



Carlos Francisco Trenary

February 4, 1949 - April 3, 2024

Carlos Francisco “Pancho” Trenary, passed away on 04/03/2024 at the age of 75. Carlos was an adventurer and traveler at heart, having lived such a unique life that is almost unbelievable if there wasn’t photographic evidence. He was the oldest of two siblings born in New Orleans, Louisiana to Richard Trenary and Maria Ramos-Jimenez. Carlos learned to speak Spanish as his first language and later English when he started grammar school at St Josephs in Gretna. He graduated from Archbishop Shaw High School in 1966. It was in his early childhood where he became a voracious reader and lover of books, history, and cultures.

Having a rebellious streak, Carlos fell in love with the music and hippie culture of the sixties and in early adulthood got his CDL and worked as a roadie and sound engineer, traveling with acts such as Jefferson Airplane, Crosby Stills Nash and Young, The Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan, Frank Zappa and many more. His travels and adventures led him to Northern California, where he settled in the Mt Shasta region, got married, and had two daughters.

Eventually he moved back to the New Orleans area and graduated from Tulane University with a degree in Anthropology, after becoming interested in his mother’s indigenous heritage. In the late eighties, he moved to Nashville to attend Vanderbilt University where he worked for several years in the Astronomy and Physics department and obtained his Master’s in Anthropology. One of his greater undertakings was a months-long excursion to Papua New Guinea studying the native cannibalistic tribes and their belief

systems in astronomy. Carlos switched careers in the late nineties to technology and became a Systems Administrator at Vanderbilt University. He retired in 2015 and immediately planned an extensive excursion to Africa where he traveled throughout the Congo, Kenya and Tanzania, on a mission to see as many animals as possible, the pinnacle of the experience being close encounters with Mountain Gorillas at the Virunga National Park-a lifelong dream. At this time, Carlos had traveled extensively throughout his life, visiting more than 40 countries across the world, but his Africa travels had the greatest effect on him, and he had planned to retire permanently in Africa. Sadly, in 2020 Carlos was diagnosed with a rare lung cancer but he did what he is best at, and studied the disease extensively, crafted a care plan, and was able to enjoy much of his remaining years in Nashville in his home on the Cumberland river, surrounded by books, close friends and family. Carlos is survived by his two daughters Jasmin Trenary, Maggie Gleason (Edward Gleason), and two grandchildren Jack and Remi Gleason, a sister, Evelyn Wirstrom, and his former wife and dear friend Irina Trenary. He is preceded in death by his mother and father, Richard and Maria. He will have a memorial service on Saturday April 13, from 2-4 at Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home located at 2707 Gallatin Road, Nashville, TN 37216. His green burial will take place on Tuesday, April 16, at Larkspur Conservatory at 11:00 am.

What to expect at a natural burial:

Dress for an outdoor hike and wear appropriate shoes.

Use the restroom before you arrive, there is no public toilet or running water.

Carpool to Larkspur - parking is limited.

Plan to arrive 15 minutes ahead of time.

Family and friends will be welcomed at the trailhead by Larkspur staff and volunteers.

The casket or body will be in place at the graveside prior to the arrival of family and friends.

Family and friends will hike up the hill into the nature preserve for the burial

ceremony.

Words are shared and the casket or body is lowered into the grave by family and friends.

With guidance the family and friends shovel soil into the grave until it is closed.

Hike away from the graveside and return to your vehicle or explore the preserve.

Leave no trash behind.

Cut flowers are welcome.

Cemetery Details

Larkspur Conservation

155 Bear Carr Road
Westmoreland, TN 37186
<https://larkspurconservation.org>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR 13. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Phillips-Robinson Funeral Home - Nashville Chapel
2707 Gallatin Pike
Nashville, TN 37216
(615) 262-3312
info@phillipsrobinson.com
<https://www.phillipsrobinson.com/>

Natural Burial Service

APR 16. 11:00 AM (CT)

Larkspur Conservation
155 Bear Carr Road
Westmoreland, TN 37186
<https://larkspurconservation.org>

Tribute Wall

AR

“ I copied and pasted this from a Facebook tribute I posted after hearing of his passing--I learned more about Carlos from the family's tribute. I wish I could be at the life celebration and the burial but I am currently living in Kazakhstan. Carlos was a dear friend. Here is what I wrote:

I met Carlos in the late 80s when I first moved to Nashville—back when it was still small and most places were closed on Sundays. We were always bumping into each other at Slice of Life macrobiotic restaurant but it wasn't until Bob Bernstein opened Bong Java coffee house that we really got to know each other--along with the rest of the group pictured below.

The photo commemorates my last marriage 1998, and I do mean last--note that look of apprehension. Carlos and Tina [both in the Archeology /Anthropology program at Vanderbilt at the time] were witnesses and Will [who was, and still is, an English prof at MTSU] graciously provided the venue. We were a tight-knit group and Carlos was a major thread.

He had worked as a roadie for Jefferson Airplane in the 70s and never lost the wanderlust. He was always heading out for uncharted territories, like Papau New Guinea, and always returned with tall tales to tell. One could safely say that he embellished a smidge--but it was well-received for the entertainment value--and it was part of the package.

I helped him move once and his apartment was a cross between a library and a natural history museum--there were spears, totems, even a shrunken head!

His last love was Africa and, newly retired, he had planned to traverse the continent in one of those overland vehicles...but...life is not fair.

He is on the left on the photo and that smile always came from the heart, I will miss it, his kind & crazy soul and his tall tales.



Adele Robertson - April 11, 2024 at 11:17 AM

AR

Carlos was a witness at my last wedding in 1998--we'd known each other for roughly 10 years when this was taken [one of the few photos I have of him]. I saw him last in December of 2022. Almost 40 years of friendship and I am deeply saddened by his passing.

Adele Robertson - April 11, 2024 at 03:34 PM