

Dear Friends:

I hope the new year started well for you. Our year started with a bang for sure when we got the call that Brad Paisley wanted us to help him kick off his first tour date in Southaven, MS January 15th. We were delighted to do it and Brad and his crew treated us royally. We've got several photos included here from that night.

The first regular date for us was January 17th in Huntingdon, TN. We loved seeing everyone there for 2 shows. "The Dixie" is a great theater and a nice place to kick off our regular season.

We have a whole lot of good things planned for 2009 including working on some new music for you.

Thanks for your continued support - I know I would not be able to do this today without you.

All the best,





FEBRUARY 2009 VOLUME 6



January 15,2009 at the Civic Center in Southaven, MS

Brad Paisley and Gene Watson took time for this photo after Gene's soundcheck at the Civic Center. Brad sat in the audience to listen to Gene and when Brad went onstage for his soundcheck, Gene sat in the audience to hear him. Brad surprised Gene when he launched into "Fourteen Carat Mind"! Turns out Brad and his band regularly perform Gene's song as part of their soundcheck!

Later that night two local DJs introduced Gene to bring him onstage, then came another surprise from Brad! Brad had made a special video presentation that lit up two huge screens and this is what he said, "The last time we played here in Memphis I got the worst review I think I've ever gotten. I remember it saying, among other things, that I was no Gene Watson. I certainly agree with that. That gave me an idea. In the spirit of giving everyone their money's worth, I asked Gene if he would join the show. I am so thrilled to have the real deal here tonight. There's nothing like kicking off the final leg of the Paisley Party with the one and only Gene Watson singing his amazing "Farewell Party,"

LEFT: Let The Light Shine

It was very dark in the sold out 8,000 seat Civic Center in Southaven, MS but the music of Gene and the Farewell Party Band was a beacon to an audience thrilled to hear the traditional country sounds of a true living legend.

BAND SPOTLIGHT ON CORKY OWENS



1. Where were you born/raised?

I was born in Santa Fe, NM while my parents were passing through that state but I call Tyler, TX home as I was raised there.

2. When did you first start in the music business?

I was about 7 years old when I first heard a steel guitar and fell in love with the sound. My parents bought me an electric guitar first, then I moved to a six string lap top steel and later to pedal steel (when I was about 10). I started playing in clubs around Tyler, TX when I was 11. My first job on the road was with Joe Stampley – I was 16 years old.

3. Who are some of your music influences?

Don Helms, Buddy Emmons, Lloyd Green, Paul Franklin, Tommy White, Mike Johnson, Buck Reid, Gary Carpenter and Tom Morrell

4. If you weren't in the music business, what job would you have?

I would be a mechanic. My Dad and Grandfather were mechanics. I love messing with cars.

5. Do you have any hobbies?

I love to sit around and play with my Tele (Fender Telecaster guitar) and try to be a guitar player (LOL!)

6. Do you have any favorite sports teams?

Dallas Cowboys, Dallas Mavericks, and hockey team, Dallas Stars!

- 7. Other than Gene Watson's music, what are some of your favorite songs?
 - Any older Merle Haggard songs, old Buck Owens. I like the old country songs.
- 8. What's your favorite Gene Watson song that you enjoy playing?
 - If I have to pick just one, I'd say "I Don't Need A Thing At All".
- 9. Do you play other instruments?

Steel is my first love but I also play guitar, bass and dobro.

FAN-TASTIC FAN Barb A.



Home: Stanford, IL (near Bloomington)

Job: Retired!

Family: Married with 3 children, grandchildren

When did your first hear of Gene: On TV many years ago

Your Top 3 Gene Watson songs:

- I Never Go Around Mirrors
- Take Me As I Am (Or Let Me Go)
- Farewell Party

How many concerts have you attended? At least 35

Hobbies: Just started playing golf last year. Love it!

How many Gene Watson CD/Albums do you own? Most all of them

How far have you traveled to see Gene in concert? Hiawassee, GA 677 miles from home

Any personal thoughts to add here? I really enjoy going to Gene's concerts. I've met a lot of nice people and made a lot of good friends.

Congratulations to Bob of Del City, OK, the winner for the last trivia contest - Bob knew that Gene Watson's first name is ... GARY!!

Bob will receive an autographed Gene Watson T Shirt.

For your chance to win, just answer this Gene Watson question:

Which Gene song was in a major motion picture starring Clint Eastwood?

Email your answer to: Artist@LytleMgmt.com

(winner selected by random drawing from all correct entries. Deadline to enter: March 15, 2009)



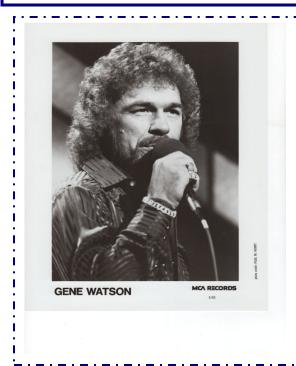
Right: From 1983, it's one of Gene's publicity photos from MCA Records. He might be singing "This Dream's On Me" or possibly "Sometimes I Get Lucky and Forget," both big hits for MCA.

Left: **GOOD TO THE LAST DROP**

This handsome fella to the left is the one and only "Drop" Watson, Gene's first cousin. Gene and Drop grew up together as close as brothers. Drop is a great musician himself and was an original member of the group, **Gene Watson and the Other Four**. Gene credits Drop with naming his band "The Farewell Party Band" back in the 70s.

Currently Drop is helping his cousin Gene on the road, driving the bus and keeping everything in order.

If you see Drop at a concert be sure to give him a big smile and a Texas size hug.







Gene Receives Key To The City!!

Gene received an unexpected honor January 23 when Councilman Rader of Panama City Beach, Florida gave Gene a key to their fair city in recognition of Gene's magnificent contribution to the world of country music.

WEBSITES:

www.GeneWatsonMusic.com

www.Gene-Watson.com

Message Board: www.CMT.com

Left: A Kodak Moment

This picture was snapped when Gene and Dierks Bentley caught up with each other backstage during the Paisley Party Tour in Southaven, MS. Both Gene and Dierks were backstage watching Brad Paisley's performance.

Below: <u>Paisley Party Tour Stop</u> It was a first time meeting for both Gene and Darius Rucker (former lead singer for Hootie and the Blowfish) but when asked if he has dreams of a country career like Gene's, Darius confessed "Don't Think I Don't Think About It!"



February 26	2009 TOUR DATES The Reserve	S Laurel, MS
February 27	The Tractor Shed	Sharon, SC
March 20	Harry Housour PAC	Osceola, IN
March 21	Little Nashville Opry	Nashville, IN
March 28	Ed Davenport Civic Ctr Brady, TX	
April 10	Riverwind Casino	Norman, OK
April 11	Cherokee Casino	Claremore, OK
To book Gene: carrie@thirdcoasttalent.com		