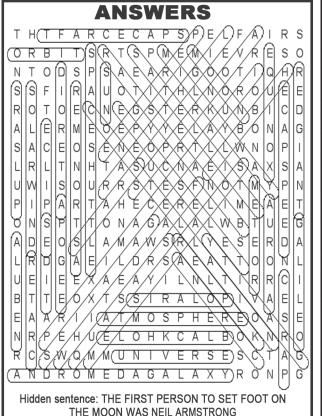
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