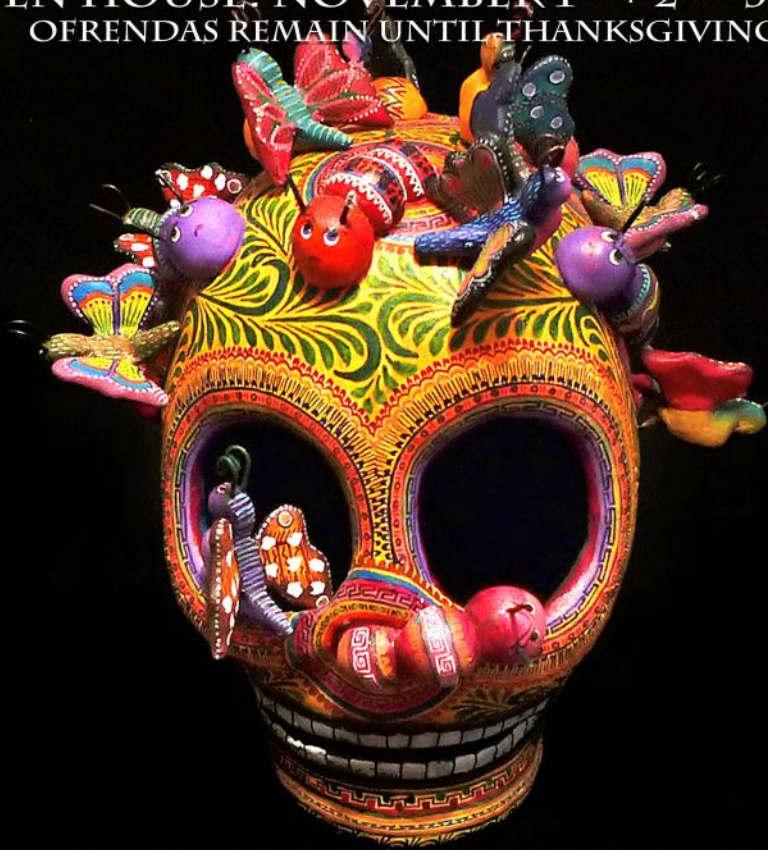


# AMOR ETERNO

## DIA DE LOS MUERTOS INSTALLATIONS

OPEN HOUSE: NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> + 2<sup>ND</sup> 5~9 PM  
OFRENDAS REMAIN UNTIL THANKSGIVING



...ADD YOUR BELOVED DEAD'S NAMES TO THE OFRENDA  
LEAVE SOME GRIEF WITH THE BAGGAGE CLAIM PROJECT + VIEW THE HONOREES  
SEE WORKS FROM GRAND MAESTROS OF MEXICAN FOLK ART  
ENJOY TACOS + TAMALES WITH THE LA PALAPA FOOD TRUCK!



HOT CHOCOLATE OAXAQUEÑO!  
CAFÉ CHIAPANECO, +PAN DE MUERTO!  
SUGAR SKULL COOKIES!  
CRY, LAUGH +DANCE WITH THE DEAD  
WHILE THE DOORS BETWEEN THE WORLDS ARE OPEN...

## MEXICO LINDO

MERCADO Y GALERIA DE ARTESANIAS  
2027 MURRAY AVENUE PGH.PA 15217  
412.422.9984 ADMIN@MEXICOLINDO.BIZ

Foreigners have more trouble understanding Los Dias de Los Muertos than any of Mexico's other fiestas. At first glance, Day of the Dead decorations, colored paper garlands, little skeletons performing daily tasks and sugar skulls inscribed with names remind visitors of Halloween. Other tourists discover that much like Memorial or Remembrance Day back north, families here visit, clean and decorate graves of loved ones for the November 1 and 2 holidays. Many families honor their ancestors and dead with home altars, laden with harvest fruits, traditional bread with crossed bones on dough on top, all to greet the spirits as they return to the home for 24 hours each year. This holiday is a perfect example of the complex heritage of the Mexican people. The beliefs of today's Mexican are based on the complicated blended cultures of his ancestors, the Aztec and Maya and Spanish invaders, layered with Catholicism. The origins of the Days of the Dead reach into the ancient history of Europe and Mexico. In the eighth century, the church decreed November 1 as All Saints Day. Setting aside the day to honor the martyrs and saints was an attempt to replace the 2000-year tradition of the Celts and their Druid priests who combined harvest festivals and celebrated the new year on November 1. The Celtic dead were believed to have access to earth on Samhain, October 31st, when the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead relaxed. The Celts danced around huge bonfires, wearing animal heads and hides to confuse the spirits and burned crops and animals as offerings to the returning dead. Around the end of the first millennium, the church reinforced its attempt to cover the Celtic celebration by designating November 2 as All Souls' Day to honor the dead. All Souls' Day was celebrated with parades, big bonfires and the people dressed as saints, angels and devils. In the language of the day, All Saints Day and All Souls' Day were known as All-hallowsmas, and October 31 was "All Hallowed's Eve" or Hallow'e'en. When the Spaniards arrived in Mexico they encountered two-month

celebrations honoring death, the fall harvest and the new year. For more than 500 years, the goddess Mictecacihuatl (Lady of the Dead) presided over Aztec harvest rituals using fires and incense, costumes of animal skins, images of their dead and offerings of ceramics, personal goods, flowers and foods, drink and flowers. While the church attempted to transform the joyous celebration to a suitably tragic image of death and a serious day of prayer focusing attention and reflection on the saints and martyrs, the people of Mexico did not fully adopt the early priests' ideas, and by keeping their familiar ceremonies, All Saint's Day and All Soul's Day evolved into the celebrations that today honor the dead with color, candles and joy. The Aztec, Mayan and other indigenous traditions have enriched the Mexican's attitude about death. From these ancestors has come the knowledge that souls continue to exist after death, resting placidly in Mictlan, the land of the dead, not for judgment or resurrection; but for the day each year when they could return home to visit their loved ones. The Mexican still views death as a transition of life, a normal stage in the circle of life on earth, a natural progression, not an ending. Writer Octavio Paz commented about his people's relationship with death saying, "The Mexican is familiar with death, jokes about it, caresses it, sleeps with it, and celebrates it. It is one of his favorite playthings and his most steadfast love."

The Mexican flatters and woos death, he sings to her, dances with her, lifts his glass to her, he laughs at her. Finally, he challenges her, and in the challenging, death loses her power to intimidate him. Once he knows death intimately, death is no longer wrapped in a cloak of mystery or causes him to fear the darkness. Once the fear of death has been defeated, the clutch she has on the hearts and minds of the living is lessened once and for all. Death's morbid side is buried under music and remembrances, while skeletons laugh and dance and sing as Mexico celebrates life in its embrace of death.

\* Reprinted with permission by author Judy King



## **Monique J. Lemaître León**

**Professor of Latin American literature and language**

**March 31, 1934 -- Nov. 5, 2015**

**By Bill Schackner / Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**

**Monique J. Lemaitre Leon, 81, of Squirrel Hill, a scholar, university professor and writer who had a passion for social justice causes, including in her native Mexico, died Nov. 5 in Shadyside Hospital after a lengthy illness, her family said.**

**Born and raised in Mexico City, she graduated from Lycee Franco-Mexicain in Mexico City, a prestigious school that fueled her passion for academic achievement, her brother Guy Lemaitre said. She received a bachelor of arts degree in political sciences from the National University of Mexico.**

**From 1954 to 1970, she held a variety of teaching jobs in the United States and Mexico City, and at one point while living in Los Angeles taught French to actor Gene Kelly while employed by the Berlitz School in Beverly Hills, her family said.**

**After moving to Pittsburgh, she received a bachelor of arts degree in French/Spanish from the University of Pittsburgh, graduating magna cum laude in 1965. The next year, she received a master of arts degree in French from Pitt, also graduating magna cum laude. She received a doctoral degree in Latin American Literatures in 1974 from the university.**

She authored five books and wrote 20 articles in leading journals in her field in this country and in Latin America. Some of her emphasis included well-known Latin American writers.

Frances Jaeger, an associate professor of Spanish at Northern Illinois and a former colleague, described her as a caring academic who achieved doctoral status in the 1970s at a time when far fewer women reached that level. "She was one of the pioneers," she said.

Ms. Jaeger remembered her former colleague as incredibly supportive of Latino students on the campus and one who used her prominence and connections to invite writers and academics to the campus. "A lot of people knew about the university because of her," she said.

Ms. Jaeger and her husband, Francisco Solares-Larrave, also an associate professor of Spanish at Northern Illinois, recalled how Elena Poniatowska, a prominent Mexican writer, came to campus as a favor to her.

Mr. Solares-Larrave said Ms. Lemaitre championed liberal causes, including the Zapatista movement within Mexico that is fighting for social justice and against land exploitation.

Lisa DiGioia-Nutini, whose late husband, Jean Pierre Nutini, was a son of Ms. Lemaitre, said her mother-in-law was a brilliant, accomplished person who had a passion for people in need of advocacy. She said she was devoted to her family and friends.

Ms. Lemaitre retired in 2004 as a professor emerita.

