

# "SINGERS AND ROCK STARS KILLED IN AIRPLANES"

BY PAT/SALTY

BUDDY HOLLY, RICHIE VALENS, + THE BIG BOPPER.  
COUNTRY/POP STAR PATSY KLINE.

OTTIS REDDING, JIM CROCE, MOST OF  
THE ORIGINAL GROUP "LEANERS SKINNER",  
RICK NELSON, AND JOHN DENVER.

ALL ENDED UP DEADER THEN DOORNAILS  
IN AIRPLANE CRASHES, EVERY LAST ONE.  
HEY, I -SALTY- KEEP TRACK OF THESE THINGS.  
I EVEN KNOW THE DETAILS BEHIND EACH CRASH.  
CALL IT ROCKSTAR CRASHOLOGY, 101. —

PAT/SALTY STYLE;

THE FEB. 1959 PLANE CRASH OF HOLLY,  
VALENS, AND "THE BIG BOPPER" WAS THE  
ONE I CALL "THE BIG TRIPLE".

WAYLYN JENNINGS - THE "COUNTRY OUTLAW"  
SINGER/PLAYER - WANTED TO GET A RIDE  
WITH HOLLY + THE BIG BOPPER ON THAT TRIP -  
AND SO DID RICHIE VALENS - "SORRY, ONLY  
ROOM FOR ONE OF YOU GUYS" - SO JENNINGS  
AND VALENS FLIPPED A COIN FOR IT.  
RICHIE VALENS LOST HIS LIFE BY WINNING  
THE COIN FLIP. WAYLYN JENNINGS CURSED  
HIS ROTTEN LUCK FOR HAVING LOST THE CALL  
OF THE COIN FLIP - RIGHT UP UNTILL THE  
SMALL PLANE CRASHED INTO THAT ~~WATER~~  
FROZEN CORNFIELD WITHIN ~~SECONDS~~ →

(2)

MOMENTS OF HAVING TAKEN OFF —  
THEN JENNINGS DID AN INSTANT  
ABOUT FACE AND HAD A 180° ~~TOTAL~~ change  
OF OPINION ON HOW BAD HIS LUCK WAS,  
— WOULD THAT SMALL PLANE HAVE CRASHED  
IF THE "BIG BOPPER" HADN'T BEEN SO  
~~THE~~ DAMNED BIG & FAT? PROBABLY —  
BUT YOU NEVER KNOW. . . . .

THE NEXT FIREY CRASH TO EARTH WAS  
BY PATSY CLINE IN 1963; SHE WAS  
THE BIGGEST AMERICAN COUNTRY WESTERN  
STAR OF ~~THE~~ <sup>THE</sup> TIME, A CROSSOVER POP  
STAR, REALLY. "CRAZY" WAS A BIG HIT  
SHE HAD. AND "I FALL TO PIECES", TOO.  
WHICH SHE SURE DID — IN THAT 1963  
PLANE CRASH. MAY SHE REST IN PIECES, TOO.

(SHE WAS A GREAT SINGER AND POP STAR.)  
OTTIS REDDING WAS THE BLACK SINGER  
WHO PLAYED AT 1967'S CONCERT AT  
MONTÉRAY, CALIFORNIA AND WHO BECAME  
FAMOUS FOR THE SONG "SITTING ON THE  
DOCK OF THE BAY" — WHICH CAME OUT AND  
BECAME A BIG HIT AFTER HE DIED  
IN DECEMBER OF 1967 IN THAT PLANE CRASH —  
WHICH CRASHED INTO — WHAT ELSE? — A BAY!  
TALK ABOUT LIFE IMITATING ART!



③

JIM CROCE GOT KILLED IN YET ANOTHER  
PLANE CRASH IN 1973; ~~(CROCE WAS A)~~,  
HE WAS BIG TIME TALENTED WHO ~~SOON~~ SUNG  
AND WROTE AND PLAYED HIS OWN MATERIAL.  
"BIG, BAD LEYROY BROWN AND SPITTING ON  
SUPERMANS CAPE" WERE HIS EARLY HITS  
BUT LATER - ~~BEFORE~~ "OPERATOR" AND  
THE ~~THE~~ OTHER WORLDLY "TIME IN A  
BOTTLE" SHOWED WHAT HE COULD DO.  
"TIME IN A BOTTLE" - HIS BEST SONG - CAME  
OUT PUBLICLY AT ALMOST THE EXACT TIME  
HE DIED, OR VERY SHORTLY AFTERWARDS;  
THE SOUTHERN ROCK GROUP "LEONARD SKINNER"  
WAS VIRTUALLY WIPE OUT IN A 1977  
PLANE CRASH - THE "LEONARD SKINNER"  
YOU SEE & HEAR TODAY HAS MAYBE ONE  
ORIGINAL MEMBER WHO SURVIVED; LEAD  
SINGER RONNY VAN ZANT + HIS SISTER  
DIED, AND I THINK THE MAIN GUITAR PLAYER, TOO.  
NOW, THE LAST TWO BIG STARS TO HAVE  
DIED IN PLANE CRASHES - RICK NELSON  
IN THE 1980'S AND JOHN DENVER IN  
THE 1990'S - DID NOT DIE IN THEIR  
CAREER PRIMES - TO BE SURE - BUT THEY  
DIED IN PLANE CRASHES NEVERTHELESS.  
RICK NELSON DIED FLYING TO A NEW YEARS  
EVE CONCERT HE WAS HEADING TO →

(4)

(IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY - I USUALLY DO)  
EARLY ON NEW YEARS EVE (ABOUT) 1985.

JOHN DENVER'S DEATH DIVE WAS  
PARTICULARLY UNUSUAL - IT HAPPENED  
IN THE 1990'S - IN THAT HE WAS ALL  
ALONE AND ACTUALLY FLYING HIS OWN  
PLANE HIMSELF WHEN HE CRASHED  
OFF OF THE WEST COAST; JOHN DENVER  
WAS A POP STAR WHO - UNLIKE WHAT PASSES  
FOR SO MANY OF TODAY'S MUSIC "STARS" -  
~~HE~~ WAS A SONGWRITER, MUSICIAN, AND A  
SINGER WHO PERFORMED HIS OWN MATERIAL;  
A TRUE STAR. I THINK THERE WAS A

PARTICULARLY SAD AND IRONIC ASPECT  
TO DENVER'S DEATH, IN PARTICULAR; HE  
GREW UP THE SON OF A LIFE LONG AIR  
FORCE OFFICER FATHER WHO I THINK  
DENVER - FOR ALL HIS LIFE'S CAREER  
SUCCESS - WAS ALWAYS SO DESPERATE TO  
IMPRESS, THAT HE WENT AND TOOK UP

FLYING LATE IN LIFE IN ORDER TO FINALLY  
"WIN DAD'S ADMIRATION AND RESPECT";

WELL, I HOPE HE DID ANYWAY, BECAUSE  
IT SURE DID END UP KILLING HIM, DIDN'T IT?

WELL, THATS ALL I HAVE TO SAY ABOUT POP STARS  
AND DEATH BY AIRPLANE (UNTILL THE NEXT POPSTAR  
CANDIDATE APPEARS, ANYWAY) - HAPPY FLYING! XXXXX