



Lester Earl Singer

September 11, 2024

Lester Earl Singer, a beloved musician and cherished member of the country music community, passed away on September 11, 2024, at the age of 69.

Named after bluegrass legends Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs, Lester's musical journey began early and flourished throughout his life.

He was born July 12, 1955 In Clinton, IL to Joseph & Margie Underwood Singer. He is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Singer, Franklin, KY; 4 daughters, Jana Spicer, Carrie (Chad) Cayce, Haley (Kyle) Kelley, White House, TN and Marissa Singer, Franklin, KY; brothers, Eddie (Chrissy) Singer, Pontiac, IL and John Singer, WA; sisters Janice (Gary) Eble, Tiskilwa, IL, Kelli Reynolds and Jennifer Wyant, both of Bloomington, IL; 7 grandchildren, Zachary, Austin, Lucas, Caleb, Ava, Behr and Brixley; 1 great-grandchild, Willow.

Lester moved to Nashville in 1976 to join recording artist Mel Street's band, where he played lead guitar and sang background vocals. He then went on to work for Charlie Pride, further gaining recognition in the industry. In 1981, he joined Whispering Bill Anderson's Po' Folks Band, where he would remain lead guitarist and band leader for over 40 years, the longest tenure in the band's history.

Throughout his noteworthy career, Lester enjoyed backing up an array of country music artists, ranging from Brad Paisley to George Jones. His versatility and talent made him a well-respected and well-loved member of the country music community. He was a member of the staff band and appeared

on numerous television shows on The Nashville Network, including "You Can Be A Star." He was later part of the Country's Family Reunion staff band on RFD-TV for the entirety of its television series. Mr. Singer was featured on many of Bill Anderson's recordings and was a fixture at Creative Workshop and Hilltop Studios. His performances at The Grand Ole Opry and The Ryman Auditorium spanned nearly 50 years, making him a significant figure in these iconic venues.

Beyond his profession in music, Lester was a devoted family man. His family was his greatest source of happiness, with his world revolving around his beloved wife and four daughters. He made it a priority to be deeply involved in his daughters' lives, earning a reputation as a wonderful and loving father. Lester was known for his warm personality, wonderful sense of humor and deep friendships. He shared a special bond with Bill Anderson, who affectionately called him "Lester" while he was known as "Bubba." Their camaraderie extended beyond music, often engaging in friendly sports rivalries, with Lester cheering for the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Bears.

Lester's legacy lives on through his music and the countless lives he touched. His compassionate heart, loving spirit and musical talents are being displayed and will live on through his grandchildren. His memory will be cherished by family, friends, and fans alike. His music and spirit will forever resonate in our hearts.

An informal gathering of remembrance will be held Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 2pm in the chapel of Austin & Bell Funeral Home in White House. Interment will follow in White House Memorial Gardens with grandsons and sons-in-law serving as pallbearers. Visitation will be held from 12pm until 2pm at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to MusiCares 1904 Wedgewood Avenue Nashville, TN 37212. ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO AUSTIN & BELL 533 Highway 76 White House, TN 37188 (615)672-5000 www.austinandbell.com

Cemetery Details

White House Memorial Gardens

3629 Hwy 31 W
White House, TN 37188

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 17. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Austin & Bell Funeral Home White House
533 TN-76
White House, TN 37188
(615) 672-5000
<https://austinandbell.com>

Informal Gathering of Remembrance

SEP 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Austin & Bell Funeral Home White House
533 TN-76
White House, TN 37188
(615) 672-5000
<https://austinandbell.com>

Tribute Wall

CJ

“ I ordered every volume of CFR. Les may have only played rhythm guitar,rarely out front, but the CFR band wouldn't have sounded anything like they did without his contribution.
I didn't know how long he had been married or what a huge family he had but I was not surprised. I could tell he was such a kind and caring man. I know he will be missed by so many friends and my heart breaks for his family. Prayers for all of you.
Cheryl Johnson

Cheryl Johnson - October 23, 2024 at 07:36 PM

PG

“ Sincerest condolences to the Singer family in this difficult time of earthly loss. I remember so many performances and conversations with Les and the band as I attended the Ohio and several Nashville shows as the Ohio Rep for Bill's Fan Club back in the day and Les always brought a smile to my face and music to my ears. Heaven gained what we mortals lost - a kind and caring talented soul.
Blessings.

Paula Gayness - October 22, 2024 at 08:52 PM

MH

“ Les was such a king man,he was so very nice to me when i was at the Opry, RIP my friend

Mark Hill - October 19, 2024 at 02:27 AM

BA

“ Bill Anderson purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Lester Earl Singer.



Bill Anderson - September 16, 2024 at 03:21 PM

BA

“ Bill Anderson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lester Earl Singer.

Bill Anderson - September 16, 2024 at 03:21 PM

BB

“ Bill Anderson & The Po' Folks Band purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Lester Earl Singer.



