Music database Musician Johnny Cash

Johnny Cash

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John H. Cash (born J. R. Cash; February 26, 1932 – September 12, 2003) was an American singer-songwriter, guitarist, actor, and author. He is widely considered one of the most influential popular musicians of the 20th century and is one of the best-selling music artists of all time, having sold more than 90 million records worldwide. Although primarily remembered as a country music icon, his genre-spanning songs and sound embraced rock and roll, rockabilly, blues, folk, and gospel. This crossover appeal won Cash the rare honor of multiple inductions in the Country Music, Rock and Roll, and Gospel Music Halls of Fame.

Cash was known for his deep, calm bass-baritone voice, the distinctive sound of his Tennessee Three backing band, which is characterized by train-sound guitar rhythms; a rebelliousness coupled with an increasingly somber and humble demeanor, free prison concerts and a trademark, all-black stage wardrobe, which earned him the nickname "The Man in Black." He traditionally began his concerts by simply introducing himself, "Hello, I'm Johnny Cash," followed by his signature song "Folsom Prison Blues".

Much of Cash's music contained themes of sorrow, moral tribulation, and redemption, especially in the later stages of his career. His signature songs include "I Walk the Line", "Folsom Prison Blues", "Ring of Fire", "Get Rhythm", and "Man in Black". He also recorded humorous numbers like "One Piece at a Time" and "A Boy Named Sue"; a duet with his future wife, June Carter, called "Jackson" (followed by many further duets after their marriage); and railroad songs including "Hey Porter", "Orange Blossom Special" and "Rock Island Line". During the last stage of his career, Cash covered songs by several late 20th-century rock artists, notably "Hurt" by Nine Inch Nails and "Personal Jesus" by Depeche Mode.

Early life

J. R. Cash was born on February 26, 1932 in Kingsland, Arkansas, United States. He was the fourth of seven children, who were in birth order: Roy, Margaret Louise, Jack, J. R., Reba, Joanne, and Tommy (who also became a successful country artist). He was primarily of English and Scottish descent. As an adult he traced his surname to 11th-century Fife, after meeting with the then-laird of Falkland, Major Michael Crichton-Stuart.

Cash Loch and other locations in Fife bear the name of his family.

At birth, Cash was named J. R. Cash. When Cash enlisted in the United States Air Force, he was not permitted to use initials as a first name, so he changed his name to John H. Cash. In 1955, when signing with Sun Records, he took Johnny Cash as his stage name.

In March 1935, when Cash was three years old, the family settled in Dyess, Arkansas, a New Deal colony established to give poor families a chance to work land that they had a chance to own as a result. J.R. started working in cotton fields at the age of five, singing along with his family while working. The family farm was flooded on at least two occasions, which led him later to write the song "Five Feet High and Rising".

His family's economic and personal struggles during the Great Depression inspired many of his songs, especially those about other people facing similar difficulties. He had sympathy for the poor and working class. Cash was very close to his older brother, Jack. In May 1944, Jack was pulled into a whirling head saw in the mill where he worked and was almost cut in two. He suffered for more than a week before dying on May 20, 1944, at the age of 15. Cash often spoke of the horrible guilt he felt over this incident. According to Cash: "I was 15, my brother was 19, we were raised in the same environment, and he was my hero. He was my model in many ways."

In high school, he sang on a local radio station. Decades later he released an album of traditional gospel songs, called Mother's Hymn Book. He also significantly influenced traditional Irish music, which he heard performed weekly by Dennis Day on the Jack Benny radio program.

Military service

Cash enlisted in the United States Air Force on July 7, 1950 following basic training at Lackland Air Force Base and technical training at Brooks Air Force Base, both in San Antonio, Texas. Cash was assigned to the 12th Radio Squadron Mobile of the U.S. Air Force Security Service at Landsberg, Germany as a Morse Code operator intercepting Soviet Army transmissions.