Surviving are her brothers, Guy Lemaitre of Philadelphia, Christian Lemaitre of Mexico City; a sister, Graciela Lemaitre-Avalos of Mexico City; as well as a grandson and five great grandchildren in Michigan.





**Linda M. Macioce, 55, of Penn Hills, died Thursday, Dec. 10, 2015. She was the beloved daughter of Anna Mae and the late Anthony Macioce; and loving sister of Lisa A. Macioce. Linda worked for the Allegheny County Children, Youth, and Families Unit for 37 years. She was loyal, devoted daughter, sister and friend, optimistic, always ready for adventures, always able to perceive joy, beauty and humor in every aspect of life. She was a life-long fan of Donny Osmond, the Pittsburgh Pirates, a shopaholic, and an avid collector of many things, including beautiful shoes, flamingos and muerto figures for the Day of the Dead.**





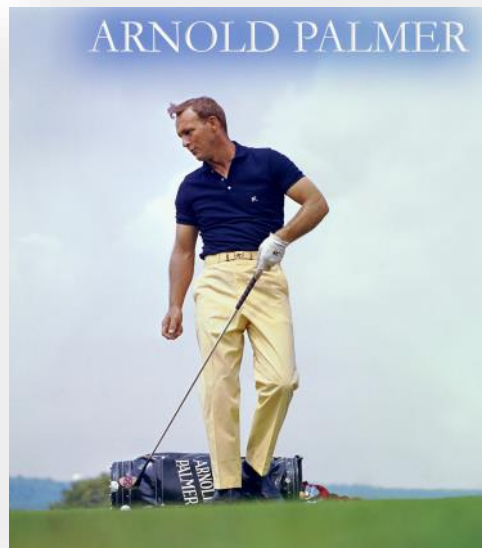
**Mary Lou Joyce, Age 66, formerly of Overbrook, passed away suddenly on Friday, April 29, 2016. Mary was born March 2, 1950, in Pittsburgh. She was preceded in death by her life partner, Joanne Donnell. She spent the majority of her life working with persons with mental health disabilities in both service coordination and as an advocate for anyone marginalized by society for whatever reason. She was also a gifted comedienne and actress, full of vim, vigor and vinegar, completely unapologetic about being Out and Proud, a seeker on a spiritual path but also loud, lewd and crude in the best possible way, and she certainly liked her whiskey. She loved her dogs and her birds and was their devoted caretaker.**





**DESPINA SMALIS**

**On Thursday, July 21, 2016, beloved mother, YiaYia, friend and entrepreneur. Full of life and love, "Peppy" made everyone smile and laugh, especially at the Greek Gourmet Marketplace, her home away from home. Some Squirrel Hillians say that they went to the Greek Gourmet to visit with Yia Yia every bit as much as they went for the famous hummus. Her straight talk and no-nonsense demeanor was a refreshment to the soul.**



**Arnold Palmer, whose magnetic personality and bold style of play combined to make him one of golf's greatest players, the sport's most revered figure and the most influential athlete of his generation, died Sept. 25 of complications due to a heart condition with his two daughters and wife Kit at his side. He was 87. "We have lost a great friend and giant in our sport tonight with the passing of Arnold Palmer," PGA TOUR Commissioner Tim Finchem said. "More than his words, Arnold's actions spoke to his unequivocal love of golf and belief that no individual can be or should be bigger than the game. Arnold totally gave of himself to support golf and its growth.**

**The winner of 62 career PGA TOUR titles, including seven major championships, Mr. Palmer rose from his modest Western Pennsylvania roots to become a towering figure with appeal that transformed and transcended the sport of golf.**

**\*By Larry Dorman , PGATour.com**



The broadcaster known as “Chilly Billy,” who filled local airwaves for six decades as a newsman, television host, radio personality, actor and producer, died early Thursday morning at his McCandless home of pneumonia. He was 87. Mr. Cardille is best known for hosting “Chiller Theater” and “Studio Wrestling” on WIIC, later WPXI — the epitome of innocent weekend fun for legions of Pittsburgh-area children, their parents and Saturday night babysitters. On “Chiller Theater,” which aired from 1963 to 1984, many enjoyed Mr. Cardille’s campy introductions as much — or more — than the movies themselves. As part of his role on “Chiller Theater,” Mr. Cardille helped raise money to fund George Romero’s “Night of the Living Dead.” “We were upstarts trying to make a little horror film and he basically plugged us almost every week,” Mr. Romero said. “He was an incredible supporter — I really give Bill a large part of the credit for me being here at all.” Mr. Romero remembers hanging out with Mr. Cardille and one of his best friends, wrestler Bruno Sammartino, listening to opera together in Mr. Sammartino’s house. Lori Cardille played the lead role in Mr. Romero’s film “Day of the Dead.”

Mr. Cardille began acting as a child, participating in vaudeville shows with his father in the 1940s.

He graduated from Sharon High School in Sharon, Mercer County, and earned a basketball scholarship to what is now Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he started working at a local radio station.

Shortly after graduation, he began working at WICU in Erie, where part of his job involved hosting a Saturday spelling bee, then doing commercials for Erie Brewing during half-inning breaks of Cleveland Indians games. "I don't drink," he recalled, "and in those days, you could drink beer on the air ... the company sent me a case a week and the engineers would drink it." He pretended to take a sip during the commercial "and then I'd pour mine down the sewer. They were the happiest rats in Erie."

One day, after yet another game ended early and there was on-air time to kill, he asked if it were possible to get a camera to the station's front sidewalk. From there, he proceeded to interview people on the street, just chatting them up.

He and his wife, Louise, returned to Pittsburgh on Labor Day weekend, 1957. He'd been offered a management position in Erie but turned it down, convinced his future was in Pittsburgh as a director and announcer. He continued to interview fans for segments during the closing of "Studio Wrestling" and informally, for decades afterward.

Mr. Cardille's son-in-law, Jim Rogal, would go to Pittsburgh Penguins games with him in recent years, where Mr. Cardille would be recognized and approached by "anybody who is over the age of 50 who is a Pittsburgher." He would not only be polite and gracious, but would be genuinely interested in each encounter. "He would come away from those conversations knowing more about the other person than they knew about him," he said. "You'd think somebody like that, in the public eye for 60 years, would get a little jaded and Bill never did. He was the genuine article." In addition to his wife and his son, Bill, both of McCandless and his daughter Lori, of Squirrel Hill, he is survived by daughter Marea Johnson, of McCandless, and four grandchildren. He is also survived by five siblings: sisters Pat Porter of California and Barbara Burdette of Minnesota; and brothers Jack and Tommy Cardille of Ohio, and Ed Cardille of North Carolina.

Excerpted from article By Maria Sciuillo and Anya Sostek of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**11312 +\***

**Deaths from Gun Violence  
in the U.S. in 2016:**

**\*source [gunviolencearchive.org](http://gunviolencearchive.org)**

**169,700 + estimated deaths  
from former President Felipe Calderons'  
“War on Drugs”  
between 2006-2016**

**Total of Deaths from the Wars  
in Iraq and Afghanistan:  
Military Coalition: 8347  
Civilian: 165,170 – 183,962\***

*\*[www.iraqbodycount.org](http://www.iraqbodycount.org)*



## 32 Journalists Killed in 2016, with Motives Confirmed

Source: Committee to Protect Journalists

**Jeroen Oerlemans**, Freelance, October 2, 2016, in Sirte, Libya

**Mustafa Said**, Kurdistan TV, August 14, 2016, in Mosul, Iraq

**Shehzad Ahmed**, Aaj News, August 8, 2016, in Quetta, Pakistan

**Mehmood Khan**, DawnNews, August 8, 2016, in Quetta, Pakistan

**Mubarak al-Abadi**, Nabaa Media Foundation, August 5, 2016,  
in Al-Ghail, Al-Jawf Province, Yemen

**João Miranda do Carmo**, SAD Sem Censura, July 24, 2016,  
in Santo Antônio do Descoberto, Brazil

**Abdelqadir Fassouk**, Arraed Satellite TV, July 21, 2016, in Sirte, Libya

**Pavel Sheremet**, Ukrainska Pravda, Radio Vesti, July 20, 2016, in Kiev, Ukraine

**Sami Jawdat Rabah**, Syrian Observatory for Human Rights  
October 2015 - June 2016, in Deir al-Zour, Syria

**Samer Mohammed Aboud**, Free Deir al-Zour Radio, Development Interaction Network, October 2015 - June 2016, in Deir al-Zour, Syria

