

People & Places



Carrie Underwood performs during the 53rd Academy of Country Music Awards at MGM Grand Garden Arena on April 15, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Inset from left: Lauren Alaina, winner of the New Female Vocalist of the Year award; Left to right: Whit Sellers, Trevor Rosen, Matthew Ramsey, Geoff Sprung and Brad Tursi of musical group Old Dominion, winners of the Vocal Group of the Year award and Song of the Year award for 'Tin Man'. (AFP)

Obit

'It's a terrible loss'

'Full Metal Jacket' actor Ermey dead

LOS ANGELES, April 16, (Agencies): **R. Lee Ermey**, a former Marine who made a career in Hollywood playing hard-nosed military men like Gunnery Sgt. Hartman in Stanley Kubrick's "Full Metal Jacket," has died.

Ermey's longtime manager Bill Rogin says he died Sunday morning from pneumonia-related complications. He was 74.

The Kansas native was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for his memorable performance in "Full Metal Jacket," in which he immortalized lines such as: "What is your major malfunction?"

His co-stars Matthew Modine and Vincent D'Onofrio tweeted their condolences Sunday evening.

"#SemperFidelis Always faithful. Always loyal. Do not go gentle into that good night. Rage, rage against the dying of the light," Modine wrote, quoting the Dylan Thomas poem. "RIP amigo. PVT. Joker."

Vincent D'Onofrio added: "Ermey was the real deal. The knowledge of him passing brings back wonderful memories of our time together."

Born Ronald Lee Ermey in 1944, Ermey served 11 years in the Marine Corps and spent 14 months in Vietnam and then in Okinawa, Japan, where he became staff sergeant. His first film credit was as a helicopter pilot in Francis Ford Coppola's "Apocalypse Now," which was quickly followed by a part in "The Boys in Company C" as a drill instructor.

He raked in more than 60 credits in film and television across his long career in the industry, often playing authority figures in everything from "Se7en" to "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre" remake.

The part he would become most well-known for, in "Full Metal Jacket," wasn't even originally his. Ermey had been brought on as a technical consultant for the 1987 film, but he had his eyes on the role of the brutal gunnery sergeant and filmed his own audition tape of him yelling out insults while tennis balls flew at him. An impressed Kubrick gave him the role.

Kubrick told Rolling Stone that 50 percent of Ermey's dialogue in the film was his own.

Hiring

"In the course of hiring the marine recruits, we interviewed hundreds of guys. We lined them all up and did an improvisation of the first meeting with the drill instructor. They didn't know what he was going to say, and we could see how they reacted. Lee came up with, I don't know, 150 pages of insults," Kubrick said.

According to Kubrick, Ermey also had a terrible car accident one night in the middle of production and was out for four and half months with broken ribs.

Ermey would also go on to voice the little green army man Sarge in the "Toy Story" films. He also played track and field coach and Nike co-founder Bill Bowerman in "Prefontaine," General Kramer in "Toy Soldiers" and Mayor Tilman in "Mississippi Burning."

Ermey also hosted the History Channel series "Mail Call" and "Lock N' Load with R. Lee Ermey" and was a board member for the National Rifle Association, as well as a spokesman for Glock.

"He will be greatly missed by all of us," Rogin said. "It is a terrible loss that nobody was prepared for."

Rogin says that while his characters were often hard and principled, the real Ermey was a family man and a kind and gentle soul who supported the men and women who serve.



Ermey



Jason Aldean accepts the Entertainer of the Year award onstage during the 53rd Academy of Country Music Awards at MGM Grand Garden Arena on April 15, in Las Vegas, Nevada. (AFP)



Cena



Bella

Variety

NEW YORK: John Cena and Nikki Bella are no longer getting ready to say "I do."

Bella tweeted Sunday that the professional wrestlers have ended their relationship and asked for privacy.

The couple had been together for six years and got engaged a year ago on live TV during a wrestling match.

They often took their relationship public, canoodling on red carpets and talking about each other in interviews.

Cena has made a successful transition from wrestling to acting, appearing in movies like "Trainwreck" and the new comedy "Blockers."

Bella stars in a reality TV show on E! called "Total Bellas" with her twin sister, Brie. Us Weekly was first to report the breakup. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: The production team behind HBO's blockbuster "Game of Thrones" will be given the BAFTA Special Award at this year's British Academy Television Craft Awards.

Hannah Murray and John Bradley from the hit series will collect the award on behalf of the team. BAFTA said the accolade is recognition of the boundaries that have been pushed across all areas of production in the making of the fantasy epic.

Filming is underway on the eighth and final six-episode season of "Game of Thrones," which will air in 2019. HBO is working on several potential spinoffs.

The award also recognizes the support that "Game of Thrones" has provided for high-end TV production in the UK. BAFTA said. The show has filmed across various locations in Northern Ireland and set up a production

People

'Best way to deal with mistakes is to discuss them'

Nick Nolte looks back in 'Rebel'

NEW YORK, April 16, (AP): You might remember Nick Nolte's infamous mug shot from 2002, the one where the three-time Oscar nominee wears his hair wild and his shirt Hawaiian. But did you know he has another one from many years before that arrest?

In 1961 Nolte was busted for selling fake draft cards, fined \$75,000 and sentenced to 75 years in prison, later suspended. In that booking photo, a pre-famous Nolte wears his hair short and a button-down shirt.