Cash's early memories were dominated by gospel music and radio. Taught guitar by his mother and a childhood friend, Cash began playing and writing songs at the age of 12. When young, Cash had a high tenor voice, before becoming a bass-baritone after his voice changed. In high school, he sang on a local radio station. Decades later he released an album of traditional gospel songs, called Mother's Hymn Book. He was also significantly influenced by traditional Irish music, which he heard performed weekly by Dennis Day on the Jack Benny radio program.

Marriages and families

On July 18, 1951, while in Air Force training, Cash met 17-year-old Vivian Liberto at a roller skating rink in her native San Antonio, Texas. They dated for three weeks until Cash was deployed to Germany for a three-year tour. During that time, the couple exchanged hundreds of pages of love letters.

On August 7, 1954, one month after his discharge, they were married at St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church in San Antonio. The ceremony was performed by her uncle, Father Vincent Liberto. They had four daughters: Rosanne, Kathy, Cindy, and Tara. Liberto later said that she had filed for divorce in 1966 because of Cash's severe drug and alcohol abuse, as well as constant touring, affairs with other women, and his close relationship with June Carter.

Cash met singer June Carter, of the famed Carter Family while on tour, and the two became infatuated with each other. In 1968, 13 years after they first met backstage at the Grand Ole Opry, Cash proposed to June, during a live performance in London, Ontario. They married on March 1, 1968, in Franklin, Kentucky. They had one child, together John Carter Cash, born March 3, 1970.

Cash and Carter continued to work, raise their children, create music, and tour together for 35 years until June's death in May 2003. Throughout their marriage, June attempted to keep Cash off of amphetamines, often taking his drugs and flushing them down the toilet. June remained with him even throughout his multiple admissions for rehab treatment and years of drug abuse. After June's passing, Cash believed that his only reason for living was his music. He died four months after her death.

Career

In 1978, Cash began organizing concerts for Easter Sunday prison inmates. He was known for his deep, calm bass-baritone voice, the distinctive sound of his Tennessee Three backing band, which is characterized by train-sound guitar rhythms; a rebelliousness coupled with an increasingly somber and humble demeanor, free prison concerts and a trademark, all-black stage wardrobe, which earned him the nickname "The Man in Black." He traditionally began his concerts by simply introducing himself, "Hello, I'm Johnny Cash," followed by his signature song "Folsom Prison Blues".

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During his military service, he acquired a distinctive scar on the right side of his jaw as a result of surgery to remove a cyst.

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The album featured stories of a multitude of native peoples, mostly of their violent oppression by white settlers: The Pima ("The Ballad of Ira Hayes"), Navajo ("Navajo"), Apache ("Apache Tears"), Lakota ("Big Foot")

But Cash left behind a substantial collection of recordings with Sun that Phillips eventually released as Experimental Double Record, mixing authentic frontier songs with Cash's spoken narration. The album was lost until the early 21st century. In 2011

Cash eventually won over the producer with new songs delivered in his early rockabilly style. In 1955, Cash made his first recordings at Sun, "Hey Porter" and "Cry! Cry! Cry!", which were released in late

Cash did not completely stop using amphetamines in 1968. It was not until 1970 that Cash ended all drug use, maintaining that for a period of seven years. Grant

Cash was last arrested in 1957 in Walkertown, Georgia, after police found him carrying a bag of prescription pills and was in a car accident. Cash attempted to bribe a local deputy, who turned the money down. The singer was jailed for the night in LaFayette, Georgia. Sheriff Ralph Jones released him after giving him a long talk, warning him about the danger of his behavior and wasted potential. Cash credited that experience with helping him turn around and save his life. He later returned to LaFayette to play a benefit concert; it attracted 12,000 people (the city population was less than 9,000 at the time) and raised $75,000 for the high school.[57] Reflecting on his past in a 1997 interview, Cash noted: "I was taking the pills for awhile, and then the pills started taking me.[58]

Cash's childhood had included rediscovery of his Christian faith. He took an "altar call" in Evangel Temple, a small church in the Nashville area, pastored by Reverend Jimmie Rodgers Snow, son of country music legend Hank Snow. But according to longtime friend Marshall Grant, Cash did not completely stop using amphetamines until 1968. It was not until 1970 that Cash ended all drug use, maintaining that for a period of seven years. Grant claims that the birth of Cash's son, John Carter Cash, inspired Cash to end his dependence.