**Mustafa Abdul Hassa**, Shaam News Network, October 2015 - June 2016, in Deir al-Zour, Syria

**Mohammed Eissa**, Nateq Network, October 2015 - June 2016, in Deir al-Zour, Syria

**Abdullah Mohammad Ghannam**, Shahba Press Agency, July 14, 2016, in Kafr Hamra, Aleppo, Syria

**Ibrahim Omar**, Al Jazeera, July 11, 2016, in Tarmanin, Idlib, Syria

**Khaled Eissa**, Freelance, June 25, 2016, in Aleppo, Syria

**Khaled al-Zintani**, Freelance, June 24, 2016, in Benghazi, Libya

**Elidio Ramos Zárate**, El Sur, June 19, 2016, in Oaxaca, Mexico

**Rohat Aktaş, Azadiya Welat**, January 30 to February 24, 2016, in Cizre, Turkey

**David Gilkey**, National Public Radio, June 5, 2016, in Marjah district, Helmand province, Afghanistan

**Zabihullah Tamanna**, National Public Radio, June 5, 2016, in Marjah district, Helmand province, Afghanistan

**Osama Jumaa**, Images Live, June 5, 2016, in Aleppo, Syria

**Rajdev Ranjan**, Hindustan, May 13, 2016, in Siwan, Bihar, India

**Zaher al-Shurqat**, Aleppo Today, April 12, 2016, in Gaziantep, Turkey

**Majid Dirani**, Freelance, February 19, 2016, in Daraya, Syria

**Ahmed al-Shaibani**, Yaman News, Yemen TV, February 16, 2016, in Taiz, Yemen,

**Karun Misra**, Jansandesh Times, February 13, 2016, in Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India

**El-Hadj Mohamed Diallo**, Guinée7, Afrik, February 5, 2016, in Conakry, Guinea

**Hashim al-Hamran**, Al-Masirah TV, January 22, 2016, in Dahyan, Saada Province, Yemen

**Marcos Hernández Bautista**, Noticias, Voz e Imagen de Oaxaca, January 21, 2016, in Oaxaca, Mexico

**Almigidad Mojalli**, Freelance, January 17, 2016, in Hamam Jarif, Yemen

**Hassan al-Anbaki**, Al-Sharqiya, January 12, 2016, in Baquba, Diyala province, Iraq

**Saif Talal**, Al-Sharqiya, January 12, 2016, in Baquba, Diyala province, Iraq

## **16 Journalists Killed in 2016, with Motives Unconfirmed**

**Kishore Dave**, Jai Hind, August 22, 2016, in Junagadh, Gujarat, India

**Widad Hussein**, Roj News, August 13, 2016, in Dohuk, Iraq

**Pedro Tamayo Rosas**, Freelance, July 20, 2016, in Veracruz, Mexico

**Jacinto Hernández Torres**, La Estrella, June 10-12, 2016, in Garland, Texas,

**Álvaro Alfredo Aceituno López**, Radio Ilusión, June 25, 2016,

in Coatepeque, Guatemala

**Sagal Salad Osman**, Radio Mogadishu, June 5, 2016, in Mogadishu, Somalia

**Alaa Qassem Mohan**, Al-Ahed Radio, May 20, 2016, in Baghdad, Iraq

**Manuel Santiago Torres González**, Noticias MT, May 14, 2016,

in Poza Rica, Veracruz, Mexico

**Akhilesh Pratap**, Taaza TV, May 12, 2016, in Chatra, Jharkhand, India

**Francisco Pacheco Beltrán**, Sol de Acapulco and Foro de Taxco,

April 25, 2016, in Taxco, Guerrero state, Mexico

**Nicolás Humberto García**, Radio Expressa, March 10,

in Tacuba, El Salvador

**Moisés Dagdug Lutzow**, Grupo VX, Feb 20, 2016, in Villahermosa, Tabasco, Mexico

**Elvis Banggoy Ordaniza**, dxWO FM, Feb 16, 2016, in Pitogo, Philippines

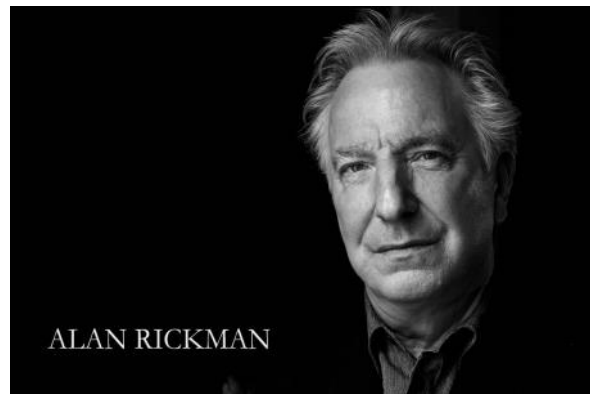
**Anabel Flores Salazar**, El Sol de Orizaba, February 8 or February 9, 2016,

in Veracruz, Mexico

**Mohammad Zubair Khaksar**, Nangarhar Radio and Television

January 29, 2016, in Surkhrod, Afghanistan

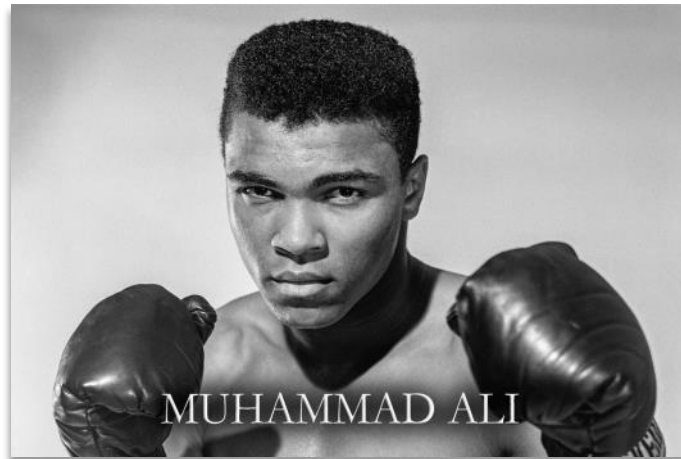
**Muhammad Umar**, Daily Dera News, January 16, 2016, in Dera Ismail



**Alan Sidney Patrick Rickman (21 February 1946 – 14 January 2016) was an English actor and director known for playing a variety of roles on stage and screen. Rickman trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, and was a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company, performing in modern and classical theatre productions. His first big television part came in 1982, but his big break was as the Vicomte de Valmont in the stage production of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* in 1985, for which he was nominated for a Tony Award. Rickman gained wider notice for his film performances as Hans Gruber in *Die Hard* and Severus Snape in the *Harry Potter* film series.**

**Rickman's other film roles included the Sheriff of Nottingham in *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, for which he received the BAFTA Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Jamie in *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, Colonel Brandon in Ang Lee's *Sense and Sensibility*, the title character in *Rasputin: Dark Servant of Destiny*, which won him a Golden Globe, an Emmy and a Screen Actors Guild Award, Harry in *Love Actually*, P. L. O'Hara in *An Awfully Big Adventure*, Dr. Alfred Blalock in the Emmy-winning HBO film *Something the Lord Made*, Alexander Dane in *Galaxy Quest*, and Judge Turpin in the film adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's musical *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.**

**His final film roles are as Lieutenant General Frank Benson in the thriller *Eye in the Sky*, and the voice of Absorem -The Caterpillar in *Alice in Wonderland* and its sequel *Alice Through the Looking Glass*.** Source: Wikipedia

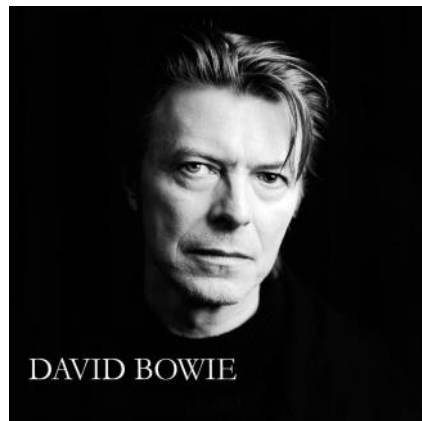


### **He forced the world to stand up**

**The Greatest is gone. Muhammad Ali, the lyrical heavyweight showman who thrilled the globe with his sublime boxing style, unpredictable wit, and gentle generosity – especially later in life – died on Friday. He was 74. Ali, the former Cassius Clay, was not just an athlete who embodied the times in which he lived. He shaped them. His conscientious objection to the Vietnam war, and reasoned rants against a country fighting for freedom on the other side of the globe, while its own black citizens were denied basic rights of their own, energized a generation. Ali refused to serve in Vietnam, was convicted of draft evasion, and stripped of the heavyweight crown he won from Sonny Liston in 1964.**

**Imagine, for a moment, a 21st-century athlete who could command an audience with presidents and the pope, the Dalai Lama, Castro, Idi Amin and Saddam Hussein. Ali might have been the most famous man on earth. Disease robbed Ali of his speech late in life. But his peacekeeping trips, fundraising efforts for Parkinson's research, and support for UNICEF and the Special Olympics and many more charitable organizations were more powerful than his poetry. "Muhammad Ali was not just Muhammad Ali the greatest, the African-American pugilist; he belonged to everyone," poet Maya Angelou wrote in the 2001 book Muhammad Ali: Through the Eyes of the World. "That means that his impact recognizes no continent, no language, no color, no ocean."**

**\*excerpted from Sean Gregory for TIME magazine**



One of the most original and singular voices in rock & roll for nearly five decades, Bowie championed mystery, rebellion and curiosity in his music. Ever unpredictable, the mercurial artist and fashion icon wore many guises throughout his life. Beginning life as a dissident folk-rock spaceman, he would become an androgynous, orange-haired, glam-rock alien (Ziggy Stardust), a well-dressed, blue-eyed funk maestro (the Thin White Duke), a drug-loving art rocker (the Berlin albums), a new-wave hit-maker, a hard rocker, a techno enthusiast and a jazz impressionist. His flair for theatricality won him a legion of fans.

