

Gene Watson Fan Club Newsletter

November-December, 2020 Vol. 71



Dear Friends,

It's that special time of year for all of us – one where under normal circumstances we'd be gathering with our families and visiting with friends but this year we need to take special precautions- hopefully we'll all be back together this time next year. Thinking back to the start of 2020, I was actually off to having one of the greatest years of my life. The Grand Ole Opry and Vince Gill absolutely shocked me onstage by inviting me to be a member and then just a few weeks later, I enjoyed a wonderful induction ceremony with my friend, Steve Wariner, doing the honors. The photo below was taken backstage at the Opry with my crew. It was such a memorable event. Then, the next month, we were shut down due to the pandemic. I know it's been a tough year for all of us, but as this historic year comes to a close, I'm grateful to still have your friendship and know that we WILL be back together before too long.

Happy Holidays to you ,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gene".



A Visit To The Toy Shop!



Gene Watson hard at work. Nope, not singing – working on his truck in his “Toy Shop”.



Gene has several trucks and cars he wanted to update. This one is his 1992 GMC.



On this 1992 GMC, the special order paint color is “Hawaiian Orchid.” Gene had to do a little body work on this one.



Here’s a “before” image of Gene’s 1983 SS Monte Carlo. “After” photo coming soon! You might see this one in some car shows in the future.



A Visit To The Toy Shop!



This is the 1992 GMC Sportside regular cab which Gene says are his favorite model. They don't make anything but a short bed in a Sportside.



The photos below are of Gene's 1998 Chevy Silverado 3 door extended cab, Sportside that he bought new. Gene says no one has ever sat in the back seat (yet!). He re-did the front end and grille on this one. This truck still has the original factory Onyx Black paint and that's the original factory interior – still in like new condition! No Big Gulp Slurpees spilled in this vehicle!



Photos From The Vault:



Left to Right: (Back Row) Joe Eddie Gough, Tiny Olson, Larry Booth (Front Row) Gary Anderson, Gene, Mike Boyles.

Gene and his former band members decked out.



Charley Pride (RIP) and Gene – visiting backstage at the Grand Ole Opry in 2018.



Gene is signing a photo at Fan Fair in Nashville, TN.



Gene and Merle Haggard are shown visiting on Merle's bus before a Branson show in 2009.



Gene Watson Answers Questions From Fans!

Coffee or Tea: I drink de-caff , 2 creams and I drink about a cup and half - only in the morning.

Weather Channel: I always keep in touch with the weather for where we're headed. I keep the radar up on my phone to keep the bus driver informed.

Favorite movie: All-time favorite movie is "Tombstone" with actor, Val Kilmer. I love a good Western movie.

What got you into music: I guess you'd say I was born into it. My whole family sang so it just came naturally to me. I never thought I was the best singer in our family, just the only one who attempted to do it for my living.

What inspires you in the creative process: My inspiration is always the fans. I try to hear a song and decide if my fans will relate to the lyrics. That's what I don't like so much about the modern stuff. It's a little too Mickey Mouse for me. The best songs have heart and soul and something the listener can identify with - like it's personal to them.

Who would you like to work with, past or present: I've been blessed to work with so many country music greats from Merle Haggard, George Jones, Ray Price to Charley Pride. I worked with Buck Owens and until I met him and worked with him, I didn't have a real grasp of how special he was. He was someone who was truly "larger than life". He helped so many entertainers and was just an amazing man. I was also blown away by Johnny Cash. I had never seen anyone with his kind of charisma. We were doing a stadium show with him and they just had one small spotlight onstage. When that light came on his microphone, and he stepped up, he just had to say "Hello, I'm Johnny Cash" and that entire stadium was like a wall of sound. The crowd went wild- it sounded like a cannon went off. Sadly too many of our country heroes have gone on now. One artist I never got to meet or work with that I would have loved to have met is Lefty Frizzell. He was a musical hero for sure.

What's your favorite song to perform on stage: Well that can change with each show, sometimes depending on the feel of the audience. The band and I can tell when we're in the middle of a song if the audience is loving it and that will then be our favorite for that night.

Favorite musician: I have great admiration for many musicians but one that comes to mind is the world-famous piano man, Hargus "Pig" Robbins. For a long time, I wouldn't do a session if Pig wasn't available. They'd have to work my recording around his schedule.

Most trouble on tour: The most trouble was when my bus turned over on the way to Sandstone, MN. The detour by that state had our bus on a road not designed for a tour bus or 18 wheeler and there were no signs posted. The road literally crumbled under us.

