

# DOUG MARLETTE

(1949-2007)

Cartoonist/Writer,  
TULSA

OKLAHOMA  
ARTIST

OKLAHOMA  
WRITER



Doug Marlette was an Oklahoma for less than two years, but the Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist left an indelible mark here.

He came to Oklahoma in 2006 as a Gaylord Distinguished Visiting Lecturer at the University of Oklahoma's College of Journalism and Mass Communications. During that time the Tulsa World's editorial cartoonist position became vacant and he was hired. Following that he maintained homes in Tulsa and North Carolina.

Marlette was born in Greensboro, North Carolina. He was a graduate of Florida State University, where he majored in philosophy and minored in art. He began drawing political cartoons for The Charlotte Observer in 1972 and moved on to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution in 1987. He was hired by New York Newsday in 1989 and the Tallahassee Democrat in 2002. He won the Pulitzer Prize in 1988.

He also wrote two novels and wrote and drew the comic strip "Kudzu" for 26 years. His novels were "The Bridge" (2001) and "Magic Time" in 2006. "The Bridge" had been purchased by Paramount Pictures in 2007 for film adaptation.

His play, "Kudzu: A Southern Musical," was produced at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere. He died July 10, 2007, as a passenger in a single vehicle accident while en route to observe a rehearsal of the play being performed by students at Oxford, Mississippi, High School.

Maurice Horn, biographer and critic of cartoonists, wrote of Marlette: "He (was) one of the foremost American Cartoonists of his time, keeping the great tradition of clever jibes and indictments alive in the political cartooning format."

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