Concurrent with his music, Bowie also enjoyed a long career as an actor. His first starring role was as Thomas Jerome Newton in 1976's *The Man Who Fell to Earth*, a surrealistic film about a marooned alien attempting to bring water back to his home planet. In 1980, he played the titular role in a theatrical production of *The Elephant Man*. He played a vampire in Tony Scott's 1983 erotic horror *The Hunger* and had roles in Julien Temple's 1986 film *Absolute Beginners*, Martin Scorsese's 1988 film *The Last Temptation of Christ* and David Lynch's *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me*. In 1986, he played the shrub-haired, codpiece-wearing Jareth the Goblin King in the puppet-starring musical *Labyrinth*. Beginning in 2000, he hosted a TV series based on *The Hunger*, and he played himself in *Zoolander* and the TV show *Extras*. He also played Nikola Tesla in *The Prestige*, lent his voice to *SpongeBob SquarePants* and played himself in the Vanessa Hudgens film *Bandslam*.

\*excerpted from Kory Grow for Rolling Stone

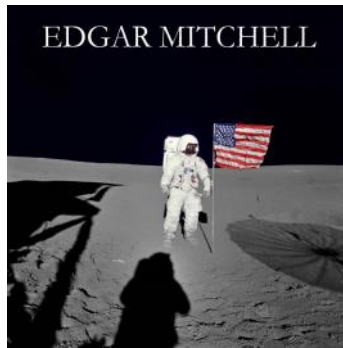


**Concepcion Picciotto (born María de la Inmaculada Concepción Martín) , 15 January 1936 – 25 January 2016, also known as Conchita or Connie, was a Spanish-born, United-States based peace activist. She lived in Lafayette Square, Washington, D.C. on the 1600 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, in a peace camp across from the White House, from 1 August 1981 in protest of nuclear arms until her death. Picciotto carried on the longest continuous act of political protest in the United States, with her camp having been nicknamed by her supporters as "1601 Pennsylvania Avenue".**

**Eleanor Holmes Norton, Washington D.C.'s delegate to the House of Representatives, noted that many of Picciotto's goals were accomplished during her protest including a reduction in atomic proliferation.**

**Through her presence, she said she hoped to remind others to take whatever action they could, however small, to help end wars and stop violence, particularly against children.**

**\*Wikipedia**

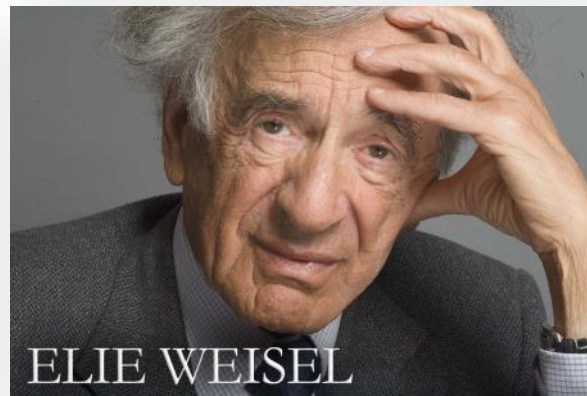


**Astronaut Edgar Mitchell, lunar module pilot on Apollo 14, died on February 4th, 2016, on the eve of the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his lunar landing. Mitchell joined Apollo 14 commander Alan Shepard, Jr., the first American in space, in the lunar module Antares, which touched down Feb. 5, 1971, in the Fra Mauro highlands. Shepard and Mitchell were assigned to traverse the lunar surface to deploy scientific instruments and perform a communications test on the surface, as well as photograph the lunar surface and any deep space phenomena. It was Mitchell's only spaceflight. Mitchell and Shepard set mission records for the time of the longest distance traversed on the lunar surface; the largest payload returned from lunar surface; and the longest lunar stay time (33 hours). They were also the first to transmit color TV from the lunar surface. Mitchell helped collect 94 pounds of lunar rock and soil samples that were distributed across 187 scientific teams in the United States and 14 other countries for analysis.**

**Edgar is one of only 12 men to walk on the moon and he helped to change how we view our place in the universe. "To me, that (spaceflight) was the culmination of my being, and what can I learn from this? What is it we are learning? That's important, because I think what we're trying to do is discover ourselves and our place in the cosmos, and we don't know. We're still looking for that."**

**In his book "The Way of the Explorer", Mitchell wrote, "There was a sense that our presence as space travelers, and the existence of the universe itself, was not accidental but that there was an intelligent process at work." Traveling back to Earth, having just walked on the moon, Mitchell had an experience for which nothing in his life had prepared him. As he approached the planet we know as home, he was filled with an inner conviction as certain as any mathematical equation he'd ever solved. He knew that the beautiful blue world to which he was returning is part of a living system, harmonious and whole—and that we all participate, as he expressed it later, "in a universe of consciousness."**

**\*excerpted from Brian Dunbar for NASA.gov and also The Institute for Noetic Sciences, founded by Mitchell in 1973 to explore the frontier of consciousness.**



**Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor and author who fought for peace, human rights and simple human decency, died at the age of 87.**

**"My husband was a fighter. He fought for the memory of the 6 million Jews who perished in the Holocaust, and he fought for Israel. He waged countless battles for innocent victims regardless of ethnicity or creed," his widow, Marion, said in a statement released by the writer's foundation.**

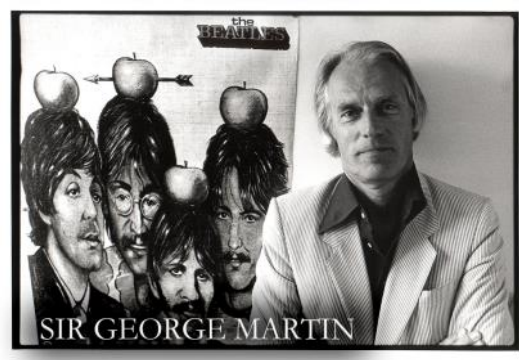
**Wiesel, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, recounted his family being sent to the Nazi concentration camps in his first book, "Night," which was published in France in 1958.**

**Born in Romania, Wiesel was 15 when he was sent to the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland with his family in 1944.**

**The future writer was later moved and ultimately freed from the Buchenwald camp in 1945. Of his relatives, only two of his sisters survived. Wiesel told CNN last year that Auschwitz was "to this day, a source of shock and astonishment."**

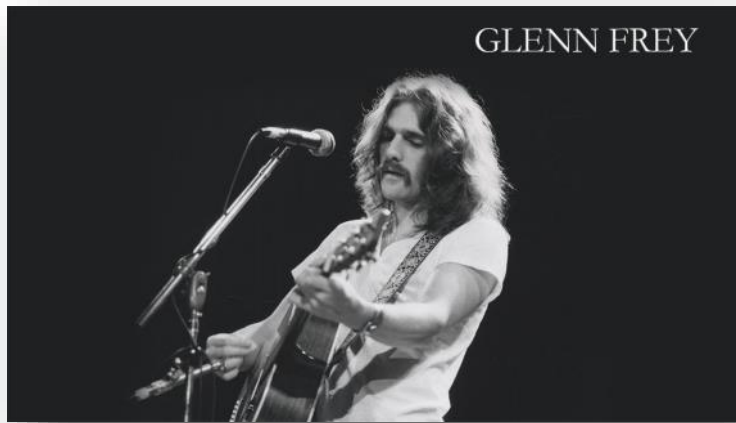
**Wiesel survived because an older Jew told him to tell the Nazis he was 18, old enough to work. He told The New York Times he had thought about why he lived and others didn't. "If I survived, it must be for some reason," Wiesel said in 1981. "I must do something with my life. It is too serious to play games with anymore, because in my place, someone else could have been saved. And so I speak for that person." On the other hand, I know I cannot."**

**\*CNN**



**“... He was a true gentleman and like a second father to me. He guided the career of The Beatles with such skill and good humour that he became a true friend to me and my family. If anyone earned the title of the fifth Beatle it was George. From the day that he gave The Beatles our first recording contract, to the last time I saw him, he was the most generous, intelligent and musical person I’ve ever had the pleasure to know.**

**It’s hard to choose favourite memories of my time with George, there are so many but one that comes to mind was the time I brought the song 'Yesterday' to a recording session and the guys in the band suggested that I sang it solo and accompany myself on guitar. After I had done this George Martin said to me, *"Paul I have an idea of putting a string quartet on the record"*. I said, *"Oh no George, we are a rock and roll band and I don't think it's a good idea"*. With the gentle bedside manner of a great producer he said to me, *"Let us try it and if it doesn't work we won't use it and we'll go with your solo version"*. I agreed to this and went round to his house the next day to work on the arrangement. He took my chords that I showed him and spread the notes out across the piano, putting the cello in the low octave and the first violin in a high octave and gave me my first lesson in how strings were voiced for a quartet. This is just one of the many memories I have of George who went on to help me with arrangements on 'Eleanor Rigby', 'Live and Let Die' and many other songs of mine. I am proud to have known such a fine gentleman with such a keen sense of humour, who had the ability to poke fun at himself. Even when he was Knighted by the Queen there was never the slightest trace of snobbery about him.”** \*excerpted from Paul McCartney’s blog



