



Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurry

October 21, 1950 - August 1, 2012

Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurry, 61, well known illustrator, novelist, playwright and teacher died in Morris, Oklahoma on Wednesday, August 1, 2012. Robbie was born in San Antonio, Texas on October 21, 1950 to Robert Emil and Clara Lee (Smith) McMurry. Robby graduated from Velma-Alma High School in Velma, Oklahoma in 1969. Later he received a Bachelor Degree in English and Minors in Art and Sociology in 1973 from Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts in Chickasha, Oklahoma. He married Lesa DeAnn Davis on June 25, 1976 in Duncan, Oklahoma. His work history includes Art Instructor at the Tulsa Indian Youth Council, Arts Projects Coordinator, Indian Education Programs in the Tulsa Public Schools, Artist-In-Residence, Oklahoma Arts & Humanities Council, Cherokee Nation, Summer Arts Project Coordinator, Indian Pupil Education in Tulsa, Artist-In-Residence Muscogee (Cree) Nation, Cultural Coordinator, Indian Education Program, Morris Public Schools and at the time of his death Art teacher for the Morris Public Schools. His parents and a brother Gary McMurry preceded him in death.

Survivors include his loving wife Lesa of the home, two daughters; Meredith McMurry Phelps of Tulsa, Naiya McMurry of Glen Cove, NY, one sister Susie McMurry of Dibble, OK, one brother Larry McMurry of Oklahoma City, OK. Grandchildren are Jules McMurry, of Morris, OK, Breyonna Hankins of Tulsa, OK, Tallulah Supica of Glen Cove, NY, Day-Shon Phelps of Tulsa, OK, Midori Phelps of Tulsa, OK, Paloma Supica, Glen Cove, NY, Remington Phelps of

Tulsa, OK, other relatives and a host of friends.

A service of celebration of Robby's life will be on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 at 10:00 AM in the Morris School Gymnasium. Rev. Darrin Ballard will officiate.

Visitation will be on Monday, 12:00 pm until

8:00 PM at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home in Morris, OK.

The family suggests contributions be made in Robby's name to a scholarship fund at the Morris Public Schools. Condolences may be made at mcclendon-winters.com.

Previous Events

Viewing

AUG 6. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - Morris
421 South Hughes
Morris, OK 74445
(918) 756-1677
info@mcclendon-winters.com
<https://www.mcclendon-winters.com>

Funeral Service

AUG 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Morris School Gym
307 S. 6th. St.
Morris, OK

Tribute Wall



“ McClendon-Winters Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - August 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry

December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ Linda Cornette Van Jahnke lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



Linda Cornette Van Jahnke - November 24, 2015 at 07:30 PM



“ Robby, you always marched to your own drum. Until we meet again my friend I will think of you and your family. J. Stacy



Judy Stacy - August 28, 2012 at 06:26 PM

SM

“ Went to school with Robbie our senior year at Velma what a blessing to call him a good friend. At our last class reunion Robbie was there and we all had a great time. At the memorial I met his wife and daughter. I appreciate them letting us share our memories with them of Robbie and them sharing the video with us. Robbie will live on through his children and grandchildren. Carrie Carney



Stephanie McCartney - August 25, 2012 at 05:29 PM

TZ

“ 1 file added to the album An evening with Robby



Tulsa Zephyr - August 21, 2012 at 04:38 PM

DH

“ We just heard of Mr. Robby's passing. His shared his gifts generously and with enjoyment. His legacy includes the historical comics that convey native and Oklahoma history, but the greatest gift he gave was the encouragement of his students. He made the world a better place.

David and Betty Himes - August 14, 2012 at 08:10 PM

MA

“ Does anyone know when they will bury him?

Marty - August 09, 2012 at 09:06 PM

MA

He was the best art teacher..... EVER!

Marty - August 09, 2012 at 09:12 PM

BB

“ *We always thought the world of Robby. He was such a loving kind person. Blessings to the family. Bobby & Barbara Bullard*

Barbara Bullard - August 09, 2012 at 03:43 PM

AW

“ *Robby touched so many of us with his goodness & kindness.... a gentle soul. I, too, pray for comfort and peace for Lesa, his entire family and many close friends... until you see him again. Please know there are many of us praying and sending our love your way. Ann (McNutt) Wilson*

Ann (McNutt) Wilson - August 09, 2012 at 03:28 PM

FC

“ *The family does not know me, except for Susie, but I, too, went to high school with Robby, and just want to let you know that I was another whose life was touched by Robby's goodness and great sense of humor (always with a deadpan face). I pray that God will give you comfort, and that you will find comfort in the fact that he touched so many lives.*

Frances Graham Carney - August 09, 2012 at 06:40 AM

HM

I met Robby at Tulsa Indian Youth Council. He and Benjamin Harjo, Jr. kept us laughing even when times were bad. I didn't know that he had passed until today when I wanted to check on him and see what he had been up to. I was shocked to read that he had been killed. The art world lost someone very special. Although he's been gone for almost seven years I have the memories of our times together alive in my mind. God bless you all.

Helen Konar Moses - June 27, 2019 at 07:08 PM

LW

“ Laurie (Dotson) Whitesell lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



Laurie (Dotson) Whitesell - August 08, 2012 at 07:06 PM



“ Kathy Williamson lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



kathy williamson - August 08, 2012 at 04:23 PM



“ *he was the most talented and most kindest person i have ever known .Never had a unkind word to say ,always was incouraging all of us in school to try and we would suceed at anything . i wish the new childrten that start school would have had the pleasure of knowing him as all of us have had . Mr.Robby you will be greatly missed but never forgotten and always will be loved . My thoughts and prayers go out to the family.*

Kathy Irvin Williamson

kathy williamson - August 08, 2012 at 04:23 PM

TW

“ *One of the kindest and most gentle souls ever to walk this earth. The best of the best at Morris schools. Never a bad word said or deed done against anyone. You drew an awesome pic of my dad by memory after he passed in 1985. Hope y'all are up there having a grand time catching up with each other. Enjoy the view from up there. There are plenty of us who will think of your inspiration every time we see bright colors in the sky. God bless your family. Ours knows this journey all too well.*

Tammy Kellogg Wade - August 08, 2012 at 04:03 PM

MO

“ *Marcia Scott Ogden lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Marcia Scott Ogden - August 08, 2012 at 01:59 PM

MO

My heart breaks when I think of your death. I remember college and even more in Tulsa when Ken and I would be with you and Lesa and little Niya after she was born. I wish Lesa and your children and grandchildren peace. They will hear your voice in the wind and see your face in the sky.

Marcia and Ken Ogden

Marcia Scott Ogden - August 08, 2012 at 02:10 PM



“ *Louis Darity lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Louis Darity - August 07, 2012 at 08:31 PM



Robby was a true friend, we spent hours on end sharing idea's on Native American Art. Our favorite was Charles M. Russel who inspired both of us. During our yrs. in high school were you saw Robbie you would see Ricky Webb and myself. I will always remember his witty humor and Tarzan yell's, and we all no God has a special art asignment waiting for Robbie. God bless his family. Louis and Ellen Darity

Louis Darity - August 07, 2012 at 08:39 PM

LD

“ *Louis C. Darity lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Louis C. Darity - August 07, 2012 at 08:29 PM

CM

“ *Cori Mathis lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Cori Mathis - August 07, 2012 at 07:26 PM

CM

One of the best teachers, and best people. Hands down, period. Nobody ever believed more in the power of a child with a crayon. He is missed.

Cori Mathis - August 07, 2012 at 07:28 PM



“ *Melanie Robertson lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Melanie Robertson - August 06, 2012 at 05:31 PM



My thoughts and prayers go out to the McMurtury family. Mr. Robby was a wonderful man and a great art teacher.

Melanie Robertson - August 06, 2012 at 05:33 PM

JS

“ *Jaclyn Sadler lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Jaclyn Sadler - August 06, 2012 at 04:34 PM

KS

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Kathryn Shurden - August 06, 2012 at 04:23 PM

KS

"Hey, look! Lesa taught me to ski! YeeeeHaw!"

Kathryn Shurden - August 06, 2012 at 04:29 PM

VC

“ Lesa,
We are so sorry for your loss and our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Mr. Robby will never be forgotten. He was a wonderful and talented man.

Hal and Vickie Counts

Vickie Counts - August 06, 2012 at 03:48 PM



RW

“ *Ricky And Shirley Webb lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*

Ricky and Shirley Webb - August 06, 2012 at 08:50 AM



RW

Spending time with Robby was always an enjoyable experience. He made every event fun. We remember his portrayal of Pat Paulson and the Smothers Brothers. His artwork for all the plays and the drawings of all the athletes that he and Louis did for the All Sports Banquets. His comic books that he would draw featuring students as the heroes or heroines. He was amazing. Our lives were richer having known this wonderful man. Our thoughts and prayers are with Robby's family and many friends.

