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Roger Arnold "Deke" Leonard

BIRTH	18 Dec 1944 Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, Wales
DEATH	31 Jan 2017 (aged 72)
BURIAL	Cremated, Specifically: Deke was cremated at Llanelli Crematorium on February 16, 2017.
MEMORIAL ID	193683805

Rock musician and author.

Llanelli is the birthplace of a number of famous and semi-famous people, including novelty songwriter Donald Swann, but Roger Arnold Leonard was unquestionably its greatest musical talent.

Deke came from a musical family and started his first band, The Corncrackers, while still at school. Intermittently including in later life he enjoyed a solo career, but it is his tenure with Man for which he will be best remembered. Although he knew his way around the keyboard, he was principally a lead guitarist and songwriter.

Deke was fond of saying he was serving a life sentence in the music business, as he did right up until the very end. In later life though he developed a second string to his bow, as an author.

"Rhinos, Winos & Lunatics: The Legend Of Man, A Rock'N' Roll Band" was published in 1996, and as might be deduced from its title was a biography of Man to date. It was written after he suffered a stroke. "Rhinos, Winos & Lunatics" was the title of an outstanding Man album released in May 1974. The same year he released "Kamikaze" as a solo project.

It would be difficult to name the best Deke or Man album, but his finest literary work is undoubtedly "The Twang Dynasty" which is part autobiography and part history of the modern

guitar from its early Twentieth Century exponents to later rock and blues players such as Rory Gallagher and Man's Mickey Jones. This is a book that deserves a place on any music historian's bookshelf.

A political animal, Deke was a supporter of the Palestinian cause, and recorded a song called "Palestine". He also wrote a song attacking the war on terror: "Guantanamo Bay".

Deke Leonard was married and divorced. He is survived by his partner Mary and his daughter Kate. His humanist funeral was well attended.

Created by: a_baron

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Find A Grave Memorial **193683805**

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memorial page for Roger Arnold "Deke" Leonard (18 Dec 1944–31 Jan 2017), Find A Grave Memorial no. 193683805, ;
Maintained by a_baron (contributor 47191016) Cremated,
who reports a Deke was cremated at Llanelli Crematorium on
February 16, 2017.