

# The Ballad Of Mr. Jenkins

Craig Morgan

With skin as tough as a burlap sack he had his second heart attack last summer  
But he's still goin'  
There's a melancholy in his eyes, for all of you who care enough to wonder why  
Let me tell you  
It all started back in 1957 when ole Walt Disney took him by surprise  
Thats the day Old Yeller died  
Well that twelve year old became a man eleven years too soon in Vietnam  
With his best friend Tommy  
They were tough as nails and southern born and awfully proud to wear that uniform  
Then things got scary  
On April 4th, Tommy left for heaven the same year the world was taken by surprise  
That's the day Martin Luther died  
So before you judge him you need to know there's more to that old man  
Then what you see there on that barstool with the bourbon on his hand  
You heard about his younger years but don't leave now theres more to hear  
That might explain the pain in that old man  
How quick America forgot about the only war they'd lost and life goes on  
That's what they tell ya  
No ticker tape no reason why, might have never seen the end of that chapter in his life  
If he hadn't met Betty  
They married in December 1980, no doubt it was the best day of his life  
Two days before John Lennon died  
So before you judge him you need to know there's more to that old man  
Than what you see there on the barstool with the bourbon in his hand  
Now we've covered chapter two I can almost see a change in you  
There's still alot of life in that old man  
He hadn't had a drink in at least a year, to tell the truth I'm shocked he's here  
But as long as he wants'em I'm gonna pour'em  
Before you came in I asked him why, he raised his fragile head and wiped his eyes  
Then he told me  
I've seen so much in my life I've never questioned, this time the good Lord took me by surprise

Yesterday my Betty died

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