Ricky and Shirley Webb

Ricky and Shirley Webb - August 06, 2012 at 09:15 AM

BJ

The Class of 1969 was so blessed to have Robby as part of our student family. He was always so entertaining and fun to be around. His impact on future artists is amazing and he leaves a great legacy.

Beverly Johnson

Beverly Johnson - August 06, 2012 at 04:37 PM

NR

“ *Family in Indiana will remember Robby for you. Our father (Paul Davis) gifted us some of his artwork. You are in our thoughts.*

Nancy & Jeff Ream, Geoff Davis, Ketih Davis and families

Nancy Ream - August 06, 2012 at 08:49 AM

NR

“ *Nancy Ream lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Nancy Ream - August 06, 2012 at 08:34 AM

AA

“ Lesa,

On behalf of my family, our love for you and Robby are in our thoughts and prayers.

Annette Arkeketa-Rendon

Annette Arkeketa-Rendon - August 06, 2012 at 08:20 AM

NH

“ *Norma Parker Hopkins sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Norma Parker Hopkins - August 06, 2012 at 07:00 AM

TH

“ *Teresa Hampton lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Teresa Hampton - August 06, 2012 at 12:16 AM

JN

“ *John Newport lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



John Newport - August 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JN

Thoughts and prayers go up for the McMurtry family. I know that hearts are so heavy right now, however we can trust and know that the Father will replace that sorry with peace again. There are no right words to make it better instantly, all we can do is let the family know that many are praying for you during this time.

John Newport - August 06, 2012 at 12:04 AM

SC

“ *Our thoughts and prayers to the McMurtry family. We are sorry for your loss.*

Spike Casey and Family

Spike Casey - August 05, 2012 at 09:58 PM

KB

“ *I ONLY KNEW MR. ROBBY AS A TEACHER TO OUR BOYS AND FROM HIS AMAZING ART WORK, BUT I KNOW THAT HE WAS A SUPER INSPIRATION TO THEM...MY BOYS AS WELL AS MY HUSBAND AND I ARE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.. OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL..*

RICH AND KIM BORCHERT, KODY WRIGHT SR 2010 AND COLT BEARD 7TH GRADE

KIM BORCHERT - August 05, 2012 at 07:41 PM

DP

“ *Robby a TRUE Gentleman. You have left so any beautiful memories with all those who knew you. Only God knows our time and he knows it is your time to soar like an eagle. So, Robby soar like the eagle you are!*

Delilah Conner Popplewell - August 05, 2012 at 04:27 PM

AH

“ Growing up, having Robbie as an Uncle was always an adventure. I knew that every time the family got together I would never be bored with him there. Countless adventures, walked trails, horse back riding, and stories around the camp fire. I always thought of Robbie as more than just a regular uncle. He influenced everyone he came into pass with in some way or another. He was inspiring, and one of a kind. We are all lucky to have had him in our lives. Love Always

Anna Marie Holloway - August 05, 2012 at 03:58 PM

JS

“ Joe Stewart lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



Joe Stewart - August 05, 2012 at 02:26 PM

JS

Robbie and I were friends in high school at Velma. He was a manager on our football team. George Hanks and I would bring Robby home with us on Friday and he would spend the night with us at my house. My dad Jud knew Robbys dad and they would talk with each other. Robby called my dad "Jug" and that would tickle my dad. He thought the world of Robby as George and I did. Robby was a kind person where George and I were rowdy. He was just the opposite of us but we loved him. I called George and told him of Robby's death. Our hearts are broken. I didn't get to see Robby in recent years but George and I talked about how proud we were of him for his success. I pray for him and his family daily. I am proud to call him my friend. I can't begin to grasp why something like this would happen to a gentle soul like Robby. God Bless...

Joe Stewart - August 05, 2012 at 02:35 PM

TZ

“ We will miss his Magic...



