

# Best of the Poop

## In Memoriam: Vito Jones, Trivia Icon



The NightCat Trivia family is mourning the passing of Vito Jones, 46, of Easton, who left this life last Wednesday evening, surrounded by friends and fellow trivia enthusiasts. Mr. Jones, who led a quiet, solitary life, was beloved by his colleagues and will be sorely missed.

Little is known about Vito's background. It is believed that he was born of murky moral circumstances near Topeka, Kansas. He was raised by his mother, whom he called Aunt Jim, who was a washerwoman and wartime stevedore. He learned to overhaul tractors and to make corn liquor while still in primary school. From his tales of the sea, we surmised that he was in the Navy, but it was clear that the scars of his first Equator crossing ran so deep that no one dared ask about the details of his assumed service to our country.

He reportedly came to Easton to seek his fortune in the local oyster industry, arriving just as oyster populations declined dramatically due to overfishing and the poor health of the Bay. Financially ruined, he eked out a noble, if unnoticed existence in our town for over twenty years.

Trivia Night was the highlight of Vito's week. He was revered for his abilities to decipher the maddening mysteries of the Photo Round. He is credited with being the first to bring his own magnifying glass to the game, staunchly rebuffing the Trivia Master's protests by successfully arguing that there was no specific rule against magnifying devices.

However, it was during a general interest round that Vito, deep in abstract thought over a complex trivia question, quietly murmured the words "Richard of York Gave Battle in Vain", and then slumped in his chair. As slumping wasn't out of character for Vito, his team played on while Vito began his glorious journey to meet his Maker, noting nothing out of the ordinary until Vito fell to the floor.

Sadly, the Photo Round had been the next round scheduled. “He just missed making it to the Photo Round. Yeah, that was his milieu. If he had only made it that far, he’d have probably been okay” opined Nelson Quiddick, an occasional teammate and long-time Vito admirer (“intellectually only”).

We are hesitant to repeat the question that felled Vito, as it has already claimed one life. However, after much soul searching, we believe that Vito would have wanted it this way: *The question was this: “If one were to travel due west from the city of birth of the 1957 winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, cross an ocean and make landfall, and then travel to the geographic center of the modern-day nation located at that point, and then dig a hole through the Earth, beginning on a Sunday at noon, emerging from the other side of the Earth in the same amount of time that it takes for a Venusian day to elapse, at what time and day (Zulu) would one arrive at the final destination, and what dialect would the locals understand?”*

The answer, of course, is *3:41 AM on Tuesday, speaking Oirat-Khalkha.*

In Vito’s honor, NightCat Trivia players will play the remainder of the year wearing black armbands emblazoned with a magnifying glass insignia and the words “Think Hard for Vito”. Additionally, NightCat Trivia will no longer ask questions about digging holes through the Earth.

To our knowledge, Vito had no family other than our own. He left two cats, Snowflake Jones and The Right Reverend Corcoran Winkles III, a tabby. Both animals are now in the care of friends. We are accepting donations for the perpetual care of Snowflake Jones and The Right Reverend Corcoran Winkles III in a box on the CoffeeCat counter labeled “Vito’s Cats Aid”. A fund-raising concert is also planned for late April.