

**LAST SUPPER
AT THE
DEATH ROW DINER**

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**MONDAY ELEVENTH
OCTOBER
TWENTY TEN**

Victor Fueger**Full menu: A single unpitted olive**

A drifter who murdered doctor Edward Bartels from Dubuque, IO. He was executed on March 15, 1963 by hanging. He was the last person ever to be executed in Iowa. Fueger was a drifter, native to the state of Michigan. In the summer of 1960, Fueger arrived in Dubuque, Iowa, renting a room at a boarding house. Soon after arriving, Fueger began phoning physicians alphabetically. Dr. Alt wasn't at home, unfortunately Dr. Edward Bartels, a 34 year-old father of two, was. Fueger claimed that a woman needed medical attention. When Dr. Bartels arrived, Fueger kidnapped him. Fueger killed Bartels in Illinois, he was found in a cornfield with a single gunshot to the head. A few days later, Fueger was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama, after trying to sell Dr. Bartels' car. It is believed that Fueger had chosen Dr. Bartels. Authorities believe that Fueger had kidnapped and killed Dr. Bartels in order to gain access to any drugs that Bartels may have carried to treat patients. Because Fueger transported his hostage across state lines, federal charges were filed against Fueger. In his defence, Fueger claimed that a drug addict from Chicago, whom Fueger met in Dubuque, had murdered Bartels. Fueger claimed that he killed the drug addict and dumped his body in the Mississippi River. However, authorities could not find any evidence that this other person ever existed. His last meal was an olive with the pit still in it. He told prison officials that he hoped an olive tree would sprout from his body; a sign of peace. Fueger's body was unclaimed by family and was quickly taken away by a funeral home after the execution and buried. His unmarked grave in a barren corner of a public cemetery bears no olive tree.

Edward Hartman**Full menu: A Greek salad, linguini with white clam sauce, cheese cake with cherry topping, garlic bread, and a Coke**

Convicted of the 1993 murder of Herman Smith, Sr. and was executed via lethal injection in 2003 by the State of North Carolina at Central Prison in Raleigh, North Carolina. Hartman confessed to the crime but requested a life sentence. According to The News & Observer, five mitigating factors were presented at Hartman's trial, including alcoholism (he claimed to be severely intoxicated at the time of the murder) and childhood abuse. The jury felt that these factors were outweighed by Hartman's theft of Smith's car and money. In seeking clemency, Hartman's lawyers (along with outside groups) argued that the prosecution had utilized Hartman's sexuality (he was gay) in a discriminatory manner, an argument rejected by the courts and by Governor Mike Easley of North Carolina.

Peter Kürten**Full menu: Wiener schnitzel, fried potatoes and a bottle of white wine, plus seconds.**

A German serial killer dubbed The Vampire of Düsseldorf by the contemporary media. He committed a series of sex crimes, assaults and murders against adults and children, most notoriously from February to November 1929 in Düsseldorf. Kürten confessed to 79 offences, and was charged with nine murders and seven attempted murders. He went on trial in April 1931. He initially pleaded not guilty, but after some weeks changed his plea. He was found guilty and sentenced to death. As Kürten was awaiting execution, he was interviewed by Dr. Karl Berg, whose interviews and accompanying analysis of Kürten formed the basis of his book, The Sadist. Kürten stated to Berg that his primary motive was one of sexual pleasure. The number of stab wounds varied because it sometimes took longer to achieve orgasm; the sight of blood was integral to his sexual stimulation. Kürten was executed on 2 July 1931 by guillotine in Cologne. Kürten said to the legal

examiners that his primary motive was to "strike back at oppressive society". He did not deny that he had sexually molested his victims, but he always claimed during his trial that this was not his primary motive. In 1931 scientists attempted to examine irregularities in Kürten's brain in an attempt to explain his personality and behaviour. His head was dissected and mummified and is currently on display at the Ripley's Believe It or Not! museum in Wisconsin Dells.