Tulsa Zephyr - August 05, 2012 at 12:27 PM

GH

“ 1 file added to the album Two Crows Studio



Gina Davis Holloway - August 05, 2012 at 11:14 AM

VY

“ Vehoae (shirl Yancey) lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



vehoae (shirl yancey) - August 04, 2012 at 10:07 PM

VY

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



vehoae (shirl yancey) - August 04, 2012 at 10:03 PM

VY

My name didn't enter correctly. It is ... vehoae(shirl yancey)

vehoae (shirl yancey) - August 04, 2012 at 10:04 PM

PE

“ *Petra Earhart lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Petra Earhart - August 04, 2012 at 12:14 PM

PE

Your family will be in our prayers at the sad time.

Petra Earhart - August 04, 2012 at 12:15 PM

RW

“ *Rocky & Ruth Welton lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Rocky & Ruth Welton - August 04, 2012 at 11:40 AM

KB

“ *Lisa and family- there are no words adequate enough to express our condolences, except to say that our family truly knows what you and yours are going through right now..for we have been through it ourselves recently. Just know we are praying for you and take heart for another has gone home to God and you will see him again.*
John and Kathryn Bell, Beggs

Kathryn Bell - August 03, 2012 at 03:51 PM

VM

“ *Viola Myers lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Viola Myers - August 03, 2012 at 02:55 PM

CM

“ *Casey Myers lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Casey Myers - August 03, 2012 at 02:54 PM



“ *What a wonderful man and teacher. Robby touched the lives of so many. He brought his talent of art to his students in such a wonderful way. Robby will always be remembered as a kind and giving man. Robby the world will miss you. Paint the heavens , we will see you soon.*

Peggy&Mark Fisher - August 03, 2012 at 02:15 PM



“ *Peggy&Mark Fisher sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Peggy&Mark Fisher - August 03, 2012 at 02:08 PM

DF

“ Darla Fish lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



Darla Fish - August 03, 2012 at 01:57 PM

SC

“ Sarah (myers) Carpenter lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



Sarah (myers) Carpenter - August 03, 2012 at 11:48 AM

MI

“ I am sorry to read of your loss. Many have lost loved ones and want to see them again. The Bible actually says what will be death's unavoidable eventuality at Revelation 21:4, which says, "And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away." Death will be gone forever. May this be of encouragement to the family of Robert McMurtry.

Michael - August 03, 2012 at 11:41 AM

MK

“ Michelle Knight lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



Michelle Knight - August 03, 2012 at 11:01 AM

MK

My thoughts and prayers are with your family. You were an amazing, talented and very respected man.

Michelle Knight - August 03, 2012 at 11:02 AM

RT

“ *Robert N. & Jennifer (Maylen) Tamplen lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Robert N. & Jennifer (Maylen) Tamplen - August 03, 2012 at 08:57 AM

RT

Our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Robby's Family. He was truly a nice person as well as a great teacher. He was so very talented. We know that he will be missed by so many.

Robert N. & Jennifer (Maylen) Tamplen - August 03, 2012 at 09:05 AM

VB

“ *Verla Smith Bloomfield lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Verla Smith Bloomfield - August 03, 2012 at 08:32 AM

LC

“ *Lydia Campbell lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry*



Lydia Campbell - August 02, 2012 at 05:38 PM

LC

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Robby's family. He was such a talented, fun person to visit with who really cared about all of the students at Morris Public Schools. Rest in peace in heaven, my friend.

Lydia Campbell - August 02, 2012 at 05:42 PM

MM

“ We will always remember Robby from our time in Okmulgee. Doing shows at the Council House to trading Framing for his wonderful artwork. We always loved it when Robby showed up at the shop! Robby, you will always remember you in our hearts and on our walls! Love Live Coyote! Mike and Irene Menasco

Mike and Irene Menasco - August 02, 2012 at 05:36 PM

JW

“ Jeana Wilson lit a candle in memory of Robert Wayne (Robby) McMurtry



Jeana Wilson - August 02, 2012 at 03:08 PM

DR

“ So sorry for your loss. Our prayers and thoughts are with you during this time. He was a great person and I know that he will be deeply missed..

Denise Robison - August 02, 2012 at 02:06 PM

NG

“ *To Robbie's family: I only knew him for a short time when I was a teacher's aide in Morris Elementary School and had had him as a substitute in my art class on one occasion, but I felt like he was a very humble, sincere and of course talented individual who had humanity above all else. He will be greatly missed I am sure in the community and all who knew him. My deepest condolences and prayers for his family. Rest in peace Robbie and run with the coyotes! Nena and Carl Gragg*

Nena Gragg - August 02, 2012 at 11:44 AM