



# GENE WATSON

NOV/DEC. 2011 Volume 20



**GENE HELPS CELEBRATE RANDY TRAVIS' 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY AT THE OPRY**

October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - Gene had the pleasure to perform on the Grand Ole Opry with Randy Travis, Connie Smith and Joe Stampley as part of Randy's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The group performed a song recorded for Randy's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary album title "Didn't We Shine." The performance was later shown as part of an Opry TV show on GAC, *Opry Live!*

LEFT: Standing off stage just after their performance are Gene, Randy Travis and Connie Smith.



**AN AMERICAN IDOL**

Left: (Oct. 4, 2011) Carrie Underwood stopped backstage at the Grand Ole Opry to say hello to Gene. Before winning the vastly popular American Idol show, Carrie opened a show for Gene and remembers him fondly from that. Of course Carrie has gone on to super stardom in the country music world with multi-platinum albums. Carrie recorded a # 1 with Randy Travis that they sang on the Opry that night, "I Told You So."

**HANGING OUT BACKSTAGE**

Photo right: Gene's dressing room at the Opry turned out to be right next door to another young star, Josh Turner. Josh was delighted to see Gene and they shared a few road stories before both were called to go onstage. Josh Turner's career was kicked off by the single "Long Black Train."

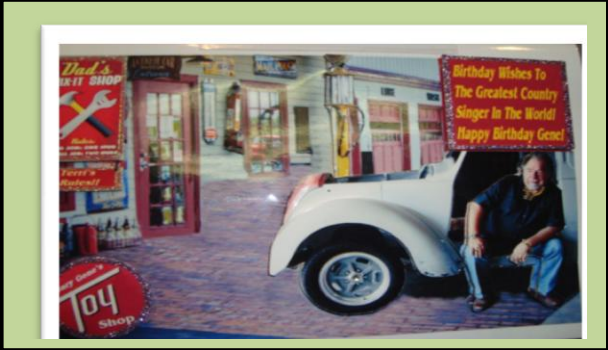




**From the Country Family Reunion Taping** Above Photo Left: Con Hunley, Bill Anderson and Gene. Photo Right: Before the taping, Gene and Rhonda Vincent chat about an upcoming show while Barbara Fairchild and Jim Ed Brown check out the stage. Directly behind Rhonda (in sunglasses) is Christian recording artist and piano man, Gordon Mote.



**Birthday Greetings From The Fans**  
Gene enjoyed the birthday cards sent from around the world to celebrate his 68<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Left: Ms. Jean Holmes and her granddaughter, Chantelle, sent Gene the microphone award (far left) and sent in the photo (right), taken when Gene was in England. Jean and Chantelle reside in Wirrel, England. The Microphone Award states: *To Gene You're Still Our Star of Country*



**IRISH BIRTHDAY WISHES**  
Longtime Irish fan, Heather McCann, sent Gene a magnificently crafted, hand-made card for his birthday. Check out the card image (left). The card is actually 3-D and features a Chevy Truck and Gene's Toy Shop. Gene has the most talented fans and he appreciates all of your cards and well wishes!

**The Gene Watson Fan Forum**  
(<http://genewatsonfans.proboards.com>)  
Photo right: Sally Bedow, an administrator of the fan chat board made the trip to Lovelady, TX to present Gene with a beautifully bound book with linen paper full of personal birthday messages from fans on the forum. Gene was delighted with the gift and Sally made a second copy which will be presented to the Country Music Hall of Fame at a later date. Check out the fan forum to talk about all things related to Gene Watson!



## FAN SPOTLIGHT ON SHERRY SHAVER TOUCHSTONE



Photo Left: Charles and Sherry Touchstone took this photo with Gene at the Chickasha, Oklahoma show this year.

Thank you Sherry for being our special fan this month!!

### Where do you live?

I live in Arapaho, Oklahoma, a small town of about 850 people. I grew up in Garden City, Kansas and moved to Oklahoma in 1970.

### Tell us about your family.

I met my husband to be, Charles, on a blind date and we were married in 1972. We have two children and four wonderful grandchildren, Lexy, Brayden, Trace and Keeley .

### What type of work have you done?

In 1996 I bought a clothing consignment shop and named it, Sherry's New and Nearly New. We carry high end clothing and accessories. I also am an AVON Representative selling AVON products since 1996. Charles has been a beekeeper since 1980. He is a retired water plant superintendent and an avid gardener.