Karla Faye Tucker

Full menu: Banana, peach, and garden salad with ranch dressing

Convicted of murder in Texas in 1984 and put to death in 1998. She was the first woman to be executed in the United States since 1863, and the first in Texas since 1863. Because of her gender and widely-publicized conversion to Christianity, she inspired an unusually large national and international movement advocating the commutation of her sentence to life imprisonment, a movement which included a few foreign government officials. Tucker and Danny Garrett, her boyfriend, entered Jerry Dean's home around 3:00 am on Monday 14 June 1983 intending to steal Dean's motorcycle. During the burglary, Tucker and Garrett entered Dean's bedroom, where Tucker sat on him. In an effort to protect himself, Dean grabbed Tucker above the elbows, whereupon Garrett intervened, striking Dean numerous times in the back of the head with a hammer he found on the floor. The blows Garrett had dealt Dean caused his head to become unhinged from his neck and his breathing passages to fill with fluid. He began making a "gurgling" sound characteristic of this type of injury. Tucker wanted to "stop him from making that noise" and attacked him with a pickaxe. Garrett then re-entered the room and dealt Dean a final blow in the chest. Tucker was left in the room and only then noticed a woman hidden under the bedcovers against the wall. Deborah Thornton, had met Dean at a party earlier that afternoon. Upon discovering Thornton, Tucker grazed her shoulder with the pickaxe. Thornton and Tucker began to struggle, but Garrett returned and separated them. He proceeded to hit Thornton repeatedly with the pickaxe and then embedded the axe in her heart. The next morning, a coworker of Dean's who had been waiting for a ride entered the apartment and discovered the victims' bodies. Investigation led to the arrests of Tucker and Garrett.

Wesley Baker

Full menu: Breaded fish, pasta marinara, green beans, orange fruit punch, bread, and milk (standard prison menu that day)

Convicted murderer executed by the U.S. state of Maryland, for the June 6, 1991, murder of Jane Tyson in Catonsville. He was pronounced dead at 9:18 p.m. EST after being executed by lethal injection. Wesley Baker approached Jane Tyson, 49, on June 6, 1991, in the parking lot of Catonsville's Westview Mall as she got into her car with her grandchildren, a 6-year-old boy and a 4-year-old girl. He placed a gun to her ear and demanded her purse and then, without warning, fired the gun, killing her instantly. He fled to where his accomplice was waiting with a Chevrolet Blazer. A member of the public spotted the two fleeing in the car. He noted the registration number and called the police, who apprehended Wesley Baker and Gregory Lawrence a short time later. There have been doubts raised that Baker was the shooter. The 6-year-old boy said the shooter ran to the driver side of the car, while a member of the public said that Baker was sitting in the passenger seat. Tyson's blood was found on Baker, but police never tested the clothing of Lawrence. Fingerprints from Baker's right hand were found on Tyson's car, but Baker is right-handed, which led the United States Court of Appeals to note: "...one must wonder how it was possible for (Baker) to hold the gun to Tyson's head and leave his fingerprints on the (car), especially in light of the fact that the incident took only a matter of moments."

Henry Martinez Porter

Full menu: Flour tortillas, beef, refried beans, tossed salad, jalapeño peppers, ice cream, and chocolate cake

Convicted of the murder of Henry P Mailloux, a Fort Worth Police Officer, who had stopped porter in an investigation of three armed robberies. Porter has become best known for his eloquent final words:

"What I want people to know is that they call me a cold-blooded killer when I shot a man that shot me first. The only thing that convicted me was that I am a Mexican and that he was a police officer. People hollered for my life, and they are to have my life tonight. The people never hollered for the life of the policeman that killed a 13-year-old boy who was handcuffed in the back seat of a police car. The people never hollered for the life of a Houston police officer who beat up and drowned Jose Campo Torres and threw his body in the river. You call that equal justice. This is your equal justice. This is America's equal justice. A Mexican's life is worth nothing. When a policeman kills someone he gets a suspended sentence. When a Mexican kills a police officer this is what you get. From there you call me a cold-blooded murderer. I didn't tie anyone to a stretcher. I didn't pump poison into anybody's veins from behind a locked door. I hope God will be as merciful to society as he has been to me. I'm ready, Warden."