Cash began using amphetamines again in 1977. By 1983, he was deeply addicted again and entered the Betty Ford Clinic in Rancho Mirage, California for treatment. He stayed off drugs for several years, but relapsed again. By 1989, he was dependent and entered Nashville's Cumberland Heights Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center. In 1992, he entered the Loma Linda Behavioral Medicine Center in Loma Linda, California, for his final rehabilitation treatment. Several months later, his son followed him into this facility for treatment.

The label for which Cash was recording was, opposed to putting the song on his next album, considering it "too radical for the public". Cash singing songs of Indian tragedy and settler violence went radically against the mainstream of country music in the 1950s, which was dominated by the image of the righteous cowboy who simply makes the native's soil his own.[51]

In 1964, coming off the chart success that his previous album "I Walk The Line" had been, he recorded the aforementioned album Bitter Tears: Ballads of the American Indian

The album featured stories of a multitude of native peoples, mostly of their violent oppression by white settlers: The Pima ("The Ballad of Ira Hayes"), Navajo ("Navajo"), Apache ("Apache Tears"), Lakota ("Big Foot"), Seneca ("As Long as the Grass Shall Grow"), and Cherokee ("Taking Leaves"). Cash wrote three of the songs himself and one with the help of Johnny Horton, but the majority of the protest songs were written by folk artist Peter La Farge,[40] son of activist and Pulitzer prize-winner Oliver La Farge, whom Cash met in New York in the 1960s and whom he admired for his activism.[41]

"Jackson," won a Grammy Award.

In 1958 Cash left Phillips to sign a lucrative offer with Columbia Records. His single "Don't Take Your Guns to Town" became one of his biggest hits, and he recorded a collection of gospel songs for his second album for Columbia. But Cash left behind a substantial collection of recordings with Sun that Phillips eventually released as Experimental Double Record, mixing authentic frontier songs with Cash's spoken narration.

The federal government sued him and was awarded $125,172. Cash eventually settled the case and paid $82,001.[50] He said he was the only person ever sued by the government for starting a forest fire.

In the early 1960s, Cash toured with the Carter Family, which by this time regularly included Mother Maybelle's daughters Anita, June, and Helen. June later recalled admiring him from afar during these tours. In the 1960s, he appeared on Pete Seeger's short-lived television series Rainbow Quest.[49] He also acted in and wrote and sang the opening theme for a 1961 film entitled Five Minutes to Live later re-released as Door-to-Door Maniac.

Cash's career was handled by Saul Holiff, a London, Ontario, promoter. Their relationship was the subject of Saul's son's biopic Johnny Cash at San Quentin

In June 1965, Cash's camper was shot during a fishing trip with his nephew Damon Fielder in Los Padres National Forest in California, triggering a forest fire that burned several hundred acres and nearly caused his death.[46] Cash claimed that the fire was caused by sparks from a defective exhaust system on his camper, but Fielder thinks that Cash started a fire to stay warm and in his drugged condition failed to notice the fire getting out of control.[47] When the judge askedCash why he did this, Cash said, "I didn't do it, my truck did, and it's dead, so you can't question me.[48]

The fire destroyed 508 acres (206 ha), burning the foliage off three mountains and driving off forty-nine of the refuge's 53 endangered condors.[57] Cash was unrepentant and claimed, "I don't care about your damn yellow buzzards." The federal government sued him and was awarded $125,172. Cash eventually settled the case and paid $82,001.[50] He said he was the only person ever sued by the government for starting a forest fire.

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Both live albums reached number 1 on Billboard country album music and the latter crossed over to reach the top of the Billboard pop album chart. In 1969 Cash became an international hit when he eclipsed even the Beatles by selling 6.5 million albums.

