



Dr. John Scott Ford

August 7, 2022

Dr. John Scott Ford, 73, of McAllen, Texas left us on earth, to make his debut in Heaven, on August 7, 2022. John was born in the beautiful April Spring of 1949, to James Scott Ford and Helen Marie Survillo. John was an unexpected addition, and though a surprise, he quickly stole the hearts of anyone that laid their eyes on him.

John attended Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School, in McAllen, for the duration of his grade school years.

During John's high school years, at McAllen High School, John earned a Spillar Scholarship for the study of music.

John then moved on to earn a Bachelor of Music degree in classical guitar performance, the first such degree awarded in the state of Texas, from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, in 1971. He earned a Master of Arts degree in music, classical guitar performance, in 1974, also from Trinity University.

In 1973, Manuel López Ramos, founder and director of the Estudio de Arte Guitarrístico in México City, invited Dr. Ford to study with him at his school. While in México City, Dr. Ford gave a performance for the United States Ambassador to México and members of the Embassy staff in 1975. He was asked to write an article for Creative Guitar on the life and music of Julián Carrillo and his contributions to the guitar in honor of Carrillo's centennial, which was published in three installments in 1975 and 1976.

In 1978, Ford was featured soloist in a series of concerts with the Rio Grande

Valley Symphony Orchestra. In December of 1980, Dr. Ford was awarded the Diploma from the Estudio de Arte Guitarrístico. In 1981, Ford was selected as an Outstanding Young Man of America by the National Jaycees. Before joining the doctoral program at Texas Tech University in August of 1991, Dr. Ford taught music courses at Texas Southmost College in Brownsville, Texas, and at the University of Texas-Pan American at Edinburg.

While at Texas Tech University, Ford was awarded the Winkler Scholarship for studies in classical guitar performance. In 1993, he presented a lecture and performance on the vihuela de mano for the first Conference on Renaissance and Baroque Spanish Poetry, which Texas Tech University hosted. He is dedicatee and editor of Dr. Mary Jeanne van Appledorn's 1993 work for classical guitar, "Postcards to John," which won second prize out of ninety-three international entries at the Guitar Foundation of America Set Piece Competition in 1994. In 1995, Dr. Ford presented the New York City debut of "Postcards to John" and received a favorable review from Barry L. Cohen, Publisher of *The Music Connoisseur*. Dr. Ford worked as a teaching assistant, and as a member of the faculty at Texas Tech University, and taught guitar classes at Lubbock Christian University. In April of 1998, Mr. Ford was elected a member of the Society of Pi Kappa Lambda by the Theta Kappa Chapter. John Scott Ford completed the requirements for a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Fine Arts Interdisciplinary, within the School of Music, specializing in classical guitar performance, on May 15th, 1999. The Ph.D. in Fine Arts program at Texas Tech University was the only one of its kind in the United States; in addition to a traditional music curriculum, the core includes courses in the visual arts, theatre, philosophy, and arts administration.

Dr. Ford played with Freddy Fender as a guitarist on both performances and live recordings and opened for major recording artists such as Crystal Gale, Jerry Lee Lewis, Conway Twitty, and Steve Wariner. He also played in Lanny Fiel's Ranch Dance Fiddle Band recreating historic music that has been played for cowboys and ranch dances since the first arrival of settlers in the Texas Plains. John was most proud of the pieces he performed in "Postcards

To John”, written by Dr. Mary Jeanne van Appledorn. He recorded these pieces for North/South Records and later performed those pieces in New York City with the North/South Consonance Ensemble.

John is survived by his loving daughter, Katherine Ford Hughes and her husband Chris, and grandsons Jake Hughes and Beau Hughes, all of Moulton, brother James Ford and wife Sue of San Antonio, along with numerous other family members and friends, too many to even account for. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Eleanor Ann Ford and Pauline Louise Ford. Later in life he enjoyed being near his daughter and grandchildren playing games, watching movies, and enjoying quality time. To know John was to know Joy. The love, joy, and warmth he brought will be cherished and greatly missed.

A gathering of family and friends will be held on Friday, August 19, 2022 from 6 pm until 8 pm, with a Rosary at 7:00 pm, at Kreidler Funeral Home, 314 N. 10th Street in McAllen. Funeral services will be celebrated Saturday, August 20, 2022 at 9 am, at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 1108 W. Hackberry Ave, in McAllen, with burial to follow at Roselawn Cemetery. A private reception to follow.

As a tribute to the mark John Ford left on all of our hearts, please wear something colorful. We know he will be smiling down from Heaven as John sees the beautiful masterpiece he left behind in all of us. He would not want us to be sad, but to smile as we remember his contagious personality and share our favorite stories and music of him.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting memorial contributions be made in John’s honor. The family requests memorial contributions be made to the “Dr. John Scott Ford Memorial Classical Guitar Scholarship” to benefit Classical Guitar students at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Division of

Institutional Advancement, 701 E. Expressway 83, Box #13, McAllen, TX
78501. Gifts can be made online at <https://give.utrgv.edu/JohnFordMemorial>

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Cemetery

1201 S Main
McAllen, TX 78501

Previous Events

Visitation and Rosary

AUG 19. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.
314 N 10th St.
McAllen, TX 78501
(956) 686-0234
kreidler@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.kreidlerfuneralhome.com/index.html>

Rosary

AUG 19. 7:00 PM (CT)

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McAllen, TX 78501
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Funeral Service

AUG **20**. 9:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. John Scott Ford*

October 08, 2023 at 09:43 PM



“ *Dr. John Scott Ford*

November 29, 2022 at 06:40 AM



“ *Our sincere condolences to the Ford family. He was a very good friend to Don Rogers and they are definitely making some great music in heaven together. From the Rogers' family*

Steven Rogers - August 23, 2022 at 07:54 AM



“ *John was just about the kindest and most gentle human I've ever know. He treated everyone the same, whether it was professors, his graduate school colleagues, or the lowly undergrads (as I was). Had tons of fun times at the lake and other adventures, as well. One of my favorite "John-isms" was about the Mexican bartender telling him "Señor Ford, the tequila she's to kill you." I'd like to imagine he's got his guitar in hand and making beautiful music. Godspeed, old friend.*

blair king - August 20, 2022 at 10:39 AM

AK

“ *An inspirer of hope. A natural and true musician. A cool cat. As humble, appreciative, and non-demanding a person I've ever met. A brilliant man with memory and insight. You know he'd hate these praise. So instead we'll just say thanks to his God send keeper, daughter Kathryn and family who gave him reason to believe and live on. It's ok John, take some credit for that. Good job. One hell of a guy playing guitar in heaven. Play More Music amigo.*

Allen Kirsh

allen kirsh - August 19, 2022 at 01:01 AM



A old OLS friend and such an inspirational and talented musician. God Bless you John for bringing moments of happiness to our lives. His McAllen Garage Band "The Invaders" was my first freshman high school musical memory at the Howdy Dance.

Erik Edward Contreras - August 23, 2022 at 09:52 AM

DT

“ *I will always remember the joy and fun he brought to our Senior English class with Mr. Gordon. His joy and smile was contagious.*

Diana Hinojosa Taylor - August 18, 2022 at 05:44 PM

CJ

“ *I be known John for most of my life. He was a joy to know as a person and friend. He was so talented in his music and making his friends laugh when he told his jokes, even the corny ones. He will be sorely missed by all who loved him.*

candice Jones - August 18, 2022 at 11:49 AM

JM

“ *My condolences.*

james moreland - August 18, 2022 at 06:17 AM

CF

“ *To know John was to love John.. his music, his famous road trips with all the pitstops along the way! His life was lived just the way he wanted it. And being part of the family for so long I'll never forget his dear love for his sweet daughter Katherine, The most precious thing in his life. He cherished her from the moment she was born and she was there for him until the end... love you all !!! John will be smiling down at Katherine and the boys...playing his Classical Guitar up in heaven. You will be missed John Rest In Peace!*

Celine Ford - August 17, 2022 at 04:44 PM