

## About the Cover Art

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**T**he Wave, one of Arizona's most photographed rock formations, is a sandstone formation on the slopes of the Coyote Buttes in the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness, located in northern Arizona, just south of the Utah-Arizona border.

In January 2008, David W. Primrose was one of the lucky few who were granted access to the area tightly controlled by the Bureau of Land Management. Primrose snapped his award-winning photograph at 6:00 am after a 3-mile hike across a rugged, trailless landscape.

Primrose was not only rewarded by the beauty captured in the photograph but also awarded first place in a national veteran's art competition for his photograph *The Wave*. As a first-place winner in the arts competition, Primrose participated in the 2008 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF) in Riverside, California. Primrose was one of approximately 120 veterans from across the country honored at the NVCAF.

Primrose began practicing photography in the early 1980s as a form of escape from the pressures of working. "Engaging in the creative arts often brings with it a release from stress and can become a blessing to others who see or enjoy your work," said Primrose. "Photography is often a reflection of the person taking the picture. The particular beauty or effect can be, and often is, unique to the individual taking the photograph. Participation in the NVCAF has encouraged me to be more exacting and disciplined in the art that I display."

Primrose, a medical technologist at the Northern Arizona Veterans Affairs Health Care System, resides in Prescott, Arizona. He is the first Air Force veteran to be featured on the cover of *JRRD*. Primrose served in the Air Force between September 1961 and August 1965 at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, where he achieved the rank of Airman 2d class.

A talented writer as well as photographer, Primrose has published a number of short stories for the enjoyment of his family and "Letters to Tobitha," a book of letters written by his great-grandfather during the Civil War.