Saddam Hussein

Full menu: Boiled chicken and rice, hot water with honey

The President of Iraq from 16 July 1979 until 9 April 2003. A leading member of the revolutionary Ba'ath Party, which espoused secular pan-Arabism, economic modernization and Arab socialism, Saddam played a key role in the 1968 coup that brought the party to long-term power. On 30 June 2004, Saddam Hussein and 11 other senior Baathist leaders held in custody by U.S. forces at the U.S. base "Camp Cropper", were handed over legally (though not physically) to the interim Iraqi government to stand trial for crimes against humanity and other offences. A few weeks later he was charged by the Iraqi Special Tribunal with crimes committed against residents of Dujail in 1982, following a failed assassination attempt against him. Specific charges included the murder of 148 people, torture of women and children and the illegal arrest of 399 others. On 5 November 2006, Saddam Hussein was found guilty of crimes against humanity and sentenced to death by hanging. The verdict and sentencing were both appealed but subsequently affirmed by Iraq's Supreme Court of Appeals. Saddam was hanged on the first day of Eid ul-Adha, 30 December 2006, despite his wish to be shot. The execution was carried out at Camp Justice, an Iraqi army base in Kadhimiya, a neighbourhood of northeast Baghdad. The execution was videotaped on a mobile phone and his captors could be heard insulting Saddam. The video was leaked to electronic media and posted on the Internet within hours, becoming the subject of global controversy. It was later claimed by the head guard at the tomb where his body remains that Saddam's body was stabbed six times after the execution.

Gary M Heidnik

Full menu: Two slices of a cheese pizza and two cups of black coffee

An American murderer who kidnapped, tortured and raped six women and kept them prisoner in his Philadelphia, Pennsylvania basement. He is often referred to as a serial killer, although having committed only two murders, he would not fit the FBI definition of a serial killer as the FBI standard dictates "three or more murders" to be classified as serial

killer. On November 25, 1986, Heidnik abducted his first victim, Josefina Rivera. By January 1987, he had five women held captive in the basement of his house at 3520 North Marshall Street in Philadelphia. The captives were sexually abused, beaten, and tortured. On March 23, 1987, Heidnik and Rivera abducted Agnes Adams. The next day, Rivera convinced Heidnik to let her go to see her family. He drove her to a gas station and then he said he would wait for her there. She walked a block away and called 911. She told the police the story and they were somewhat unconvinced at first. The police made her repeat the story and she told it exactly the same way again. They looked at her leg and noted the chafing from the chains. The police went to the gas station and Heidnik was arrested. At his arraignment, he claimed that the women were already in the house when he moved in. At trial, his lawyer attempted to prove that Heidnik was legally insane. Heidnik's insanity was successfully rebutted by the prosecution. The fact that he had amassed approximately \$550,000 dollars in his bank and brokerage accounts was used to argue that he was not insane. Testimony from his Merrill Lynch financial advisor, was used to prove competence. He was called "an astute investor who knew exactly what he was doing." Convicted of two counts of murder in 1988, Heidnik was sentenced to death and incarcerated at the State Correctional Institution at Pittsburgh. In January 1999, he attempted suicide with an overdose of prescribed thiazine.

William Bonin

Full menu: Two pepperoni and sausage pizzas, three servings of chocolate ice cream, and fifteen cans of Coca-Cola

An American serial killer and a twice-paroled sex offender, also known as the Freeway Killer, a nickname he shares with two other serial killers. Between 1979 and 1980, Bonin tortured, raped and killed a minimum of 21 boys and young men, and is suspected of committing a further fifteen. Bonin was convicted and eventually executed in 1996 for 14 of these murders. Bonin usually selected young male hitchhikers, schoolboys or, occasionally, male prostitutes as his victims. The victims, aged between twelve and nineteen, were either enticed or forced into his Chevy van, overpowered, had their hands tied behind their back, were sexually assaulted, tortured and then usually killed by strangulation with their own t-shirt, although some were stabbed or battered to death. One victim, Darin Kendrick, was forced to drink chlorohydrate acid, two victims had ice-picks driven into their ears and another victim, Mark Shelton, died of shock. The victims were usually killed inside Bonin's van and most were discarded alongside various southern Californian freeways. In at least thirteen of the murders, Bonin was assisted by one of four known accomplices. Bonin expressed no remorse for his crimes and left a note which simply stated: "I feel the death penalty is not an answer to the problems at hand. I feel it sends the wrong message to the people of this country. Young people act as they see other people acting instead of as people tell them to act. I would advise that when a person has a thought of doing anything serious against the law, that before they did, they should go to a quiet place and think about it seriously."