Both embarrassing incidents are heartily discussed in his new memoir, "Rebel: My Life Outside the Lines." Nolte, 77, is now ready to tell his story — warts and all. The arrests act almost like bookends to a sometimes crazy life.

"I've had two mug shots in my lifetime. It's hard to get those. And if you get them, you better make sure you examine the circumstances that you got them," Nolte told The Associated Press. "The best way to deal with the biggest mistakes in your life is to discuss them. With everybody, including God."

The autobiography traces the rise of the headstrong Nolte — literally, because he had the bizarre habit of head-butting parked cars. He was a Midwestern boy, a natural jock, who found fame later in life when he traded in performing on the stage to movies.

"Acting always appealed to me a lot because it's risk taking. And it's something I don't do naturally. I mean when I'm standing backstage and that curtain is about to open I say, 'Why would you do this to yourself? Are you really that much of an idiot to just ex-

pose yourself to a thousand people?'" he said.

"And then the curtain opens and, if it goes all right, you don't remember opening night — there's too much adrenaline. Actors are risk takers. And they're taking the risks for their own sanity."

Nolte, whose hits include "The Prince of Tides," "Cape Fear," "Lorenzo's Oil," "The Good Thief," "The Thin Red Line" and "48 Hrs," self-medicated to quell his inner demons. "A little chaos around keeps me sane," he writes.

The book recounts his amazing appetite for drugs — including coke, LSD, HGH and GHB — and the time he single-handedly saved the movie "Under Fire" by smuggling the film canisters out of Mexico, one step ahead of the law.

We learn he ate real dog food in "Down and Out in Beverly Hills," and he took real heroin during the eight-week shoot of "The Good Thief" to better portray a heroin addict. He slept with Jacqueline Bisset during filming of "The Deep" but his inability to skate lost him a part in "Slap Shot." He was offered "Superman" but saw nothing super about the role.

Pulled

Nolte has nice things to say about co-stars Eddie Murphy, Katharine Hepburn and Barbra Streisand. He has less than nice things to say about Debra Winger ("hellfire") and Edward Norton (Nolte vowed to "slit his throat"). He recounts a spectacular prank pulled by Woody Harrelson on Sean Penn in Australia that involved real cops and gunshots.

May Chen, his editor at HarperCollins, said Nolte wrote some of the book by telling his stories out loud. Those anecdotes were later stitched together, alongside journal entries and his own longhand writings. She calls him a "very self-aware" author, not afraid to delve into his own darkness.

"He's not embarrassed about it. This is his life. Obviously, I sure he's regretful of some of these things but he's not embarrassed by it. He owns up to it," she said. "Now with hindsight, all these decades later, he can look back and I think he realizes how often things could have really gone wrong for him."

Nolte describes his own #MeToo moment when, at 21, a Hollywood agent invited him to his Bel Air home for dinner. After the man excused himself, he returned wearing only a silk dressing gown and announced: "Hello, cuddle bunny." Nolte was out the door quick. "That would be a casting couch. But I was not an actor at that time at all," he said.

Nolte also has a dim view of Harvey Weinstein, the one-time Miramax company head who had a reputation as a ruthless film editor. (Multiple allegations of sexual misconduct last year upended his career.) Nolte recounts how his film "The Golden Bowl" was "reduced to shreds" by Weinstein's cut before it was sold back to the filmmakers.

Nolte said Weinstein tried to "bully me into a couple of roles" — including "Copland" — and was "manipulative" during awards season. "I never had much admiration for Miramax or Harvey primarily because I had friends who made movies that were shelved," he said.

headquarters at Titanic Studios in Belfast, the Northern Irish capital, which has been a base for the series since the pilot.

Speaking on behalf of the production

team, executive producers **D.B. Weiss** and **David Benioff** said in a statement: "Many, many people work insanely hard to create any film or television show. They are cre-

ators every bit as much as actors, writers, producers or directors, and deserve to be recognized as such." (RTRS)

LOS ANGELES: Tetanus is no longer a disease threatening the lives of children in 44 countries in part because of UNICEF and **Salma Hayek Pinault**.

Hayek Pinault received UNICEF's Danny Kaye Humanitarian Award on Saturday for spearheading UNICEF's campaign to end maternal and neonatal tetanus as well as more global initiatives. Other honorees at the UNICEF Ball, which took place at the Beverly Wilshire hotel, included **Ted Sarandos**, Netflix's chief content officer, and his wife Ambassador **Nicole Avant**, who were the recipients of the Spirit of Compassion Award.

Comedian **Keegan-Michael Key** hosted the awards dinner, which attracted an array of talent attending in support of Hayek Pinault and the humanitarian organization. The night's guests, speakers, and performers also included UNICEF ambassador **Alyssa Milano**, UNICEF goodwill ambassador **Lilly Singh**, **Jane Fonda**, **Pharell Williams**, **Don Johnson**, Netflix's **Scott Stuber**, Paramount's **Jim Gianopolus**, UNICEF U.S.A. president and CEO **Caryl M. Stern**, and eight-year-old Syrian author **Bana al-Abed**. (RTRS)



Left to right: Charles Kelley, Hillary Scott and Dave Haywood of musical group Lady Antebellum perform onstage during the 53rd Academy of Country Music awards at MGM Grand Garden Arena on April 15, in Las Vegas, Nevada. (AFP)