However, the most outlandish thing has to be the time when I booked a small private plane (a twin engine Aztec) to travel from Cox Field in Paris, TX to West Grove, PA for a job at Sunset Park. When we landed at this tiny landing strip, there was nothing there to rent to get me to the show. I saw a helicopter landing so I ran over there and the pilot (a female) was giving a lesson. I talked the student into letting me take the helicopter and off we went, touching down just as my band had kicked off the show. If you were in the audience, you'll recall I went onstage in shorts and a tee shirt because there wasn't a moment to change.

If you could change anything about the music business: I wouldn't change a thing about my journey because I believe, good or bad, all experiences help us to grow and learn. For the music business, change is inevitable. Some is good, some is bad but as I've always done, I just keep my head down and will continue to do what I do - sing my kind of country music and hope folks will continue to listen.

What's next? Just as soon as we can get back into a studio, I hope to work on an album of original "real country" songs. I'll always keep my fans posted on that work of course.

2021 Tour Schedule

Date	Venue	City, State
February 5th	The Park Theater	McMinnville, Tennessee
February 12th	Arlington Music Hall	Arlington, Texas
February 13th	Old Town Theater	Huntsville, Texas
March 6th	Azteca Event Hall	Amarillo, Texas
March 13th	Dothan Opera House	Dothan, Alabama
March 14th	Walhalla Performing Arts	Walhalla, South Carolina
March 20th	Mill Town Music Hall	Bremen, Georgia
March 26th	Heart Of Texas Music Fest	Brady, Texas
March 27th	The Ritz Theatre	Wellington, Texas
April 8th	Sisseton Performing Arts	Sisseton, South Dakota
April 9th	Wild Rose Casino	Emmetsburg, Iowa
April 10th	Windstone Entertainment	Jefferson City, Missouri
April 16th & 17	Liberty Showcase	Liberty, North Carolina
April 30th	Little Roy & Lizzie Festival	Lincolnton, Georgia
May 1st	The Barn	Sanford, Florida
May 7th	Nashville Palace	Nashville, Tennessee
May 8th	Red Barn Convention Center	Winchester, Ohio
May 14th	Palace Theater	Crossville, Tennessee
May 15th	Harvester PAC	Rocky Mount, Virginia
May 16th	American Music Theater	Lancaster, Pennsylvania
May 20th	Arena Theater	Houston, Texas
May 22nd	Riverwind Casino	Norman, Oklahoma
May 23rd	WinStar Casino	Thackerville, Oklahoma
June 4th	Main Street Crossing	Tomball, Texas
June 5th	Coyote Store	Gail, Texas
June 10th	Larry's Country Diner	Columbia, Tennessee

2021 Tour Schedule continued

Date	Venue	City, State
June 12th	Social Circle Theatre	Social Circle, Georgia
July 3rd	Margaritaville Casino	Bossier City, Louisiana
July 10th	Blue Gate Theatre	Shipshewana, Indiana
July 29th	Hippodrome Theatre	Waco, Texas
July 30th	Paramount Theatre	Abilene, Texas
July 31st	Greenville Municipal Auditorium	Greenville, Texas
August 15th	The Melba Theater	Batesville, Arkansas
September 3rd	Edna Boykin Cultural Center	Wilson, North Carolina
September 4th	Anderson Music Hall	Hiawassee, Georgia
September 5th	Newberry Opera House	Newberry, South Carolina
October 2nd	Municipal Auditorium	Sweetwater, Texas
October 16th	Mansion Theatre	Branson, Missouri
October 23rd & 24th	Old Dominion Barn Dance	Hopewell, Virginia
November 6th	Mansion Theatre	Branson, Missouri
November 19th	Country Tonite Theatre	Pigeon Forge, Tennessee
December 3rd	Main Street Crossing	Tomball, Texas

TRIVIA CONTEST WINNER!

Congratulations to Dixie Grass, Ocala, Florida who submitted the winning entry for our last trivia contest question: The question : What is the NEXT line from Farewell Party after these lyrics: "When my friends gather 'round for my farewell party, XXXXX XXX ??? The answer: "won't you pretend you love me". For your chance to win an autographed tee shirt, just answer the trivia question sent to Fan Club Members only and send the correct answer to: GeneWatsonMusic@hotmail.com.

If you are reading this and not a registered member of Gene Watson's Fan Club, just sign up at www.GeneWatsonMusic.com. Only Fan Club members get the Trivia Question! Enjoy Gene Watson singing "Farewell Party" LIVE on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nw9RyFXmwww>



Keep up with Gene Watson online! Click on one of these trees to access the favored Gene Watson websites and social media spots!

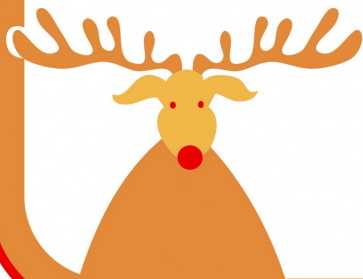


BATTLE ARTIST AGENCY

To book Gene Watson for an event in your area contact:

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