Cash began performing concerts at prisons starting in the late 1950s. He played his first famous prison concert on January 1, 1958, at San Quentin State Prison. The live album Outlaws was recorded during one of his further prison concert, this time at Tennessee Prison, was videotaped for TV broadcast and received a belated CD release after Cash's death as Live at Madison Square Garden. The live album Live at Madison Square Garden was recorded during one of his further prison concert.
In 1966, in reaction to his activism, the singer was adopted by the Seneca Nation's Turtle Clan. He performed benefits in 1968 at the Rosebud Reservation, close to the historical landmark of the massacre at Wounded Knee, to raise money to help build a school. He also played at the D-Q University in 1980.[40]

In 1970, Cash recorded a reading of John G. Burnett's 1890 80th birthday essay[49] on Cherokee for the Historical Landmarks Association (Nashville).[71]

The Johnny Cash Show 1969–1976

From 1969 to 1971, Cash starred in his own television show, The Johnny Cash Show; on the ABC network. The show was performed at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville. The Statler Brothers opened up for him in every episode; the Carter Family and rockabilly legend Carl Perkins were also part of the regular show entourage. Cash also enjoyed booking mainstream performers as guests; including Neil Young, Louis Armstrong, Neil Diamond, Kenny Rogers and The First Edition who appeared four times. James Taylor, Ray Charles, Roger Miller, Roy Orbison, Derek and the Dominos, and Bob Dylan. During the same period, he contributed the title song and other songs to the film Little Fauss and Big Halsy, which starred Robert Redford, Michael J. Pollard, and Lauren Hutton. The title song, "The Ballad of Little Fauss and Big Halexy," written by Carl Perkins, was nominated for a Golden Globe award.[71]

Cash had met with Dylan in the mid-1960s and became closer friends when they were neighbors in the late 1960s in Woodstock, New York. Cash was enthusiastic about reintroducing the reclusive Dylan to his audience. Cash sang a duet with Dylan on Dylan's country album Nashville Skyline and also wrote the album's Grammy-winning liner notes.

Another artist who received a major career boost from The Johnny Cash Show was Kris Kristofferson, who was beginning to make a name for himself as a singer-songwriter. During a live performance of Kristofferson's "Sunday Mornin' Comin' Down," Cash refused to change the lyrics to suit network executives, singing the song with its references to marijuana intact:

We're doing mighty fine I do suppose
In our streak of lightning cars and fancy clothes
But just so we're reminded of the ones who are held back
Up front there ought to be a man in black.

He wrote 'black' on behalf of the poor and hungry, on behalf of "the prisoner who has long paid for his crime," and on behalf of those who have been betrayed by age or drug.[81] Cash added, "with the Vietnam War as painful in my mind as it was in most other Americans, I wrote 'Man in Black' for the lives that could have been ... Apart from the Vietnam War being over, I don't see much reason to change my position ... The old are still neglected, the poor are still poor, the young are still dying before their time, and we're not making many moves to make things right. There's still plenty of darkness to carry off."[74]

He and his band had initially worn black shirts because that was the only matching color they had among their various outfits. He wore other colors on stage early in his career, but he claimed to like wearing black both on and off stage. He stated that political reasons aside, he simply liked black as his on-stage color.[84] The outdated US Navy's winter blue uniform used to be referred to by sailors as "Johnny Cashes," as the uniform's shirt, tie, and trousers are solid black.[75]

In the mid-1970s, Cash's popularity and number of hit songs began to decline. He made commercials for Amoco and STP, an unpopular enterprise at the time of the 1970s energy crisis. In 1976 he made commercials for Lionel Trains, for which he also wrote the music.[92] However, his first autobiography, Man in Black, was published in 1975 and sold 1.3 million copies. A second, Cash: The Autobiography, appeared in 1997.