**Don Henley said of Frey, "He was like a brother to me; we were family, and like most families, there was some dysfunction. But, the bond we forged 45 years ago was never broken, even during the 14 years that the Eagles were dissolved. We were two young men who made the pilgrimage to Los Angeles with the same dream: to make our mark in the music industry — and with perseverance, a deep love of music, our alliance with other great musicians and our manager, Irving Azoff, we built something that has lasted longer than anyone could have dreamed. But, Glenn was the one who started it all. He was the spark plug, the man with the plan."**

**Henley continued, "He had an encyclopedic knowledge of popular music and a work ethic that wouldn't quit. He was funny, bullheaded, mercurial, generous, deeply talented and driven. He loved his wife and kids more than anything. We are all in a state of shock, disbelief and profound sorrow. We brought our two-year History of the Eagles Tour to a triumphant close at the end of July and now he is gone. I'm not sure I believe in fate, but I know that crossing paths with Glenn Lewis Frey in 1970 changed my life forever, and it eventually had an impact on the lives of millions of other people all over the planet. It will be very strange going forward in a world without him in it. But, I will be grateful, every day, that he was in my life. Rest in peace, my brother. You did what you set out to do, and then some."**

**\*excerpted by Daniel Kreps for Rolling Stone**



Harper Lee, whose first novel, “To Kill a Mockingbird,” about racial injustice in a small Alabama town, sold more than 40 million copies and became one of the most beloved and most taught works of fiction ever written by an American, died on Friday in Monroeville, Ala., where she lived. She was 89.

The instant success of “To Kill a Mockingbird,” which was published in 1960 and won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction the next year, turned Ms. Lee into a literary celebrity, a role she found oppressive and never learned to accept.

“I never expected any sort of success with ‘Mockingbird,’ ” Ms. Lee told a radio interviewer in 1964. “I was hoping for a quick and merciful death at the hands of the reviewers, but, at the same time I sort of hoped someone would like it well enough to give me encouragement.”

The enormous popularity of the film version of the novel, released in 1962 with Gregory Peck in the starring role of Atticus Finch, a small-town Southern lawyer who defends a black man falsely accused of raping a white woman, only added to Ms. Lee’s fame and fanned expectations for her next novel. But for more than half a century a second novel failed to turn up, and Ms. Lee gained a reputation as a literary Garbo, a recluse whose public appearances to accept an award or an honorary degree counted as important news simply because of their rarity. On such occasions she did not speak, other than to say a brief thank you.

\*excerpted by William Grimes for the New York Times

CHIEF JOSEPH MEDICINE CROW



According to Crow tradition, a man must fulfill certain requirements to become chief of the tribe: command a war party successfully, enter an enemy camp at night and steal a horse, wrestle a weapon away from his enemy and touch the first enemy fallen, without killing him.

Joe Medicine Crow was the last person to meet that code, though far from the windswept plains where his ancestors conceived it. During World War II, when he was a scout for the 103rd Infantry in Europe, he strode into battle wearing war paint beneath his uniform and a yellow eagle feather inside his helmet. So armed, he led a mission through German lines to procure ammunition. He helped capture a German village and disarmed — but didn't kill — an enemy soldier. And, in the minutes before a planned attack, he set off a stampede of 50 horses from a Nazi stable, singing a traditional Crow honor song as he rode away.

"I never got a scratch," he recalled to the Billings Gazette decades later.

Medicine Crow died Sunday at 102, according to the Gazette. He was the Crow's last war chief, the sole surviving link to a long military tradition. But he was also an activist, an author, a Medal of Freedom recipient and a vital chronicler of the history of his tribe.

"I always told people, when you meet Joe Medicine Crow, you're shaking hands with the 19th century," Herman Viola, curator emeritus at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian, told the magazine at Medicine Crow's alma mater, Linfield College.

For much of his life, Medicine Crow served as an emissary between the Crow community and the white world. As a child, he translated for his great uncle, White Man Runs Him, when white reporters came to interview him about the Battle of Little Bighorn. He lent his voice and his memories to countless exhibits on Native American culture at museums around the country. He spoke at colleges and conferences and a United Nations summit.

"There is a middle line that joins two worlds together," he told Linfield Magazine. "I walk that line and take the best from each and avoid the worst. I've lived a good, well-balanced way of life. I encourage my grandchildren and young Crow Indians to do the same and they will be happy."

\*excerpted from the Washington Post by Sarah Kaplan



**Juan Gabriel, Latin American music icon and Mexico's bestselling artist of all time, died of natural causes at his home in Santa Monica, a day after the Mexican singer performed at the Forum in Inglewood, California. Juan Gabriel was 66.**

**"Alberto Aguilera Valadez 'Juan Gabriel' passed away suddenly earlier today as has been widely reported," the singer's family said in a statement Sunday. "Juan Gabriel was a giant in the music industry and is as popular now as ever. As importantly, Juan Gabriel was a beloved father and grandfather. He is survived by his sons and grandchildren."**

**Juan Gabriel was scheduled to perform in El Paso, Texas Sunday night as part of a fall U.S. tour, but that concert was canceled even before news of Juan Gabriel's death. The singer, who dealt with health problems over the past few years, suffered a fatal heart attack, the BBC reports.**

**Juan Gabriel's son Ivan Aguilera added, "My father's untimely passing is a tragic loss for all of us, his family, colleagues, and fans alike. We give heartfelt thanks for the outpouring of condolences we have received from around the world including from President Enrique Peña Nieto. We know that our father will miss entertaining his countless fans, who brought him tremendous joy in life."**

**Born Alberto Aguilera Valdez in Parácuaro, Michoacán in 1950, Juan Gabriel embodied the "rags to riches" story; as the youngest of 10 children, his mother left him at an orphanage at the age of four, an event Juan Gabriel stated was his earliest memory. In his youth, Juan Gabriel sang music he concocted in his head while sell-**

ing tortillas on the street.

Juan Gabriel would release his first hit song, "No Tengo Dinero," at the age of 21. What followed were decades of chart-topping success for the singer, who traversed a diverse array of genres – rock, Mariachi, disco, pop – on his way toward becoming the bestselling artist in Mexico's history.

Juan Gabriel's 1984 LP *Recuerdos, Vol. II* remains Mexico's bestselling album ever with 8 million copies. The LP contained arguably Juan Gabriel's biggest hit, the ballad "Querida," a song with such resonance that it spent a year atop the Mexican song charts, *The Associated Press* reports.

Known for his coiffed pompadour, glittery outfits and energetic stage presence, Juan Gabriel would become Mexico's most famous musical artist, a talent who, despite living decades in the U.S., shunned the commercial appeal of America and English language recordings to remain true to his roots.

"American music has infiltrated the entire world enough as it is," Juan Gabriel told the *Los Angeles Times* in 1999. "Mexican music must be defended with vigilance... My thoughts, my feelings, my spirit, they are all in Spanish."

Over his career, Juan Gabriel penned over 1,500 songs, many of which became hits for other artists like Lucha Villa and Rocio Durcal. Juan Gabriel, a six-time Grammy nominee, was inducted into the *Billboard* Latin Music Hall of Fame in 1996 and given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2009.

**\*Excerpted from *Rolling Stone*, by Daniel Kreps**

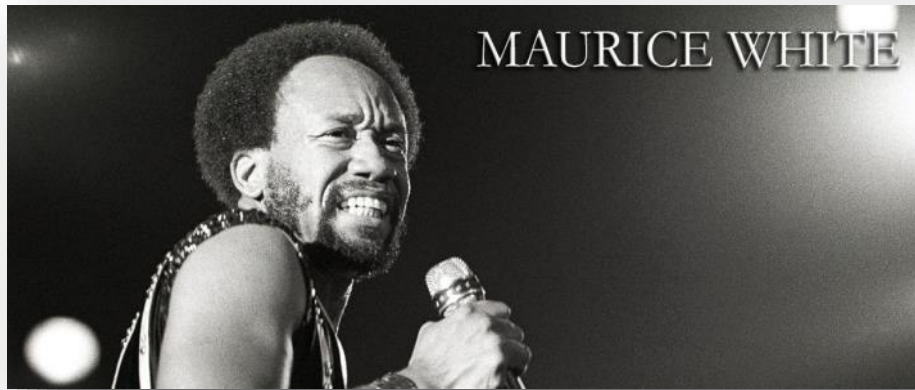


**"I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of my good friend and brother-in-music, Keith Emerson," Palmer wrote in a statement. "Keith was a gentle soul whose love for music and passion for his performance as a keyboard player will remain unmatched for many years to come. He was a pioneer and an innovator whose musical genius touched all of us in the worlds of rock, classical and jazz. I will always remember his warm smile, good sense of humor, compelling showmanship and dedication to his musical craft. I am very lucky to have known him and to have made the music we did together."**

**After discovering the Hammond and Moog in his teenage years, Emerson grew into one of the greatest keyboardists of his generation, first as a member of the Nice before founding the prog supergroup Emerson, Lake and Palmer. After a breakout performance at the Isle of Wight festival in 1970, the trio signed with Atlantic Records' Ahmet Ertegun; 37 years later, Emerson and other prog all-stars would open for Led Zeppelin at the Ertegun tribute concert at London's O2 Arena. ELP's self-titled debut arrived in 1970, the first of four albums the trio would release in their first four years together.**

