## James "JR" Spurlin



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Since graduation I have attended McMurry University in Abilene, Tex., served in the Army, attended WNMU, graduated from DLIWC with Russian Language during time in the service. I married a woman with 7 children and added one more to see if 8 is enough.

I had my own upholstery shop for 3 years, homesteaded in Minnesota, came back to NM and worked at a few dozen jobs and vocations. I have built houses, sold insurance, driven an 18 wheeler, been a cowboy, ran 5 departments at the Deming Hospital for 3 years, was ordained a minister and served in that capacity for several years. I have been a chemist for an oil company in Dayton, Ohio for a while, done control work in a steel foundry, built scaffolds on high steel structures to build a copper smelter in Playas, NM..

During all this time, my greatest love has always been singing. I have had the privilege to sing for the Pope in the Vatican, for Princess Diana at Westminster Abbey, and sang in 6 countries and over a dozen Cathedrals in Europe during 3 singing tours. I have done lead roles in 4 or 5 operas, while singing in the chorus in about a dozen more.

I have performed professionally with the Santa Fe Opera, The El Paso Opera, El Paso Pro Musica, The Santa Fe Desert Chorale, The El Paso Chamber Singers, The Phoenix Bach Choir, The Roswell Community Concerts, a Little Rock Opera Company and others. Of course I have sung with numerous non-paying groups from Monterrey, Calif. to Dayton, Ohio.

My hobbies have included archery, flint-knapping, bowling, climbing, lapidary, rock-hunting-hiking, wood-carving, organic gardening, welding and a few others. My best times are usually the ones spent in nature: camping, fishing, hunting, hiking, etc.

I am now divorced for 13 years, live in the country in Deming, NM, still sing with several groups, am retired and hanging out.



JR Spurlin Marilyn (Lutener) Braithwaite Thorny Young