His friendship with Billy Graham[77] led to Cash's production of a film about the life of Jesus, The Gospel Road, which Cash co-wrote and narrated. It was released in 1973. Cash viewed the film as a statement of his personal faith rather than a means of proselytizing.[77]

Cash and June Carter Cash appeared several times on the Billy Graham Crusade TV specials, and Cash continued to include gospel and religious songs on many of his albums, though Columbia declined to release Believe Singer Sings the Truth, a gospel double-LP Cash recorded in 1979 and which ended up being released on an independent label even with Cash still under contract to Columbia. On November 22, 1974, CBS ran his one-hour TV special entitled Riding The Rails, a musical history of trains. He continued to appear on television, hosting Christmas specials on CBS in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Later television appearances included a starring role in an episode of Columbo, entitled "Swan Song." He and June appeared in an episode of Little House on the Prairie, entitled "The Collection." He gave a performance as John Brown in the 1985 American Civil War television mini-series North and South. Johnny and June also appeared in Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman in recurring roles.[71]

He was friendly with every US President starting with Richard Nixon. He was closest to Jimmy Carter, with whom he became close friends and who was a distant cousin of his wife, June Carter Cash.

In 1970, Cash recording a reading of John G. Burnett's 1890 80th birthday essay[49] on Cherokee for the Historical Landmarks Association (Nashville).[71]

The closing program of the Johnny Cash show was a gospel music special. Guests included the Blackwood Brothers, Mahalia Jackson, Stuart Hambleton and Billy Graham.[73]

"The Man in Black"

By the early 1970s, he had crystallized his public image as "The Man in Black." He regularly performed dressed in all black, wearing a long black knee-length coat. This outfit stood in contrast to the costumes worn by most of the major country acts in his day: rhinestone suits and cowboy boots. In 1971, Cash wrote the song "Man in Black," to help explain his dress code:

Up front there ought to be a man in black.
But just so we're reminded of the ones who are held back
In our streak of lightning cars and fancy clothes
We're doing mighty fine I do suppose
In our streak of lightning cars and fancy clothes
But just so we're reminded of the ones who are held back
Up front there ought to be a man in black.

Highwaymen and departure from Columbia Records

In 1980, Cash became the Country Music Hall of Fame's youngest living inductee at age 48. But during the 1980s, his records failed to make a major impact on the country charts, although he continued to tour extensively. In the mid-1980s, he recorded and toured with Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson, and Kris Kristofferson as The Highwaymen, making three hit albums which were released beginning with the originally titled Highwaymen in 1985, followed by Highwaymen II in 1990 and continuing with Highwaymen – The Road Goes on Forever in 1995. During that period, Cash appeared in a number of television films. In 1981, he starred in The Pride of Jesse Hall, winning fine reviews for a film that called attention to adult illiteracy. In the same year, Cash appeared as "a very special guest star" in an episode of the Muppet Show. In 1983, he appeared as a heroic sheriff in Murder in Coweta County, based on a real-life Georgia murder case, which co-starred Andy Griffith as his nemesis and featured June Carter in a small but important role. Cash had tried for years to make the film, for which he won acclaim.[71]

Cash relapsed into addiction after being administered painkillers for a serious abdominal injury in 1983 caused by an accidental incident in which he was kicked and wounded by an ostrich he kept on his farm.[82]

At a hospital visit in 1988, this time to watch over Waylon Jennings (who was recovering from a heart attack), Jennings suggested that Cash has himself checked into the hospital for his own heart condition. Doctors recommended preventive heart surgery, and Cash underwent double bypass surgery in the same hospital. Both recovered, although Cash refused to use any prescription painkillers, fearing a relapse into dependency. Cash later claimed that during his operation, he had what is called a "near death experience".