**Following the release of 1971's Tarkus – the album's title track serves as a highlight of Emerson's keyboard prowess – and 1972's Trilogy, the group unleashed their landmark 1973 album Brain Salad Surgery; Emerson served as co-writer on that album's most enduring track, "Karn Evil 9."**

**\*Excerpted from Rolling Stone, by Daniel Kreps**



**Earth, Wind & Fire founder Maurice White died Wednesday in his Los Angeles home at the age of 74.**

**White's health had declined in the last few months as a result of a long battle with Parkinsons disease, which had plagued him since the early 1990s and forced him to stop touring in 1994.**

**White founded the legendary funk-soul band in Chicago in the late 1960s alongside his brothers Verdine and Fred and served as the band's chief songwriter and producer. He shared vocal duties with lead singer Philip Bailey. The group's hits include "Shining Star," which reached No. 1 in 1975, "September" and "Boogie Wonderland." The band, which has sold more than 90 million albums worldwide, is set to be honored with a life-time achievement award at the Grammy Awards on Feb. 15.**

**The musician has seven Grammy wins and 21 nominations under his belt. EWF was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 2000. White also appears in the Vocal Group Hall of Fame, the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the NAACP Image Awards Hall of Fame.**

**The large band was known for its elaborate stage shows that included lightshows, fireworks and elaborate dance moves.**

**White started out as a jazz drummer and played percussion instruments for the band as well as providing vocals with Bailey. He produced many of Earth, Wind & Fire's albums and also produced for artists including Barbra Streisand.**

**\*Excerpted from Variety**

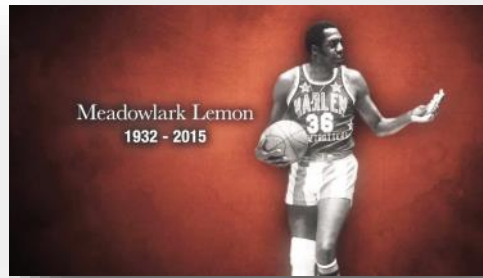


The word “legend” usually makes an appearance at some point when discussing Merle Haggard. It’s an acknowledgment of his artistry and his standing as “the poet of the common man.” It’s a tribute to his incredible commercial success and to the lasting mark he has made, not just on country music, but on American music as a whole. It’s apt in every way but one.

The term imposes an aura of loftiness that’s totally at odds with the grit and heart of Haggard’s songs. “I’d be more comfortable with something like “professor,” he once told a reporter, and the description suits him. Studying, analyzing and observing the details of life around him, Haggard relays what he sees, hears and feels through his songs. The lyrics are deceptively simple, the music exceptionally listenable. Others who have lived through those same situations recognize the truth in the stories he tells. But Haggard’s real gift was that anyone who hears his songs recognizes the truth in them. When a Merle Haggard song plays, it can make an innocent-as-apple-pie grandma understand the stark loneliness and self-loathing of a prisoner on death row; a rich kid who never wanted for any material possession get a feel for the pain of wondering where the next meal will come from; a tee-totaling pillar of the community sympathize with the poor heartbroken guy downing shots at the local bar.

As a result, Haggard found his songs at the top of the charts on a regular basis. Immediately embraced by country fans, he also earned the respect of his peers. In addition to the 40 #1 hits included here, Haggard charted scores of Top Ten songs. He won just about every music award imaginable, both as a performer and as a songwriter, and in 1994 was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. His body of work easily places him beside Hank Williams as one of the most influential artists in country music.

\*Excerpted from [MerleHaggard.com](http://MerleHaggard.com)



**Meadowlark Lemon, whose halfcourt hook shots, no-look behind-the-back passes and vivid clowning were marquee features of the feel-good traveling basketball show known as the Harlem Globetrotters for nearly a quarter-century, died on Sunday in Scottsdale, Ariz. He was 83. A gifted athlete with an entertainer's hunger for the spotlight, Lemon, who dreamed of playing for the Globetrotters as a boy in North Carolina, joined the team in 1954, not long after leaving the Army.**

**The Trotters played in mammoth arenas and on dirt courts in African villages. They played in Rome before the pope; they played in Moscow during the Cold War before the Soviet leader Nikita S. Khrushchev. In the United States, they played in small towns and big cities, in Madison Square Garden, in high school gyms, in cleared-out auditoriums — even on the floor of a drained swimming pool. They performed their most entertaining ballhandling tricks, accompanied by their signature tune, “Sweet Georgia Brown,” on “The Ed Sullivan Show.” Through it all, Lemon became “an American institution like the Washington Monument or the Statue of Liberty” whose “uniform will one day hang in the Smithsonian right next to Lindbergh’s airplane,” as the Los Angeles Times columnist Jim Murray once described him.**

**Significantly, Lemon’s time with the Globetrotters paralleled the rise of the N.B.A. When he joined the team, the Globetrotters were still better known than the Knicks and the Boston Celtics and played for bigger crowds than they did. When he left, Larry Bird and Magic Johnson were about to enter the N.B.A. and propel it to worldwide popularity.**

**“Man, I’ve had a good run,” he said at his Hall of Fame induction ceremony, recalling the first time he saw the Globetrotters play, in a newsreel in a movie theater in Wilmington when he was 11. “When they got to the basketball court, they seemed to make that ball talk,” he said. “I said, ‘That’s mine; this is for me.’ I was receiving a vision. I was receiving a dream in my heart.”**

**\*Excerpted from Bruce Weber for the NY Times**



**Morley Safer, a CBS television correspondent who brought the horrors of the Vietnam War into the living rooms of America in the 1960s and was a mainstay of the network's newsmagazine "60 Minutes" for almost five decades, died on Thursday at his home in Manhattan. He was 84.**

**Mr. Safer was one of television's most celebrated journalists, a durable reporter familiar to millions on "60 Minutes," the Sunday night staple whose signature is a relentlessly ticking stopwatch. By the time CBS announced his retirement on May 11, Mr. Safer had broadcast 919 "60 Minutes" reports, profiling international heroes and villains, exposing frauds and corruption, giving voice to whistle-blowers and chronicling the trends of an ever-changing America.**

**But to an earlier generation of Americans, and to many colleagues and competitors, he was regarded as the best television journalist of the Vietnam era, an adventurer whose vivid reports exposed the nation to the hard realities of what the writer Michael J. Arlen, in the title of his 1969 book, called the "Living-Room War."**

**Over the next four decades Mr. Safer profiled writers, politicians, opera stars, homeless people and the unemployed, and produced features on shoddy building practices, strip mining, victims of bureaucracy, waterfront crime, Swiss bank accounts, heart attack treatments, problems of sleeplessness, cultural nabobs and other subjects, many suggested by staff members and viewers.**

**Suave, casual, impeccably tailored, with a long, craggy face, receding gray hair and a wide, easy smile, Mr. Safer was something of a Renaissance man. He baked pies and cakes (but swore he did not eat them), played pétanque (a French version of bocce), pounded out scripts on a manual typewriter long after computers became ubiquitous, and painted watercolors of the interiors of countless hotel and motel rooms he had occupied .**

**\*Excerpted from the NY Times by Robert McFadden**



It isn't easy being the child of an icon, and early in her singing career, Natalie Cole resisted the legacy of her famous father, crooner Nat King Cole.

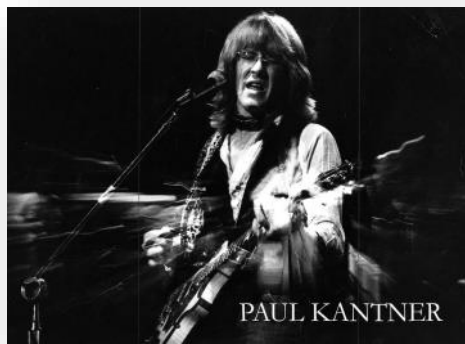
In the early 1970s, when one club owner billed her on the marquee as “The daughter of Nat King Cole,” she became angry, insisting she wanted to succeed under her own name. In concerts, she refused to sing her father's songs.

“People said when I started, ‘Why don't you just copy your father's style?’ I had to be myself, singing my songs in my own way,” she told Jet magazine in 1976. Early on, she also told the magazine, people had tried calling her Natalie “Queen” Cole.

With a jazz-and-gospel-inflected voice whose power was undeniable, Cole eventually managed to emerge from the shadow of her legendary father, overcoming struggles with drug addiction and health problems to stake out her own successful career, selling more than 30 million albums and earning nine Grammy Awards. Yet Cole's greatest triumph — both commercially and perhaps artistically — would come when she embraced her family history with the 1991 album “Unforgettable ... With Love,” in which she recorded a series of her father's favorite standards and sang a duet of one of his signature songs with him decades after his death.

Cole died Thursday from congestive heart failure at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. The singer, who had recently been forced to cancel several tour dates because of poor health, suffered from hepatitis C and various health complications from a 2009 kidney transplant from which she never fully recovered, according to her publicist, Maureen O'Connor. She was 65.