Timothy McVeigh

Full menu: Two pints of mint chocolate-chip ice cream

A United States Army veteran and former security guard who was executed for detonating a truck bomb in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, killing 168 people. It was the deadliest act of terrorism within the United States prior to the September 11, 2001 attacks and is referred to as the Oklahoma City bombing. McVeigh, a militia movement sympathizer, sought revenge against the federal government for the Waco Siege, which had ended in the deaths of 76 people exactly two years earlier. He also

hoped to inspire a revolt against what he considered to be a tyrannical federal government. Working at a lakeside campground near McVeigh's old Army post, he constructed an ANNM explosive device mounted in the back of a rented Ryder truck. The bomb consisted of about 5,000 pounds (2,300 kg) of ammonium nitrate and nitromethane, a motor-racing fuel. On April 19, 1995, McVeigh drove the truck to the front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building just as its offices and day care centre opened for the day. Before arriving, he stopped to light a 5 minute fuse. At 9:02 a.m. a large explosion destroyed the north half of the building. The explosion was so powerful that McVeigh, who was jogging away from the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, was lifted off the ground. The explosion killed 168 people and 450 were injured. Nineteen of the victims were small children and babies in the day care centre on the second floor of the building. McVeigh did not express remorse for the deaths of the children, what he referred to as "collateral damage" but said he might have chosen a different target if he had known the day care centre was open. He was convicted of 11 federal offences, sentenced to death and executed on June 11, 2001. McVeigh was the first convicted criminal to be executed by the United States federal government since Victor Fieger in Iowa on March 15, 1963.

Bruno Richard Hauptman

Full menu: Celery, olives, chicken, french fries, buttered peas, cherries, and a slice of cake

A German carpenter sentenced to death and executed for the abduction and murder of Charles Augustus Lindbergh Jr., the 20-month-old son of famous pilots Charles Lindbergh and Anne Morrow Lindbergh. The Lindbergh kidnapping gained international infamy, and has become known as "The Crime of the Century." The kidnapping of Charles Lindbergh Jr. occurred on the evening of March 1, 1932. A man was believed to have climbed up a ladder that was placed to the bedroom window of the child's room and quietly snatched the child by wrapping him in a blanket and exiting the same way. A note demanding a ransom of \$50,000 was left on the radiator that formed a windowsill for the child's room. The ransom was delivered, but the infant was not returned. A corpse identified as the boy's was found two months later on May 12, 1932, in the woods four miles from the Lindbergh home. The cause of death was listed as a blow to the head. It has never been proven if the infant's head injury was accidental or deliberate; some have theorized that the fatal injury occurred accidentally during the abduction. More than two years later, on September 18, 1934, a \$10 gold certificate from the ransom money was discovered. A gas station attendant had received it as payment. Gold certificates were rapidly being withdrawn from circulation; to see one was unusual and, in this case, attracted attention. The gas station attendant wrote down the license plate number of the car and turned it in to the police. The New York license plate belonged to a dark blue Dodge sedan owned by Hauptmann. Hauptmann was arrested the next day and charged with the murder. On April 3, 1936, Hauptmann was executed in Old Smokey, the electric chair at New Jersey State Prison. It has been alleged that the police beat Hauptmann and intimidated other witnesses, and some claim that the police planted or doctored evidence such as the ladder. There are also allegations that the police doctored Hauptmann's time cards and ignored fellow workers who stated that Hauptmann was working the day of the kidnapping. These and other findings prompted J. Edgar Hoover of the FBI to question the manner in which the investigation and trial were conducted. Hauptmann's widow campaigned to have her husband's conviction reversed until the end of her life.