Bill Anderson & The Po' Folks Band - September 16, 2024 at 03:12 PM

PB

“ Les would take Donna Brackman and I back stage at the Grand Ole Opry every time we would go to Nashville. I remember one time he gave us a ride back to our hotel he scared me to death. He laughed said you have to drive crazy like everyone else. I wanted to kiss the ground when we got to the hotel. Of course he thought it was hilarious. He was an awesome person. Rip Lester prayers for his family.

Patty Bunch - September 16, 2024 at 01:44 PM

TF

“ The 17u Blues Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lester Earl Singer.



The 17u Blues Family - September 16, 2024 at 09:55 AM

TF

“ The 17u Blues Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lester Earl Singer.

The 17u Blues Family - September 16, 2024 at 09:55 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Lester Earl Singer.



September 16, 2024 at 09:33 AM

MS

“ I remember in a bar on the west side of Naperville Il Doris and Dwayne’s band was playing and Lester joined them for a set or two , well the crowd wasn’t really paying attention so Les started playing Michael Jackson’s Thriller and when everybody turned with startled looks it was hilarious, then Les said he was just checking to see if they were awake...it was a hoot to see.

You will be missed by many
Mike Shirley

Mike Shirley - September 16, 2024 at 08:28 AM

TS

“ Tricia S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lester Earl Singer.

Tricia S. - September 15, 2024 at 08:43 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Lester Earl Singer.



September 15, 2024 at 07:19 PM

TP

“ The Poyners, planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lester Earl Singer.

The Poyners, - September 15, 2024 at 07:19 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Lester Earl Singer.



September 14, 2024 at 03:06 PM

CS

“ Carol S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lester Earl Singer.

Carol S. - September 14, 2024 at 03:06 PM

KC

“ My buddy, Lester Earl,
My heart is broken. Your friendship
Meant the word to me!!!!



You and I instantly bonded on my first
experience on the road. I was only 19 years
old. , myfirst time on an airplane, first time out of the country. I
followed you around like a lost puppy!!! We bonded over guitars and
music. You introduced me to the playing of James Burton among
others. You taught me a lot about guitar tone and pitch, and how to
“chickin pick’.
My last few months of working the Opry, as soon as the the curtain
started to drop, we would salute each other, meaning, “ until next
week”

Many nights on the bus or hotel rooms
Laughing and cutting up!! You will always be with me and I love you
man!!! You are the man with the “GOLDEN GUITAR”

TCB

Keithie

Keith Curley - September 14, 2024 at 12:43 PM

FW

“ Lizzie, I just don’t know what to say. Jane and I want to offer our
deepest condolences. Les was a great friend and it was a joy just to
know him. He shared so many great things with me. He will be
greatly missed by everyone who knew him. Now that he will be with
his wonderful mom and dad, there will be some terrific Country
music in heaven. Love, Frank and Jane

Frank and Jane Wilcoxson - September 13, 2024 at 08:55 PM

GR

so sorry for your loss. i know it will be hard on you. He was so fond of his girls. I can remember him bragging on you and his little song bird hope you are all comforted by knowing he is done with illness and whole again.

Ginger Rudisill - September 13, 2024 at 10:13 PM

LW

“ *Thanks Les for being a loving husband for my niece Lizzy. Thanks also for the back room passes for the opra. Your great talent will be missed. Rest in piece Les for I know you are with your loving parents. God bless. Uncle Linn.*

Linn West - September 13, 2024 at 04:39 PM

AF

“ *Thoughts and prayers for the family. ❤️❤️
You will be missed greatly. Lester was a very talented. I enjoyed him so very much each time we would come to visit ❤️❤️ Les thank you for all the times you took us to the Opry. Fly high. ❤️❤️❤️ Love you and will miss you greatly. ❤️❤️ RIP*



Aunt Faye - September 13, 2024 at 11:15 AM

KN

“ Dear Lizzie, Family and friends of Les,

Our deepest heartfelt condolences at this most difficult time.

We got introduced to Les when he performed on my wife, Darlene's recording at Hilltop studios back in the early 1990's. I often told Les in conversation, that I finer guitar picker could not have chosen for our project. A year or so later we joined up with he and Lizzie for a Grand Ole Opry cruise. Beautiful, lifetime memories for us!

I will always cherish the time that Les called me and we visited for nearly two hours until 2AM! He shared when he came to Nashville to first work with the late Mel Street and then over forty years with Grand Ole Opry star, "Whisperin'" Bill Anderson, in whom he spoke so highly of. It was an absolute fascinating visit.

I thank God for sharing Les and his beautiful musicianship with us all.

May God comfort all who are mourning.

In Jesus' Name,

*Kenny & Darlene Nelson
Cottage Grove, Minnesota*



Kenny & Darlene Nelson - September 12, 2024 at 09:13 PM

RV

“ Love and Prayers for the family at this time of loss. Lester was a customer at bank when I worked in White House. He was always so pleasant and would keep us posted as to who he was playing for at that time.

Rebecca Vanderpool - September 12, 2024 at 08:49 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lester Earl Singer.



September 12, 2024 at 05:23 PM

IN

“ INSBANK planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lester Earl Singer.

INSBANK - September 12, 2024 at 05:23 PM