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MANDY CREATES SLOT MACHINE ART



Tumbleweed Smith

After graduating from college with a degree in art, Mandy Napper got a job creating advertising art for Lucky Charms. Then she got a job with a firm that makes slot machines.

Tumbleweed Smith seats and putting their quarters in. That's what I do for a living, helping people gamble their money away."

Mandy creates the symbols and artwork on the devices. "You've got your bells and your cherries and your lemons and all that stuff. If it's a Chinese game what king of symbols could we use? They need to be something different. What about three firecrackers? Usually you would have ten different symbols, the art surrounding it, the background the animation, the top screen, the advertisement, everything. So they all come together to make a game. Buffalo games are popular now so we have all kinds of western ranch scenes."

It's a nine to five job in what she says is a very stable industry.

"It's not contract work which is very rare for an artist and graphic designer. A lot of them have contracts and once the contract is up they have to go find something else. But this is a salaried position."

In college she took courses on how to find a job. She sent resumes to all kinds of firms in the largest cities in the US. She prepared a portfolio and did lots of interviewing. She would fly to different cities and tell the prospective employer she was in town if they wanted to visit. She knew nothing about slot machines.

"I got a call from this firm that said they needed a junior artist. During the interview I asked about the pay. I was barely out of college and didn't know much about the going wages for junior artists. The man interviewing me said 'it's not really that great. We'll pay you about \$22 an hour.' I said yes! You know, being 24 and getting something like that right of the bat was just absolutely incredible." She has had that job fifteen years.

"I do my art but I have my own spin on it. There are certain rules you have to follow, but I can work within them and do my thing. It's just the best job. And I go home and work on my own things. I garden, raise my chickens and have a great life."

About the industry she says no matter if there's a war going on, a pandemic, or if the stock market takes a dive, whatever the world economic situation is, the slot machines just keep right on ringing those bells and making those sounds. Mandy grew up in San Antonio and now lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

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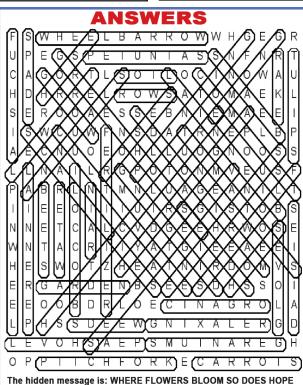
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Ethel Mae Winton

Graveside services for Ethel Mae Winton, age 93, of Sulphur Springs, were held at 1:00 p.m., Friday, May 5, 2023, at Reilly Springs Cemetery with J.R. Fisher officiating. There was no formal visitation.

Ethel passed away peacefully on Monday, May 1, 2023, at Hopkins Place. She was born on April 22, 1930, in Hereford, TX, the daughter of Albert and Auttie Bell Wade Buller. She married Morris Elton "Doodle" Winton in 1949, in Holiday, TX. Ethel was of the Baptist Faith. In Sulphur Springs, Ethel was an active member of Topps Club and the Quilt Guild and a longtime member of Beta Sigma Phi for 50 years. She worked as a clerk and fabric lady for Perry Brothers for over 30 years.

Ethel is survived by her son, Dennis Winton and wife Diana, her daughter, Marilee Winton Fisher and husband Bryant. Also survived by grandchildren, Jennifer Uyetani, J.R. Fisher and wife Vanessa, Blake Fisher and wife Kendra, and great- grandchildren, Hadlyn Fisher, Brody Fisher, and Haisley Fisher.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and three sisters. Arrangements were under the direction of West Oaks Funeral Home.



Tucker Irwin

A funeral service for Tucker Irwin, age 27, of Sulphur Springs, Texas was held at 2:00 p.m.. on Saturday, May 6, 2023 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. There was no formal visitation. Mr. Irwin passed away on May 1, 2023 at UT Health – Tyler.

Tucker was a loving husband, father, and loving son all while being a hard-working provider. Tucker tragically lost his life at the young age of 27. He dedicated his life to supporting his beautiful wife Jacy and their three young children — twin daughters and a 7-month-old son. Tucker's world revolved around his family, and he always put their needs before his own. He worked tirelessly to ensure that they had everything they needed and more, and his love for them knew no bounds. He was a true family man, and his children meant everything to him. Despite his young age, Tucker was a responsible and dedicated worker. Tucker's love story with Jacy began in high school, and they were about to celebrate their sixth wedding anniversary before his passing. Although Tucker's life was cut tragically short, his impact on those

around him will never be forgotten. He was a loving husband, a devoted father, and a true inspiration to all who knew him. His family and friends will forever cherish the memories they shared with him, and his legacy will continue to live on through them. After passing away, Tucker reunited with his father Robert Irwin in heaven.

Tucker is survived by his wife Jacy Irwin, his twin daughters Chleo and Eden Irwin, his son Miles Dean, his mother Deana Irwin, his brother Rope Irwin, his sister Kayla Story and herhusband Brad Story, his nieces Alexis and Addalee Story, as well as his grandparents Dean and Barb Blosser from Cheyenne, WY, and Mick Irwin from Edgemont, SD as well as many aunts and uncles and cousins.



Patsy Jane (Waters) McMahan

A Funeral service for Patsy Jane (Waters) McMahan, age 86 of Sulphur Springs, was held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, May 5, 2023 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Chapel with Bro John Wheat and Bro Perry Johnson. Interment followed at Restlawn Memorial Park with Jake Morrill, Cole Heitman, Tanner Ragan, Steve Littlefield, Tim White, Chris Clark, Justin Cameron and Cephus Gregory serving as pallbearers.

Honorary pallbearers were Jett Morrill, Henry Heitman, and Max Heitman. Visitation was held from 12:30-2:00 p.m. before the service Friday May 5, 2023 at Murray-Orwosky Funeral Home. Patsy passed away peacefully Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at Wesley House.

Patsy Jane (Waters) McMahan was born November 6, 1936 in Dike, TX to Jesse Lee Waters and Viola (Ledford) Waters. She married James Kenneth McMahan on January 27, 1961. Patsy was a rural mail carrier in Yantis for 30 years. Patsy Jane Waters McMahan was adored by her family.

The Grandkids call her Granny Mac. (Aka Granny fried Chicken). She had many gifts that she shared including playing the piano at Lake Highlands Baptist Church, and baking Italian Cream Cakes, Coconut Cakes and Pecan pies to share with family and Friends. She was a longtime member of Lake Highlands Baptist Church. Patsy is survived by her sons, Dale McMahan and wife, Sherri and James McMahan and wife, Karen; her granddaughters, Holly Ragan and husband, Tanner, Jennifer Heitman and husband, Cole, Krista Morrill and husband, Jake, Cassidy Cameron and husband, Justin; Grandson, Chris Clark; great-grandchildren, Reese, Ramsey, Ryan, Max, Henry, Taylor, Jett, Cadence, Jaxon and, Grayson; sister, Betty Waters Tubb; brother, Curtis Waters and wife, Betty; and special friend, Roger Caudle.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; son, Randy McMahan; grandson, Casey James McMahan; brothers, Joe Waters, A.J. Waters, Billy Waters, Jesse Waters, Travis Waters; and sister, Doris Waters McKinzie.

Patsy's family would like to share their gratitude and appreciation to everyone at Wesley House.

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