John Wayne Gacy

Full menu: A dozen deep-fried shrimps, a bucket of original recipe chicken from KFC, French fries, and a pound of strawberries

An American serial killer active between 1972 and 1978. Until he was arrested, Gacy raped and murdered at least 33 young men and boys, mostly teenagers. Although some of his victims' bodies were found in the Des Plaines River, he buried 26 of them in the small crawl space underneath the basement of his home and three more elsewhere on his property. He became known as the "Killer Clown" due to his charitable services at fundraising events and at children's parties where he would dress up as "Pogo the Clown," a character he devised himself. On December 11, 1978, John Gacy visited a Des Plaines pharmacy to discuss a potential remodelling deal with the owner of the store. While discussing the potential deal, Gacy was heard mentioning that his firm hired teenage boys while he was within earshot of a 15-year-old employee named Robert Jerome Piest. After Gacy left the store, Piest told his mother that "some contractor wants to talk to me about a job." Robert left the store, promising to return shortly. When Piest failed to return, his family filed a missing persons report on their son with the Des Plaines Police. The owner of the pharmacy named Gacy as the contractor Piest had most likely left the store to talk with. In the early hours of December 22, Gacy confessed to police that since 1972, he had committed approximately 25–30 murders, all of whom he (incorrectly) claimed were teenage male runaways or male prostitutes, whom he would typically pick up from Chicago's Greyhound Bus station or off the streets and lure to his house with either the promise of a job with his construction company or with an offer of money for sex, or just grab them by force. In prison, Gacy began to paint. The subjects Gacy painted varied, although many were of clowns, some of which depicted himself as 'Pogo'. Many of his paintings were sold at various auctions for prices ranging between \$200 and \$20,000 apiece. On May 10, 1994, Gacy was executed at Stateville Correctional Centre in Crest Hill, Illinois, by lethal injection. According to reports, Gacy did not express remorse for his crimes. His last words to his lawyer in his cell were to the effect that killing him would not bring anyone back, and it is reported his last words, spoken to a correctional officer while he was being sent to the execution chamber, were "kiss my ass".

Ted Bundy

Full menu: steak (medium-rare), eggs (over-easy), hash browns, toast, milk, coffee, juice, butter, and jelly (standard prison menu that day)

An American serial killer active between 1974 and 1978. He escaped twice from county jails before his final apprehension in February 1978. Bundy was executed by electric chair for his last murder by the state of Florida in 1989. After more than a decade of vigorous denials, he eventually confessed to over 30 murders, although the actual total of victims remains unknown. Typically, Bundy would bludgeon his victims, then strangle them to death. He also engaged in rape and necrophilia. There is no definitive agreement on when and where Bundy began killing people. Bundy refused to give details on when and where he committed his first murder, even when confessing to thirty murders immediately prior to his execution. The day before his execution, Bundy told his lawyer that he made his first attempt to kidnap a woman in 1969 and implied that he committed his first actual murder sometime in 1972. A psychiatrist who interviewed him said Bundy claimed to have killed two women while staying with family in Philadelphia in 1969. Despite having five court-appointed lawyers, he insisted on acting as his own attorney and even cross-examined witnesses, including the police officer who had discovered the body of one of his victims. Two pieces of evidence proved crucial. First, Chi Omega member Nita Neary, getting back to the house very late after a date, saw Bundy as he left, and identified him in court.

Second, during his homicidal frenzy, Bundy bit Lisa Levy in her left buttock, leaving obvious bite marks. Police took plaster casts of Bundy's teeth and a forensics expert matched them to the photographs of Levy's wound. Bundy was convicted on all counts and sentenced to death for the murders of Levy and Bowman. The night before he was executed, Bundy granted a taped interview to Dr. James Dobson, psychologist and founder of the Christian evangelical organization Focus on the Family. During the interview, Bundy made repeated, previously unclaimed statements regarding the pornographic "roots" of his crimes. Bundy stated that while pornography did not cause him to commit murder, the consumption of violent pornography helped "shape and mould" his violence into "behaviour too terrible to describe." He alleged that he felt that violence in the media, "particularly sexualized violence" and sent boys "down the road to being Ted Bundys." In the same interview, Bundy stated:

"You are going to kill me and that will protect society from me. But out there are many, many more people who are addicted to pornography and you are doing nothing about that."

Bundy contemplated suicide in the days leading up to his execution, but eventually decided against it. Ted Bundy was electrocuted by the state of Florida at 7:06 a.m. on January 24, 1989.