**\*Excerpted from LA Times by Josh Rottenberg**



The only native San Franciscan among the Airplane/Starship principles, Paul Lorin Kantner was born March 17, 1941, to Paul S. and Cora Lee (Fortier) Kantner. Although he never wrote or sang lead on a hit single, Paul Kantner had the greatest impact on Jefferson Airplane/Starship of any member. He holds the record for the longest, unbroken membership (19 years), and he has been at times the only original member of the band present. His interest in science fiction helped transform Jefferson Airplane into Jefferson Starship, and, throughout it all, he presided over the band's loose and sometimes messy democracy. If Marty Balin was the soul of the band, and Grace Slick its public persona, then Paul Kantner could be considered its brain.

As the '60s wore on, the Airplane became a symbol of the burgeoning counterculture, and Paul reflected this in songs such as Crown of Creation (1968) and We Can Be Together (1969). To Paul, the "Establishment" included everything from cops who unplugged the band during curfew to the band's own record company, RCA. In We Can Be Together, he included the line, "Up against the wall, motherfucker," which launched a bitter contest of wills between the band and RCA over its inclusion; the company finally backed down.

Paul began recording a solo album in conjunction with David Crosby, Jerry Garcia, and others. The album, Blows Against the Empire, contained a mini science fiction epic on one side. As an afterthought, the album was co-credited to "Jefferson Starship," marking the first use of that name. Blows was not only a commercial success, but was also nominated for science fiction's prestigious Hugo Award.

By 1973, the Airplane was no more, though neither Paul nor Grace wanted to admit it. In early 1974, he and Grace were faced with the prospect of moving on and forming a new band. Not wanting to completely break with the past, they hired musicians from the latter-day Airplane as well as their solo projects, and dubbed the band Jefferson Starship.

\*Excerpted from jeffersonairplane.com by Greg Gildersleeve



**Taylor was born November 20th, 1970 in the Jamaica area of Queens, NY. Living in the same area as Q-Tip, he would meet his future groupmate at the age of 2, with the duo attending the same school and playing little league baseball together. "We were best friends," Q-Tip said in Beats, Rhymes & Life.**

**As recounted in the film, the rapper would visit his grandmother, a strict Seventh-day Adventist, on weekends and sneak in episodes of Soul Train for his early musical education. "When it came to block parties and hip-hop, once I saw them grab the mics and getting busy, I risked my livelihood getting kicked out of the house and everything just to be a part of it," Taylor said in the film.**

**At the age of 19, Taylor contributed verses to four songs on A Tribe Called Quest's 1990 debut album People's Instinctive Travels and the Paths of Rhythm, including an iconic verse on the group's third single, "Can I Kick It?"**

**Taylor and fellow Tribe member Jarobi had planned to start their own group, but the two would join Q-Tip and producer Ali Shaheed Muhammad officially on 1991's Low End Theory. Buoyed by exuberant songs like "Buggin' Out," "Check the Rhime" and "Scenario," Low End Theory's landmark fusion of hip-hop and jazz remains a benchmark for the genre, influencing countless rappers and producers and providing the blueprint for a strain of rap as indebted to Grover Washington, Jr. and Ron Carter as James Brown. The album would eventually earn a spot on Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Albums of All Time.**

**\*Excerpted from Rolling Stone by Jason Newman**



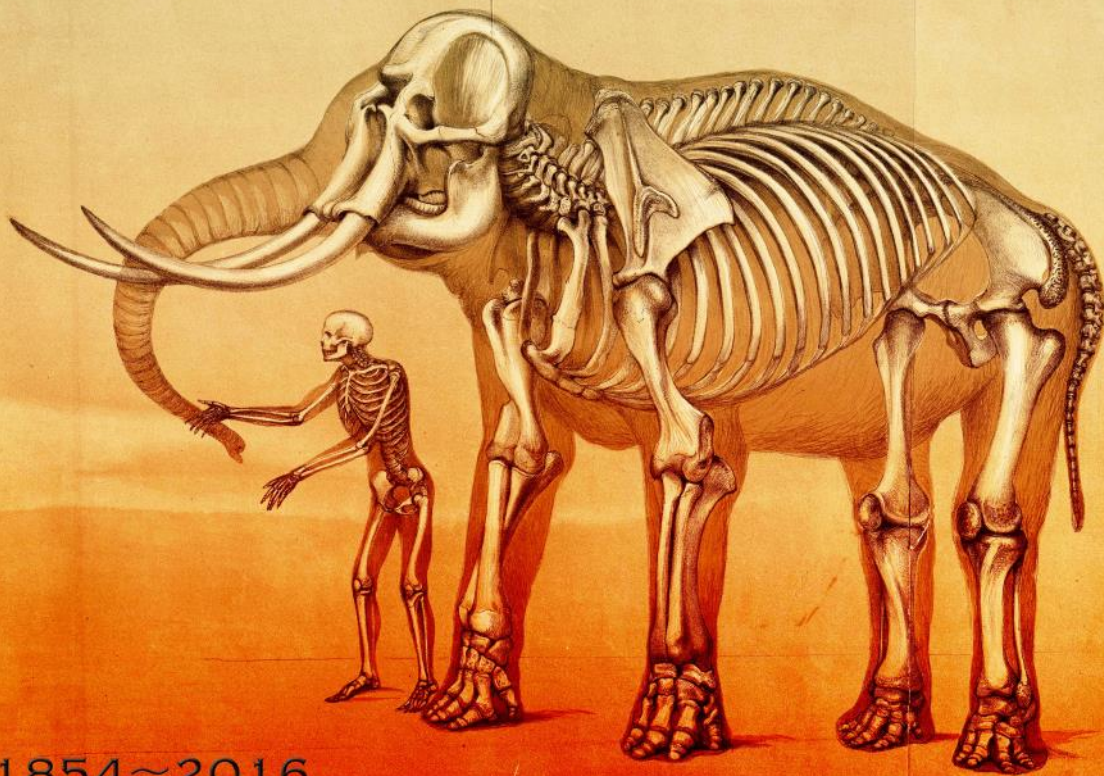
Prince was a man bursting with music — a wildly prolific songwriter, a virtuoso on guitars, keyboards and drums and a master architect of funk, rock, R&B and pop, even as his music defied genres. In a career that lasted from the late 1970s until his solo “Piano & a Microphone” tour this year, he was acclaimed as a sex symbol, a musical prodigy and an artist who shaped his career his way, often battling with accepted music-business practices.

“When I first started out in the music industry, I was most concerned with freedom. Freedom to produce, freedom to play all the instruments on my records, freedom to say anything I wanted to,” he said when he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2004. In a tribute to George Harrison that night, Prince went on to play a guitar solo in “While My Guitar Gently Weeps” that left the room floored.

A seven-time Grammy winner, Prince had Top 10 hits like “Little Red Corvette,” “When Doves Cry,” “Let’s Go Crazy,” “Kiss” and “The Most Beautiful Girl in the World”; albums like “Dirty Mind,” “1999” and “Sign O’ the Times” were full-length statements. His songs also became hits for others, among them “Nothing Compares 2 U” for Sinead O’Connor, “Manic Monday” for the Bangles and “I Feel for You” for Chaka Khan. With the 1984 film and album “Purple Rain,” he told a fictionalized version of his own story: biracial (although Prince’s parents were both African-American), gifted, spectacularly ambitious. Its music won him an Academy Award, and the album sold more than 13 million copies in the United States alone.

In a statement, President Obama said, “Few artists have influenced the sound and trajectory of popular music more distinctly, or touched quite so many people with their talent.” He added, “He was a virtuoso instrumentalist, a brilliant bandleader, and an electrifying performer. ‘A strong spirit transcends rules,’ Prince once said — and nobody’s spirit was stronger, bolder, or more creative.” \*excerpted from the NY Times by John Pareles

HERE LIES THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, R.I.P.



1854~2016



Hungarian-born cinematographer Vilmos Zsigmond, winner of an Oscar for his achievements on "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and a nominee for "The Deer Hunter," "The River" (1984) and the "The Black Dahlia" (2006), has died at 85. Over a period of five decades in Hollywood, his other outstanding achievements included "Deliverance," "Blow Out," "The Ghost and the Darkness" and such Robert Altman films as "McCabe and Mrs. Miller" and "The Long Goodbye." And he considered it the ultimate compliment that no two of his movies looked alike. Zsigmond ranked among the 10 most influential cinematographers in film history in a 2003 survey conducted by the International Cinematographers Guild.

The ICG's Steven Poster, who worked on three of his movies, said in a statement, "Vilmos' genius was not only in his images, but in his sense of duty to honest storytelling. Working up close with him, I also learned about perseverance and an obligation to the story from the master. His brave beginnings providing footage from the Hungarian revolution will always be an important part of his legacy and to future generations of cinematographers and film students. He made a difference."

Escaping from his native Hungary after the 1956 Russian invasion, Zsigmond slowly worked his way up starting with low-budget exploitation films. After a decade he finally got his break with Altman's stylistically daring "McCabe" (1971), in which he used a limited palette of desaturated colors, giving the Western a boldly unconventional and melancholy look. Also for Altman he did "Images" and "The Long Goodbye," and was tapped by John Boorman to be the cinematographer on "Deliverance," the 1972 classic for which he provided a crisp, evocative look. For the next two decades Zsigmond was one of the most in-demand cinematographers in Hollywood, going on to work with such directors as Michael Cimino, Spielberg, Scorsese, De Palma and George Miller.