### Do you have any hobbies?

I enjoy photography and traveling. We often pick a direction and spend the afternoon driving around sight seeing. Going to Gene Watson concerts is my favorite pastime. Charles and my sister Tina are my traveling companions. If one can't go, the other will. We have seen Gene and the Farewell Party Band in, Kansas , Texas , Florida , Arkansas and of course Oklahoma . We have made lots of, "Gene friends" over the years at concerts and on Facebook.

### When did you first become a Gene Watson fan?

I became a Gene Watson fan the first time I heard: "Love in the Hot Afternoon". My first concert was in Muskogee , OK . I have seen Gene in concert about twenty times and I'm not done yet! That is when I started collecting Gene's albums and CD's and I have everyone he has made. Many of them I bought on eBay. The self-titled, sealed album: "Gene Watson" was the one I fought hardest for, and I won. I sent a message to the party bidding against me and found out he was a cousin to Gene. I bought an LP to CD copier and have all the vinyl albums on CD's.

### What are your favorite Gene Watson songs?

My favorite Gene Watson songs, other than the biggest hits are: "Winds of Change", "Most of all Why", "Change Her Mind", "Maybe I Should've Been Listening" and "From Cotton to Satin".

**Do you have a favorite concert location?** The last five years we have traveled to Paris , TX , to see the home town concert Gene and the Farewell Party band do at the county fair. The stage is outdoors under the stars with many family, friends and fans there to enjoy the show.

I am looking forward to making many more "Gene Friends" in the coming months and years.

## A MESSAGE FROM GENE

Dear Friends - It's hard to believe it's the Holiday season already. In the USA we'll be enjoying a Thanksgiving turkey this week and then it's Christmas before you know it. It's always a time for me to give thanks for having such wonderful friends, family and the greatest fans on earth. It was a good year for the music as well. I enjoyed recording and releasing the duets album "Your Money and My Good Looks" with Rhonda Vincent and we've had a lot of fun working together on the road. Also, it has been a pleasure recording my Greatest Hits which I hope to release sometime in February. I'm sure many of you have seen the Country Family Reunion shows this year on TV or on video and those are special occasions for me. Those are such fun days and I hope there are many more to come. Thank you for continuing to come to the shows and I do appreciate your emails and comments on Facebook and the website. It's always great to hear from you,



## AND THE WINNER IS.....

Congratulations to Phyllis Prather of Georgia who correctly answered the question: **What song did Gene co- write on his "Back in the Fire" album? Answer: "Somewhere Over You"**

The winning name is randomly drawn from all correct entries.

For your chance to win an autographed Tee Shirt, just answer the question sent to Fan Club Members only, then email the correct response to: [GENEWATSONMUSIC@HOTMAIL.com](mailto:GENEWATSONMUSIC@HOTMAIL.com)

If you're reading this and not a registered member of the **free** fan club, just sign up at [www.genewatsonmusic.com](http://www.genewatsonmusic.com)! Only fan club members get the Trivia Contest Questions!



## GUITAR HERO

Gene was one happy guy Sunday Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at the Bristol, TN show when he was surprised onstage by recording artist Nathan Stanley, grandson of country legend, Ralph Stanley. Nathan gave Gene a custom made Murphy guitar which features Gene's name in laid on the neck in Mother of Pearl and has Nathan's name inscribed on the guitar also. Gene is a collector of guitars and you can see the smile on his face as he received this amazing gift from his friend, Nathan. Check out more on Nathan here: [Nathan Stanley's Official Website](http://NathanStanley.com)

## GENE'S TOUR DATES

Nov. 26	Tin Hall	Cypress, TX
Nov. 29	Grand Ole Opry	Nashville, TN
Dec. 9	Del E. Webb Center	Wickenburg, AZ
Dec. 31	Coupland Dance Hall	Coupland, TX
<b>2012</b>		
Jan. 1	Black Gold Casino	Hobbs, NM
Jan. 6	Cypress Bayou Casino	Charenton, LA
Jan. 13	Cajun Cowboy	Omaha, TX
Jan. 16-22	CFR Cruise	<a href="http://www.CFRcruise.com">www.CFRcruise.com</a>
Jan. 27	Greenwood PAC	Greenwood, AR
Feb. 15	Florida State Fair	Tampa, FL
Feb. 18	Stagecoach	Ft. Worth, TX
Feb. 25	Orange Blossom Opry	Weirsdale, FL
Feb. 26	Port Charlotte Center	Port Charlotte, FL
March 3	Sugar Creek Casino	Hinton, OK
March 24	Ross Country Jamboree	Scottsburg, IN
May 3	Effingham PAC	Effingham, IL

## CONTACT US

To book a Gene Watson concert, contact Carrie Moore-Reed  
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