Gary Gilmore

Full menu: A hamburger, hard-boiled eggs, a baked potato, a few cups of coffee, and three shots of contraband Jack Daniel's whiskey

An American criminal, and murderer, who gained international notoriety for demanding that his death sentence be fulfilled following two murders he committed in Utah. He became the first person executed in the United States after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a new series of death penalty statutes. Gilmore was executed by firing squad in 1977. On the evening of July 19, 1976, Gilmore robbed and murdered Max Jensen, a Sinclair gas station employee in Orem, Utah. The next evening, he robbed and murdered Bennie Bushnell, a motel manager in Provo. He murdered these people even though they complied with his demands. As he disposed of his .22 caliber pistol used in both killings, he accidentally shot himself in the hand, leaving a trail of blood from the gun to the service garage where he had left his truck to be repaired shortly before the murder of Bushnell. The garage owner, seeing the blood and hearing on a police scanner of the shooting at the nearby motel, wrote down Gilmore's license number and called the police. Gilmore's cousin, Brenda, turned him in to police shortly thereafter, after he placed a phone call to her asking for bandages and painkillers for the injury to his hand. Gilmore gave up without a fight as he was trying to drive out of Provo. He was charged with the murders of Bushnell and Jensen, although the latter case never went to trial, apparently because there were no eyewitnesses. When asked for any last words, before the firing squad, Gilmore simply replied, "Let's do it!". Gilmore had requested that, following his execution, his eyes be used for transplant purposes. Within hours of the execution, two people received his corneas. Most of his other organs were used for transplants as well.

Walter LaGrand

Full menu: Six fried eggs, 16 strips of bacon, one large serving of hash browns, a pint of pineapple sherbet, a breakfast steak, a cup of ice, 7-Up, Dr Pepper, Coke, hot sauce, coffee, two sugar packs (and four Roloids antacid tablets)

On January 7, 1982, brothers Karl and Walter Bernhard LaGrand bungled an armed bank robbery in Marana, Arizona, killing a man and severely injuring a woman in the process. They were subsequently charged and convicted of murder and sentenced to death. The LaGrands were German nationals, having been born in Germany. While they had both lived in the United States since they were three, neither had acquired U.S. citizenship. As foreigners the LaGrands should have been informed of their right to consular assistance, under the Vienna Convention, from their state of nationality, Germany. However the United States authorities (the State of Arizona) failed to do this even after they became aware that the LaGrands were German nationals. The LaGrand brothers later contacted the German consulate of their own accord, having learned of their right to consular assistance. They appealed their sentences and convictions on the grounds that they were not informed of their right to consular assistance, and that with consular assistance they might have been able to mount a better defence. The federal courts rejected their argument on grounds of procedural default, which provides that issues cannot be raised in federal court appeals unless they have first been raised in state courts. Walter LaGrand was then executed March 3, 1999, by lethal gas.

Adolf Eichman

Full menu: A bottle of Carmel, dry, red, Israeli wine

Sometimes referred to as "the architect of the Holocaust", was a German Nazi and SS-Obersturmbannführer (equivalent to Lieutenant Colonel). Because of his organisational talents and ideological reliability, he was charged by Obergruppenführer (General) Reinhard Heydrich with the task of facilitating and managing the logistics of mass deportation of Jews to ghettos and extermination camps in German-occupied Eastern Europe. After the war, he fled to Argentina using a fraudulently obtained laissez-passer issued by the International Red Cross and lived there under a false identity working for Mercedes-Benz until 1960. He was captured by Israeli Mossad operatives in Argentina and abducted to Israel to face trial in an Israeli court on 15 criminal charges, including crimes against humanity and war crimes. He was found guilty and executed by hanging in 1962, and is the only person to have been executed in Israel on conviction by a civilian court.

Ringer Edwards

Full menu: Chicken and beer (though he survived his attempted execution)

An Australian soldier during World War II. As a prisoner of war (POW), he survived being crucified for 63 hours by Japanese soldiers on the Burma Railway. Edwards was the basis for the character of "Joe Harman" in the 1950 Neville Shute novel *A Town Like Alice*. Ringer Edwards enlisted at Cairns, Queensland on January 21, 1941 and was posted to the 2/26th Infantry Battalion. The battalion became part of the 27th Brigade, which was assigned to the 8th Division. As the possibility of war with the Empire of Japan increased, the main body of the division was sent to garrison the British colony of Singapore, later in 1941. The 2/26th fought the Japanese in the Malayan campaign and the Battle of Singapore. Edwards, along with the rest of the 8th Division, became a POW when the Allied forces at Singapore surrendered on February 15, 1942. In 1943, he and two other prisoners killed cattle to provide food for themselves and comrades. They were caught by the Japanese and sentenced to death. Crucifixion was a form of punishment, torture and

execution that the Japanese military used against prisoners during the war. Edwards and the others were initially bound at the wrists with fencing wire, suspended from a tree and beaten with a baseball bat. When Edwards managed to free his right hand, the wire was driven through the palms of his hands. His comrades managed to smuggle food to him and he survived his ordeal. The other two men crucified at the same time did not survive.