\*Excerpted from Variety by Carmel Dagan



**Gene Wilder was born Jerome Silberman in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Jeanne (Baer) and William J. Silberman, who manufactured miniature whiskey and beer bottles. His father was a Russian Jewish immigrant, while his Illinois-born mother was of Russian Jewish descent.**

**Wilder caught his first big break playing a small role in the off-Broadway production of Arnold Wesker's "Roots" and followed quickly with his Broadway debut as the comic valet in "The Complaisant Lover" (both 1961), for which he won the Clement Derwent Award. His other Broadway credits included "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" (1963, with Kirk Douglas), "The White House" (1964, with Helen Hayes) and "Luv" (1966), but it was a 1963 Broadway production of "Mother Courage and Her Children" that altered the course of his life forever. In its cast was Anne Bancroft, who was dating Mel Brooks at the time, and the relationship established between the two men eventually led to Wilder's becoming part of Brooks' "stock company". Wilder's Actor's Studio connection may have helped him land his first feature, Bonnie and Clyde (1967). Wilder's performance as the endearingly frantic Leo Bloom in The Producers (1967) kicked off his celebrated collaboration with Mel Brooks and garnered him an Academy Award nomination as Best Supporting Actor. His career gained momentum as he played a swashbuckler in Start the Revolution Without Me (1970), the candy impresario of Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory (1971) and a sheep-smitten doctor in Woody Allen's Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex \* But Were Afraid to Ask (1972). Wilder re-teamed with Mel Brooks for the inspired lunacy of Blazing Saddles (1974) and Young Frankenstein (1974), earning his second Oscar nomination for his first-time screen-writing efforts (along with Mel Brooks) on the latter. Spurred by these triumphs, Wilder made his directorial debut (in addition to acting and starring) with The Adventure of Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother (1975). His first association with Richard Pryor had come on Blazing Saddles (1974), but Richard Pryor (co-screenwriter) had lost out in his bid for the Cleavon Little role. Richard Pryor and Wilder first acted together in the highly entertaining and commercially successful Silver Streak (1976) and scored at the box office again with Stir Crazy (1980).**

**\*Excerpted from IMDB**



If Wixarika, or Huichol, culture and language have a future, if the world view of this magical people persists, if their sacred lands remain a spiritual sanctuary, the tireless struggle of Jesús Lara Chivarra will not have been in vain. The death of this indigenous fighter leaves a void in the hearts of many.

While most people were celebrating the holidays, others from Canada to Mexico mourned the loss of a leading Wixarika scholar and teacher, a cultural ambassador and an indigenous activist whose work on behalf of indigenous unity spanned North America.

He was one of those at the forefront of the movement to save the sacred territory of Wirikuta from Canadian mining companies, and he traveled extensively in the United States and Canada to garner public support for this cause. It was in these travels that he gained the most public exposure, but his work in defending Wixarika territories began nearly two decades earlier.

Jesús González de la Cruz, a friend from his early days in the sister community of Tuxpan de Bolaños, remembers him as a clear and eloquent thinker even as a youth. He recalls him presenting his ideas to the general assemblies while still a college student.

González de la Cruz would go on to accompany his friend and tocayo (a person with the same name) in the struggle to recover and defend Wixarika territories for their communities, including an unforgettable standoff at Mesa del Tirador in the late 1990s. The federal government had identified 14 focos rojos (trouble spots) throughout the country, and Tuxpan was one of them. González de la Cruz was serving as a delegate of the Unión de Comunidades Indígenas while Lara was president, and he remembers the young leader as a force for calm and reason. It was in this context that he was commissioned by his tribal authorities to represent the community in trips abroad to explain the urgent need to protect Wirikuta from mining operations.

The scene was, again, tense, with interventions by police, this time in the imposing tower of the mining company. I will never forget his impassive figure, head high, facing the gilded doors of a foreign giant, holding the carved wooden staff of the late actor and indigenous leader Chief Dan George, presented to him for the purpose by his grandson, Tsleil Waututh leader Reuben George.

Most of Lara Chivarra's activities were, however, of a much calmer sort. Hernández Barrón met him years before in one of many general assemblies of the Wixarika government, and they continued to meet, both in the assemblies of his home community of Ocota de la Sierra and in other communities throughout the extensive Huichol territories.

For Hernández Barrón, however, the most important project they accomplished together was a series of visits to the most important sacred Wixarika sites, beginning with the Pacific coastal site of Haramara. Here they witnessed destructive encroaching development and costly transport fees for Wixarika pilgrims who wished to make their offerings to their deities.

This was the place where, according to the ancient Wixarika creation story, the first people came out of the sea, touched ground and began their long journey to the westernmost pole of the ancient Wixarika universe, Wirikuta: Birthplace of the Sun.

At each of the sacred cardinal points of the Wixarika people, the story was the same: environmental and cultural degradation, destruction of offerings, impediments to access and other problems. In that process, Hernández says, Lara Chivarra became his teacher, entering with ever-greater depth into the mysteries of the intricate Wixarika culture.

Together they prepared the first report for government agencies and the public, which began a series of actions leading to greater public awareness, changes in policy and funding for the protection of the sites, and to facilitate access for Wixarika pilgrims.

These journeys took place in 2010. Five years later, at the last assembly meeting where Hernández saw his friend speak, once again, about the urgency of protecting the sacred sites, the two of them made a plan to carry out the same journey, returning to each site to evaluate the current status. Hernández has resolved to make that journey and produce the report in Yuka+ye's honor.

During that same year, the threat to Wirikuta from mining companies emerged and Lara Chivarra was one of a number of Wixarika leaders who began appearing at public forums, traveling around the country and beyond to plead for support of their cause.

"In this project Don Jesús Lara Chivarra was a tireless warrior," said Hernández Barrón, who accompanied his friend to forums in many cities. "With his firm voice and his clarity of ideas, he was a fundamental factor in helping people understand the dimension of what Wirikuta means for the Wixarika people."

Indeed, the high arid semi-desert of Wirikuta is the Wixarika equivalent of the Basilica of Guadalupe, as Lara Chivarra was fond of saying; and just as the Mexican people would never consider sacking the highest altar to the Mother of God, they should never contemplate the destruction of the birthplace of the deities, the place where the ancestors reside, and where his people travel in their annual pilgrimages to leave their offerings, collect the sacred Hikuri or peyote cactus that connects them to those entities, and to receive guidance for their lives.

Thanks to the efforts of the Wirikuta Defense Front and other civil society groups of which Lara Chivarra was a part, an international mass movement formed to support the Wixarika defense and a legal team won a judicial moratorium on the mining project, though the project is still being litigated.

\*Excerpted from [Intercontinentalcry.org](http://Intercontinentalcry.org) by Tracy Barnett



**Dame Zaha Hadid, the Iraqi-born British architect whose soaring structures left a mark on skylines and imaginations around the world and in the process reshaped architecture for the modern age, died in Miami on Thursday. She was 65.**

**She was not just a rock star and a designer of spectacles. She also liberated architectural geometry, giving it a whole new expressive identity. Geometry became, in her hands, a vehicle for unprecedented and eye-popping new spaces but also for emotional ambiguity. Her buildings elevated uncertainty to an art, conveyed in the odd ways one entered and moved through those buildings and in the questions her structures raised about how they were supported. Her work, with its formal fluidity — also implying mobility, speed, freedom — spoke to a worldview widely shared by a younger generation. Strikingly, Ms. Hadid never allowed herself or her work to be pigeonholed by her background or her gender. Architecture was architecture: it had its own reasoning and trajectory. And she was one of a kind, a path breaker. In 2004, she became the first woman to win the Pritzker Prize, architecture's Nobel; the first, on her own, to be awarded the RIBA Gold Medal, Britain's top architectural award, in 2015.**

**Ms. Hadid embodied, in its profligacy and promise, the era of so-called starchitects, who roamed the planet in pursuit of their own creative genius, offering miracles, occasionally delivering. "She was bigger than life, a force of nature," as Amale Andraos, the dean of Columbia University's architecture school, put it on Thursday. "She was a pioneer." She was. For women, for what cities can aspire to build and for the art of architecture.**

**\*Excerpted from the NY Times by Michael Kimmelman**

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To Jesus and Jose Luis of La Palapa, thank you for the ~sabor del amor~ I look forward to many more delightful collaborations in our future. To Daria Sandberg: a talented artist who performs a true service of love for persons everywhere with the Baggage Claim Project ~ your participation and your friendship mean so very much.

To all of you who have gifted me with your friendship and attended this event for 12 years, or perhaps even just a few, please know that the love and honor that you have left here for those that you love and miss has graced this space in innumerable ways.

This is the last time that we will do this here at 2027 Murray, as I will close this location at the end of February. You will not be rid of me easily, however. I will take a working sabbatical to tend to my long neglected website and house, and begin work on my non profit organization, Mundo Lindo. I'll continue to search for a way to keep on doing what I love and to make an actual living while doing it, while also continuing to partner with many of you. You have *all* of my love.