

GENE WATSON

Volume 23



GENE WATSON

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
IN COUNTRY MUSIC

Message From Gene:

Hi Fans,

Looks like we're off to a HOT summer but we enjoyed a little bit of the cooler weather in Canada in early May. I had a great time in Lethbridge, Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary, and Edmonton and I can't wait to return in August when Rhonda Vincent and I will be in Colborne, Ontario.

Our international travels will also take us to England this summer in July . You can check the website for those shows but I'm sure I'll be ready for some Fish & Chips!

Before we get to England though, I've got a big week set for the annual CMA Music Festival in Nashville. I'm starting the week at the CMA Global Party on June 4th where I'll sing with Irish star, Lisa McHugh.

Then Wednesday, June 6th, Lisa and I will sing for Billy Yates' annual "Countryest of the Country" show. Thursday, June 7th there's a full day of shows starting at 11 AM at the

WSM-AM's Acoustic Corner with an autograph signing afterwards . Next is CMA Music Fest's Country Classic show at the Bridgestone Plaza at 2PM followed by a CD signing at the Bridgestone Arena . I hope I'll see some of you out at these events. Bring your sunscreen. Never fails to be as hot as it can possibly be during the CMA Music Festival (or "Fan Fair" as we still like to call it!

Hope to see you out on the road,

Gene

COUNTRY LEGENDS



Gene performed at "Grillin' Out Country", a special show for the Country Music Hall of Fame on April 11, 2012. One of Gene's friends and hero's, Merle Haggard, was also visiting at the Hall of Fame so the two are shown here enjoying a visit backstage.

Gene's Farewell Party Band



This amazingly talented group backs up Gene Watson night after night~ From left to right: Brian Kelley (guitar) , Danny Naccarato (Pedal Steel), Chip Bricker (piano) , Todd Hines(drums) and Staley Rogers (bass).



April 12th, 2012
Ernest Tubb
Records, Nashville,
TN

Gene signed his new *Best of the Best, 25 Greatest Hits* CD for fans at the Ernest Tubb Record store in downtown Nashville before his performance later that evening at the Classic Country Opry show. Shown below with Gene are happy Gene fans, (left to right) Sally Bedow of Texas and Margaret Brown of Scotland.



Farewell Party Band's Brian Kelley at work (above left) and Brian at home (above right) with beautiful new daughter, Kara Layne Kelley (born 4/8/12) and wife, Jessie.

FAN SPOTLIGHT on BERNARD D'LASSELLE of AUSTRALIA



Photo Left: From 2006 in Ireland, left to right: Lorina D'Lasselle, Gene, Bernard D'Lasselle

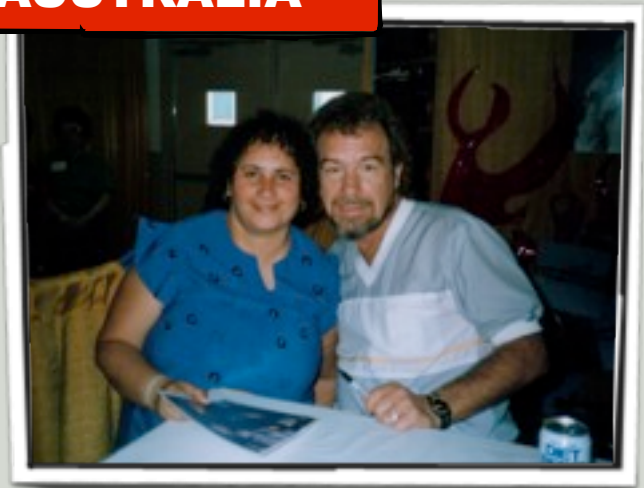


Photo Right: Lorina D'Lasselle and Gene Watson at Fan Fair, 1996

Home : Born in India and migrated to Australia in 1970.

Job : Worked as a printer here but now retired.

Married or Single: Married to Lorina but no children.

Name your Top Five Gene Watson songs: Carmen, Back In The Fire, A Way To Survive, Couldn't Love Have Picked A Better Place To Die, Make Sure You Got It All.

Hobbies: Love travelling and have visited Nashville, TN and Branson, MO 16 times - particularly for the Country Music Fan Fair from 1988. I have owned a country music shop in Melbourne, Australia for the past 16 years. Love country music. All of Gene's CDs are very popular here.

When did you discover Gene Watson's music? First heard Gene's songs in Ernest Tubbs Record Shop in Nashville in 1988 and bought three LP's then which were *Love In The Hot Afternoon*, *Beautiful Country* and *Paper Rosie*. I have all of Gene's music and DVD'S now.

Also, now have Gene performances on TNN Shows, Crook & Chase, and own all The Country's Family Reunion DVD'S.

Have you met Gene Watson? Met Gene at many Country Music Fan Fair shows and in his booth signing autographs.

Have you seen Gene in concert? Went to visit my friend Mr. Norman Rainey in Ireland in 2006 and saw two shows of Gene Watson there. Also met Gene at his hotel there (see photo above).

PHOTOS FROM THE LANCASTER, PA SHOW MAY 20, 2012



Photo Above: Gene enjoyed working with the great, Ray Price, in Lancaster, PA.

Photo Below: Onstage comedy from the FPB Piano Man, Chip Bricker



Photo Left: Gene Fan, Susan Wilson gets an autograph after the show. Many thanks to Susan for sharing all the photos shown here.

Contest Winner!

In the last newsletter, fan club members were asked the question: "Name at least two Gene Watson songs containing the word BOUQUET." Two songs with that word included are "Paper Rosie" and "Because You Believed In Me". From the many who had correct answers, the name drawn from the cowboy hat was..... Delane Spriggs from Austin, Texas! Delane will receive an autographed Tee shirt! Only registered fan club members receive the question, so if you haven't yet signed up for the FREE fan club, just enter at www.GeneWatsonMusic.com and the next Triva Contest question will be emailed to you.

CONCERT DATES

June 4-7 CMA Music Festival Check the website for details
June 9 Bean Blossom Festival Bean Blossom, IN
June 11-13 Oneida Casino Green Bay, WI
June 14 Midwest Country Sandstone, MN
June 15 Sisseton PAC Sisseton, SD
June 30 Sam Houston Race Park Houston, TX
July 5-8 England Tour Check website for details

To Book Gene Watson:
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phone: 615-685-3331

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GENE AND THE
FAREWELL PARTY
BAND