John Edward Smith

Full menu: A lump of dirt (denied)

Convicted in June 1990 for a robbery-murder in Houston asked for a last meal of dirt, apparently for a voodoo ritual.

Odell Barnes Jr

Full menu: A request for "Justice, Equality, World Peace"

A Texas man convicted of the 1989 murder of Helen Bass. During the later stages of Barnes' legal appeals, human rights groups and anti-death penalty advocates raised questions about Barnes' murder conviction. During an appeals process the new defence team uncovered deficiencies in the forensic evidence, serious errors and oversights by the original defence team, and problems with the credibility of prosecution witnesses.

- Barnes claimed at trial that he had never had sexual contact, consensual or forced, with Bass. DNA testing some years after the trial showed that the semen on her corpse was his. Barnes then claimed that he and Bass had an existing sexual relationship before the crime but on the advice of his original defence team he did not tell the jury.
- At trial, the jury had heard that a brand new lamp was found with Barnes' fingerprints on it. The new defence investigation found that the lamp had not been new, and that Barnes had visited Bass' house after she had bought it.
- The bloodstains found on Barnes' clothing, and confirmed by DNA to have been Bass' blood, were very small. This was inconsistent with the extremely violent nature of the killing and the amount of blood found at the scene. Tests revealed that the bloodstains contained an extremely high level of citric acid, which is used as a preservative in crime labs.
- The prosecution witness who identified Barnes trespassing at Bass's residence had given inconsistent testimony on different occasions, he described seeing Barnes some 45 minutes after Bass had already returned home.

After Texas Governor George W. Bush, then campaigning for the Presidency of the United States, declined to exercise clemency, Barnes was executed on March 1, 2000.

Philip Workman

Full menu: A request for a large vegetarian pizza to be given to a homeless person in Nashville, Tennessee (denied by the prison, but carried out by others across the country)

A death row inmate executed in Tennessee on May 9, 2007. He was convicted in 1982 for the murder of a police officer following a botched robbery of a Wendy's restaurant in Memphis, Tennessee, and sentenced to death by lethal injection. In 1981, at 28 years old, Workman was living with his wife and 8-year-old daughter in Columbus, Georgia and was heavily addicted to cocaine. That summer, he hitchhiked to Memphis where, on August 5, 1981, he robbed a Wendy's restaurant with a .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol. During the

robbery, an employee of the restaurant triggered a silent alarm after Workman granted her request to stand up to relieve a cramp in her leg. Three Memphis police officers, Ronald Oliver, Aubrey Stoddard, and Steven Parker, responded to the alarm. Upon their arrival, Workman attempted to flee across a nearby parking lot, but tripped on a curb and was cornered by the officers. Workman claims he then attempted to surrender but, as he was pulling his gun from his pants to give it to the officers, he was struck on the head with a flashlight. As a result of the blow, Workman claims that he involuntarily discharged the gun twice, once in the air, and then at a person who had fired at him. Police returned fire. A bullet from a shotgun struck Workman in the buttocks, but he managed to evade capture for a time. Lt. Ronald Oliver was shot and killed. Workman's guilt remains in question. Five of the jurors that convicted Workman in 1982 have since signed affidavits renouncing either the sentence or the verdict or both. They cited subsequent medical investigation and ballistics evidence, unheard during the trial, that suggested the fatal shot was inconsistent with the bullets in Workman's gun and has suggested possible accidental shots from other officers, though no official confirming statement was filed. Additionally, one prosecution eyewitness was found to have lied in his testimony, and during trial it was found that officers had covered up details concerning shots fired at the shooting of the slain officer.

PRODUCED ON THE OCCASION OF
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11TH OCTOBER 2010