

## Everett Ruess

Dave Alvin

I was born Everett Ruess  
I've been dead for sixty years  
I was just a young boy in my twenties  
The day I disappeared

Into the Grand Escalante Badlands  
Near the Utah and Arizona line  
And they never found my body, boys  
Or understood my mind

I grew up in California  
And I loved my family and my home  
But I ran away to the High Sierra  
Where I could live free and alone

And folks said, "He's just another wild kid  
He'll grow out of it in time?"  
But they never found my body, boys  
Or understood my mind

I broke broncos with the cowboys  
I sang healing songs with the Navajo  
I did the snake dance with the Hopi  
And I drew pictures everywhere I go

Then I swapped all my drawings for provisions  
To get what I needed to get by  
And they never found my body, boys  
Or understood my mind

Well I hate your crowded cities  
With the sad and hopeless mobs  
And I hate your grand cathedrals  
Where you try to trap God

"Cause I know God is here in the canyons  
With the rattlesnakes and the pinon pines  
And they never found my body, boys  
Or understood my mind

They say I was killed by a drifter  
Or I froze to death in the snow  
Maybe mauled by a wildcat  
Or I'm livin' down in Mexico

But my end, it doesn't really matter  
All that counts is how you live your life  
And they never found my body, boys  
Or understood my mind

But you give your dreams away as you get older  
And oh but I never gave up mine  
And they'll never find my body, boys  
Or understand my mind