

JAY'S STRAIGHT TALK

UNPLUGGED AND UNCENSORED



i CAN'T IMAGINE
MASTERING THE SKILLS
INVOLVED HERE WITHOUT
A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING
OF WHO'S GOING TO BE
IMPRESSED*

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JAY McDONALD
Empowering Excellence

Straight Talk XV Salute those folks who have served Andy Rooney remembered Amazing Grace November 11 2011

Today is one in the U.S. where we honor those who've served our country so bravely. Thanks to all who served. Congratulations to the many of you who are having successful group builds and launches...it's special to be a part of such an outstanding group of folks. Also, sadly Andy Rooney died this week...some of his better quotes are below. Finally, an interesting and inspirational piece on musical history and African culture. Have a wonderful weekend and special week! Best wishes to Mary Hoffman on her marriage tomorrow...happy life to Mary and Brock! Jay

Ann Margret....

*This is a great counter-balance story to the Jane Fonda,
" Vietnam Woman Of The Year," story, from years ago.*



Viet Nam 1966

Richard, (my husband), never really talked a lot about his time in Viet Nam , other than he had been shot by a sniper. However, he had a rather grainy, 8 x 10 black and white photo he had taken at a USO show of Ann Margret with Bob Hope in the background that was one of his treasures.

A few years ago, Ann Margret was doing a book signing at a local bookstore. Richard wanted to see if he could get her to sign the treasured photo so he arrived at the bookstore at 12 o'clock for the 7:30 signing.

When I got there after work, the line went all the way around the bookstore, circled the parking lot, and disappeared behind a parking garage. Before her appearance, bookstore employees announced that she would sign only her book and no memorabilia would be permitted.



Richard was disappointed, but wanted to show her the photo and let her know how much those shows meant to lonely GI's so far from home.. Ann Margret came out looking as beautiful as ever and, as second in line, it was soon Richard's turn.

He presented the book for her signature and then took out the photo. When he did, there were many shouts from the employees that she would not sign it. Richard said, "I understand. I just wanted her to see it."

She took one look at the photo, tears welled up in her eyes and she said, "This is one of my gentlemen from Viet Nam and I most certainly will sign his photo. I know what these men did for their country and I always have time for 'my gentlemen.'"



With that, she pulled Richard across the table and planted a big kiss on him. She then made quite a to-do about the bravery of the young men she met over the years, how much she admired them, and how much she appreciated them. There weren't too many dry eyes among those close enough to hear. She then posed for pictures and acted as if he were the only one there.

Later at dinner, Richard was very quiet. When I asked if he'd like to talk about it, my big, strong husband broke down in tears.. "That's the first time anyone ever thanked me for my time in the Army," he said.

That night was a turning point for him. He walked a little straighter and, for the first time in years, was proud to have been a Vet. I'll never forget Ann Margret for her graciousness and how much that small act of kindness meant to my husband.

I now make it a point to say 'Thank you' to every person I come across who served in our Armed Forces. Freedom does not come cheap and I am grateful for all those who have served their country.

If you'd like to pass on this story, feel free to do so. Perhaps it will help others to become aware of how important it is to acknowledge the contribution our service people make.

Andy Rooney Quotes

All men are not created equal but should be treated as though they were under the law.

Anyone who watches golf on television would enjoy watching the grass grow on the greens.

As an old reporter, we have a few secrets, and the first thing is we try the phone book.

Computers make it easier to do a lot of things, but most of the things they make it easier to do don't need to be done.

Computers may save time but they sure waste a lot of paper. About 98 percent of everything printed out by a computer is garbage that no one ever reads.

Death is a distant rumor to the young.

Don't rule out working with your hands. It does not preclude using your head.

Elephants and grandchildren never forget.

Figure skating is an unlikely Olympic event but its good television. It's sort of a combination of gymnastics and ballet. A little sexy too which doesn't hurt.

Happiness depends more on how life strikes you than on what happens.

I didn't get old on purpose, it just happened. If you're lucky, it could happen to you.

I don't like food that's too carefully arranged; it makes me think that the chef is spending too much time arranging and not enough time cooking. If I wanted a picture I'd buy a painting.

I don't pick subjects as much as they pick me.

I don't think the government is out to get me or help someone else get me but it

wouldn't surprise me if they were out to sell me something or help someone else sell me something. I mean, why else would the Census Bureau want to know my telephone number?

I hope all of you are going to fill out your census form when it comes in the mail next month. If you don't return the form the area you live in might get less government money and you wouldn't want that to happen, would you.

I just wish we knew a little less about his urethra and a little more about his arms sales to Iran.

I like ice hockey, but it's a frustrating game to watch. It's hard to keep your eyes on both the puck and the players and too much time passes between scoring in hockey. There are usually more fights than there are points.

If dogs could talk it would take a lot of the fun out of owning one.

If you smile when no one else is around, you really mean it.

Making duplicate copies and computer printouts of things no one wanted even one of in the first place is giving America a new sense of purpose.

Most of us end up with no more than five or six people who remember us. Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives.

Nothing in fine print is ever good news.

Obscenities... I think a lot of dumb people do it because they can't think of what they want to say and they're frustrated. A lot of smart people do it to pretend they aren't very smart - want to be just one of the boys.

People will generally accept facts as truth only if the facts agree with what they already believe.

Taxes are important. President Bush's tax proposals leave no rich person behind. Voters approve of President Bush helping the kind of people they wish they were one of.

The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.

The average bright young man who is drafted hates the whole business because an army always tries to eliminate the individual differences in men.

The average dog is a nicer person than the average person.

The closing of a door can bring blessed privacy and comfort - the opening, terror. Conversely, the closing of a door can be a sad and final thing - the opening a wonderfully joyous moment.

The dullest Olympic sport is curling, whatever 'curling' means.

The federal government has sponsored research that has produced a tomato that is perfect in every respect, except that you can't eat it. We should make every effort to make sure this disease, often referred to as 'progress', doesn't spread.

The only people who say worse things about politicians than reporters do are other politicians.

The Super Bowl isn't for kids, I had a great time though and it was worth every nickel of it because by doing this lame piece about the game I can put it on my expense account.

The world must be filled with unsuccessful musical careers like mine, and it's probably a good thing. We don't need a lot of bad musicians filling the air with unnecessary sounds. Some of the professionals are bad enough.

Vegetarian - that's an old Indian word meaning lousy hunter.

We're all proud of making little mistakes. It gives us the feeling we don't make any big ones.

When those waiters ask me if I want some fresh ground pepper, I ask if they have any aged pepper.

Piano Lesson

This is a WOW video.

You will not be sorry you took the time to watch.

Interesting historical perspectives, as well as musical composition followed by a spectacular rendition delivered via an awesome voice.

<http://www.karmatube.org/videos.php?id=1312>