



---

## Village People Lead Singer Victor Willis Dies Aged 74

### Description

Victor Willis, the lead singer of the Village People, passed away on Tuesday in a hospital. He was 74 years old. The band shared the news on social media, and Willis's wife said he died after a "short, but aggressive" illness. The family has requested privacy during this difficult time.

Willis was born in Texas in 1951. He grew up singing in church, where his father was a Baptist minister. In 1977, he helped create the Village People with producers Jacques Morali and Henri Belolo. Willis played the group's "Cop/Admiral" character. He left the group at times but returned for good in 2017.

The Village People are famous for their catchy songs, like "Y.M.C.A." This song was included in the National Recording Registry in March 2020. Willis expressed surprise that "Y.M.C.A." became such an iconic song, often played at weddings and parties. In 2021, it was also added to the Grammy Hall of Fame.

President Donald Trump, who often plays "Y.M.C.A." at his rallies, shared his condolences. He mentioned that Willis enjoyed the song's revival. Willis is survived by his wife, Karen Huff-Willis, an entertainment executive and attorney.

---

### Vocabulary List:

1. **illness** //ˈɪlnəs// (noun): a sickness that makes someone not healthy
2. **privacy** //ˈpraɪvəsi// (noun): space to be private and not shared with others
3. **producers** //prəˈdusəz// (noun): people who pay for or make a show
4. **character** //ˈkærəktər// (noun): a person or role played in a story or show
5. **iconic** //aɪˈkɒnɪk// (adjective): widely recognized and symbolic of something
6. **condolences** //kənˈdʊlənsɪz// (noun): messages that show you are sorry for loss

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What is the name of the lead singer of the Village People who passed away?

Option: Jacques Morali

Option: Victor Willis



---

Option: Henri Belolo  
Option: Donald Trump

2. In which year was Victor Willis born?

Option: 1945  
Option: 1951  
Option: 1960  
Option: 1977

3. What character did Victor Willis play in the Village People?

Option: Cowboy  
Option: Construction Worker  
Option: Cop/Admiral  
Option: Indian

4. In which year did 'Y.M.C.A.' become part of the National Recording Registry?

Option: 2018  
Option: 2019  
Option: 2020  
Option: 2021

5. Who is mentioned as sharing condolences for Victor Willis's passing?

Option: Joe Biden  
Option: Barack Obama  
Option: Donald Trump  
Option: Bill Clinton

6. What profession does Victor Willis's wife, Karen Huff-Willis, have?

Option: Doctor  
Option: Lawyer  
Option: Entertainment Executive  
Option: Teacher

### True-False

7. Victor Willis was 74 years old when he passed away.

8. The family of Victor Willis requested public attention after his death.



- 
9. Victor Willis returned to the Village People permanently in 2017.
  10. 'Y.M.C.A.' was added to the Grammy Hall of Fame in 2022.
  11. Willis's father was a Baptist minister.
  12. Victor Willis created the Village People alone.

### Gap-Fill

13. Victor Willis passed away at the age of \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Willis was born in \_\_\_\_\_, Texas.
15. The 'Y.M.C.A.' song was added to the National Recording Registry in \_\_\_\_\_ 2020.
16. Victor Willis's wife is named \_\_\_\_\_ Huff-Willis.
17. Victor Willis was part of the Village People since its \_\_\_\_\_ in 1977.
18. President Donald Trump often plays 'Y.M.C.A.' at his \_\_\_\_\_ meetings.

### Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Victor Willis 2. 1951 3. Cop/Admiral 4. 2020 5. Donald Trump 6. Entertainment Executive  
**True-False:** 7. True 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. True 12. False  
**Gap-Fill:** 13. 74 14. 1951 15. March 16. Karen 17. creation 18. rallies

### CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL2

### POST TAG

1. A2
2. dies
3. ESL learning
4. esl news
5. L2
6. lead singer
7. Level 2
8. Victor Willis



## 9. Village People

### Tags

1. A2
2. dies
3. ESL learning
4. esl news
5. L2
6. lead singer
7. Level 2
8. Victor Willis
9. Village People

### Date Created

2026/07/02

### Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM