

Dear Friends:

*There is no greater gift than spending time with family and friends so that's my wish for you this holiday season. I look forward to seeing you out on the road next year - that's always my gift- to see so many of you I've known over the years coming back to our concerts. As we close out this year, I want to give special thanks to my Farewell Party Band for being the greatest band in the business. Thanks to my booking agent, Rob Battle, to Lytle Management, to Sally Bedow and Raymond Glenn for the Fan Forum, to Sean Brady for [www.Gene-Watson.com](http://www.Gene-Watson.com) and especially to you, the greatest fans in the world!*

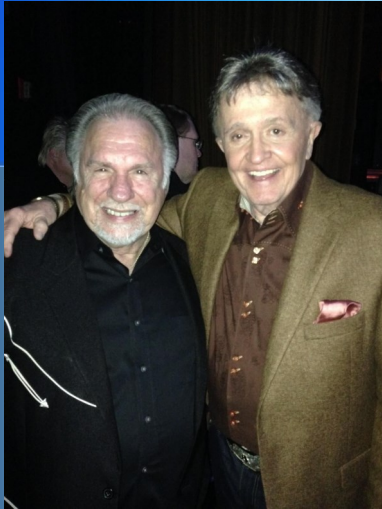
*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!*



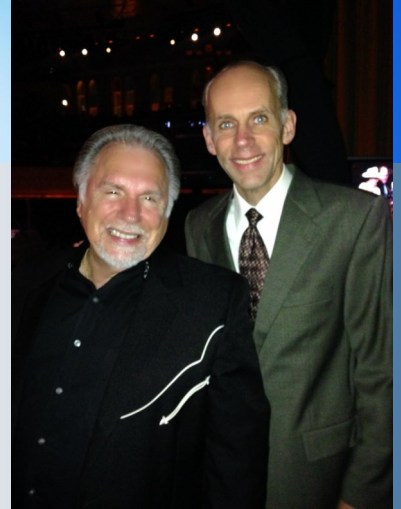
*Gene Watson*

# It Was A Nashville Weekend December 5 & 6, 2014

## Grand Ole Opry at the Ryman!



Left: Gene hangs backstage with multi-talented, Bill Anderson. As a singer, Bill has 7 #1 hits, 29 Top Tens and over 40 albums. As probably the most prolific country music songwriter today, Bill has too many awards to list but not the least being two Songs of the Year “Whiskey Lullabye” (Brad Paisley and Allison Krauss) and George Strait’s “Give It Away”.



Right: Gene enjoys Opry announcer Eddie Stubb’s vast knowledge of country music history. You can listen to Eddie’s nightly program on WSM-AM Radio where he features nothing but the best in country music.



Gene is a fan of Jimmy Wayne’s singing and song-writing. Gene says his favorite song written and recorded by Jimmy is “Stay Gone” which hit # 3 on the Billboard charts in 2003.



It’s always a great night at the Opry when everyone’s favorite nice guy, Vince Gill, is there. Gill has received 18 CMA Awards and 20 Grammys, more than another other male country singer. He is also a well -deserved member of the Country Music Hall of Fame.



Left: Opry Star, Jan Howard and Gene take a moment backstage to visit. Did you know Jan Howard, married to songwriter Harlan Howard, was the original demo singer on the now classic Patsy Cline hit, “I Fall to Pieces” – a song co-written by her then husband Harlan and his co-writer, Hank Cochran.

# Nashville Weekend Continued



Jimmy Wayne, Vince Gill and Gene talk about songs – just barely off-stage of the historic Ryman Auditorium.



The Farewell Party Band and Gene discuss the songs they will sing that night on the Opry.



Bluegrass greats, The Steel Drivers, shared a dressing room with Gene at the Opry.



At the Country Music Hall of Fame show, the members of the Farewell Party Band pause just long enough to say “Cheese”! Left to right: Chip, Todd, Chad, Danny and Staley.



Ed Stone, Gene’s longtime friend and Interplanetary Fan Club President, brought 3 generations of his family to hear Gene Watson perform at the Country Music Hall of Fame. Ed, a former executive with Opryland, has known Gene for many years and used to bring his young daughter, Lori, to hear Gene. Now Lori is Sr. VP of City National Bank in Nashville and she wanted her own young girls to hear Gene’s music. From left to right: Ed Stone, Ed’s wife, Fran Stone, Anna Badgett (age 4), Gene, Ellie Badgett (age 8), Lori Stone Badgett and Lori’s husband, Jon Badgett.



It was a “Winter Wonderland” at the Country Music Hall of Fame when Gene and the band performed there December 6th. Gene and the band delighted the rapt audience with their versions of several Christmas songs including their Texas shuffle version of “I’ll Be Home For Christmas”.





# Fan Spotlight: Susan Ells!

**Where do you live?** My husband and I live in Main River, New Brunswick, Canada. We moved from Moncton to the country when he retired in 1996. This is a family property that has been in his family for about 100 years and where we have a “cottage”.

**Occupation?** I spent my younger years raising 3 sons and caring for 3 other children to allow parents to work. When my sons were old enough, I did hair for a Special Care Home, and enjoyed the seniors there. Now days, I do what I can, when I can, but always listen to Gene.

**Tell us about your family** We have 3 sons, 7 grandchildren...4 boys and 3 girls...took a while, but I finally got my girls. I am blessed to still have my Mom who is 87, but lost my Dad in 1970. My Love for music came from him as he played the guitar and I loved to sing with him.

**Hobbies?** Music has always been a big part of my life. I sang in Church and School choirs and a radio was always playing and I would sing along. Gardening played a big part of life here on the farm. I had a greenhouse and started many flowers and vegetables. I so enjoyed all the humming birds that would come to my flowers and feeders. Grandchildren now take a lot of my time...they are growing up too fast.

**When did you first hear of Gene Watson?** I can't recall the first time I heard Gene Watson, but remember hearing him on the radio back in the 70's when Country music was real. I love the Traditional music and he is the best.

**First Gene Watson concert?** September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Spencerville, Ontario....a Dream come true....bucket list item ☺ So far, my concert in September is the only one (of Gene's we've been to), but I am keeping track of his tour dates and sure hope to be able to go to another one. I really enjoyed the Fair grounds as I am Country and had front row seats. I'm sure any place I can get to would be fantastic. We travelled about 1267 Km from home to Spencerville to see Gene Watson. It was a trip I would do again....so enjoyed his concert and met some wonderful fans of his too.

**Top 5 Gene Watson songs?** This is a hard one...I LOVE all of his songs...."I Don't Need a Thing at All", "Over There", "Old Man and His Horn", "She's No Lady", and I'll have to say "Mr Candyman" which is my 11 year old granddaughter's favorite as Grampie is the Candyman in the grandkids eyes. Whenever it comes on, she smiles big and those dimples are so cute.

**Anything else you'd like mention as a Gene Watson fan?** I am so thankful that I have been able to meet Gene Watson and so down to earth he really is. He takes time to sign whatever you have, and talk with you. The little things he does has brought me such joy...an amazing man. May God continue to keep him healthy and safe as he travels to his concerts. Thank You Mr. Gene Watson.



\*Editor's Note: Susan Ells is also a moderator on the Gene Watson Fan Forum.

## 2015 Gene Watson Tour Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event/Venue</b>	<b>City/State</b>
January 1, 2015	New Year's Bluegrass Festival—Convention Center	Jekyll Island, GA
January 2, 2015	Living Truth Church	Pace, FL
January 3, 2015	Tivoli Theatre	Chattanooga, TN
January 17, 2015	Sugar Creek Casino	Hinton, OK
January 23, 2015	Marion Cultural & Civic Center	Marion, IL
January 24, 2015	Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center	Bowling Green, KY
January 31-February 7, 2015	CFR/LCD Cruise	Eastern Caribbean
February 27, 2015	Mill Town Music Hall	Bremen, GA
February 28, 2015	Itawamba Community College	Fulton, MS
March 13, 2015	Arlington Music Hall	Arlington, TX
March 14, 2015	Cherokee Casino—SEVEN Stage	West Siloam Springs, OK
March 20 & 21, 2015	Ross Country Jamboree	New Washington, IN
April 10 & 11, 2015	Orange Blossom Opry	Weirsdale, FL
April 17, 2015	Shriners Country Fest at Texas Woodstock	Arp, TX
May 1, 2015	Little Roy & Lizzy Music Festival	Lincolnton, GA
May 2, 2015	Red Barn Convention Center	Winchester, OH
May 5, 2015	Starlite Theatre—Larry's Country Diner Show	Branson, MO
May 7, 2015	Leo J. Wilder Center for Performing Arts	Victoria, TX
May 9, 2015	Osage Casino	Bartlesville, OK
May 30, 2015	Bluegrass On The Plains	Auburn, AL
June 5, 2015	Cherokee Bluegrass Festival	Cherokee, NC
June 13, 2015	San Saba Street Dance	San Saba, TX
June 26, 2015	Music In The Mountains Bluegrass Festival	Summersville, WV
July 4, 2015	Texas Opry	Weatherford, TX
July 25, 2015	Rural Retreat Heritage Days-Dr. Pepper Stage	Rural Retreat, VA
August 14, 2015	41st Annual North Carolina Bluegrass Festival	Marion, NC
September 12, 2014	Renfro Valley Entertainment—New Barn	Renfro Valley, KY
September 24, 2105	Starlite Theatre— Larry's Country Diner Show	Branson, MO
October 9 & 10, 2015	Kentucky Opry	Benton, KY
October 20, 21, 22, 2015	Starlite Theatre	Branson, MO





Gene is not quite sure what to make of his Sombrero wearing band members as they perform the much requested "Carmen".



Long time Scotland fan, Margaret Brown, was honored by the Glasgow Grand Ole Opry on November 8th. To celebrate that Opry's 40th Anniversary, they awarded their longest attending member a plaque with her name engraved and featuring her favorite Country music artist (Gene!). The photo was taken when Margaret visited for Gene's appearance at the Nashville Grand Ole Opry. Co-ghairdeachas! We hope that means "Congratulations" in Gaelic!



At the Country Music Hall of Fame Medallion Ceremony, Gene ran into Hall of Famer, Ralph Emery and his wife, before the ceremony began. Gene and Ralph spent many hours in conversation on Ralph's radio shows and also when Ralph hosted the long running TV program, TNN's "Nashville Now".



What a handsome and talented group – The Farewell Party Band!



November 13th - Gene and the band enjoyed a fun night at the Dosey Doe venue in The Woodlands, TX.





## Battle Artist Agency

To book *Gene Watson* for an event in your area contact Agent: **Rob Battle**,  
615-368-7433 or by e-mail at  
[RBattleArtistAgent@United.net](mailto:RBattleArtistAgent@United.net)



Visit the "official" Gene Watson website at  
[www.GeneWatsonMusic.com](http://www.GeneWatsonMusic.com)



"Like" Gene Watson's Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/genewatsonmusic](http://www.facebook.com/genewatsonmusic)



Watch Gene Watson videos on You Tube at  
[www.youtube.com/genewatsonvideos](http://www.youtube.com/genewatsonvideos)



"Follow" Gene Watson on Twitter at  
[www.twitter.com/GeneWatsonmusic](http://www.twitter.com/GeneWatsonmusic)



Join the Gene Watson Fan Forum at  
<http://genewatsonfans.proboards.com>



Enjoy the Gene Watson fan based website at [www.Gene-Watson.com](http://www.Gene-Watson.com)

## Trivia Contest Winner

Congratulations to **Robert Marrin** of Fayetteville, Arkansas, who submitted the winning entry for our last trivia contest question: "Name the Gene Watson album that included the Hank Cochran written song 'Don't You Ever Get Tired Of Hurting Me'."

And the answer: **"In A Perfect World"**

The next trivia question: For your chance to win an autographed tee shirt, just answer the question sent to Fan Club Members only and send the correct answer to:  
[GeneWatsonMusic@hotmail.com](mailto:GeneWatsonMusic@hotmail.com)

If you are reading this and not a registered member of the Gene Watson Fan Club, just sign up at [www.GeneWatsonMusic.com](http://www.GeneWatsonMusic.com). Only Fan Club Members get the Trivia Contest Question!