Cash's recording career and his general relationship with the Nashville establishment were at an all-time low in the 1980s. He realized that his record label of nearly 30 years, Columbia, was growing indifferent to him and neglected by non-political radio at the time, and the record label denied it any promotion due to its provocative protesting and thus "unappealing" nature.[84] Cash faced resistance and was even urged by an editor of a country music magazine to leave the Country Music Association: "You and your crowd are just too intelligent to associate with plain country folks, country artists, and country D.J.s."[85]

In reaction, on August 22, 1964, the singer posted a letter as an advertisement in Billboard Magazine, calling the record industry cowardly. "D.J.s – station managers – owners ... where are your guts?" he demands. "I had to fight back when I realized that so many are afraid of Iowa. Just one question: WHY???" He concludes the letter, "Ira Hayes is strong medicine ... So is Rochester, Harlem, Birmingham and Vietnam."[86] Cash kept promoting the song himself and used his influence on radio disc jockeys he knew eventually to make the song climb to number three on the country charts, while the album rose to number two on the charts.[87] Later, on The Johnny Cash Show, he continued telling stories of Native-American plight, both in song and through short films, such as the history of the Trail of Tears.[87]

In 1966, in reaction to his activism, the singer was adopted by the Seneca Nation's Turtle Clan. He performed benefits in 1968 at the Rosebud Reservation, close to the historical landmark of the massacre at Wounded Knee, to raise money to help build a school. He also played at the D-Q University in 1980.[40]

In 1970, Cash recorded a reading of John G. Burnett's 1890 80th birthday essay[49] on Cherokee for the Historical Landmarks Association (Nashville).[71]
The Johnny Cash Museum, located in one of Cash's properties in Hendersonville until 2006, dubbed the main street in Hendersonville, Tennessee, Highway 31E, is known as "Johnny Cash Parkway."


American Recordings

After Columbia Records dropped his contract from his record, he had a short and unsuccessful stint with Mercury Records from 1987 to 1991. During this time, he recorded an album of new versions of some of his best-known Sun and Columbia hits, as well as Water from the Wells of Home, a duets album that paired him with, among others, his children Rosanne Cash and John Carter Cash, as well as Paul McCartney. A one-off Christmas album recorded for Delta Records followed his Mercury contract.

His career was rejuvenated in the 1990s, leading to popularity with an audience which was not traditionally considered interested in country music. In 1991, he sang a version of "Man in Black" for the Christian punk band and released a spoken word recording of the entire New King James Version of the New Testament. He was then signed to Rick Rubin's American Recordings label, which had recently been rebranded from Def American, under which name it was better known for rap and hard rock. Under Rubin's supervision, he recorded American III: Solitary Man (1994) in his living room, accompanied only by his Martin Dreadnought guitar – one of many Cash played throughout his career. The album featured covers of contemporary artists selected by Rubin including "Down There by the Train" by Tom Waits. The album had a great deal of critical and commercial success, winning a Grammy for Best Contemporary Folk Album. Following the 1994 Glastonbury Festival, it was one of the highlights of his career. This was the beginning of a decade of music industry accolades and commercial success. He teamed up with Brooks & Dunn to contribute "Folsom Prison Blues" to the AIDS benefit album Red Hot + Country produced by the Red Hot Organization. On the same album, he performed the Bob Dylan favorite, "The cautious". Cash and his wife appeared on a number of episodes of the television series "Quinn, Medicine Woman. He also lent his voice for a cameo role in The Simpsons episode "El Viaje Misterioso de Nuestro Jomer (The Mysterious Voyage of Homer)". As the "Space Coyote" that guides Homer Simpson on a spiritual quest.

In 1996, Cash enlisted the accompaniment of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and released Unchained (also known as American Recordings II), which won the Best Country Album Grammy in 1998. The album was produced by Rick Rubin with Sylvia Massy engineering and mixing. A majority of "Unchained" was recorded at Sound City Studios and featured guest appearances by Lindsey Buckingham Rick Flewood. And Marty Steling. He didn't explain enough of himself in his 1975 autobiography Man in Black. He wrote Cash: The Autobiography in 1997.

Last years

In 1997, Cash was diagnosed with the degenerative disease Shy–Drager syndrome, a form of multiple system atrophy; according to biographer Robert Hilburn, the disease was originally misdiagnosed as Parkinson's disease, and Cash even announced to a concert audience that he had Parkinson's during a show in Flint, Michigan, on October 25, 1997. After he nearly collapsed on stage, after his diagnosis was changed to Shy–Drager and Cash was told he had approximately 18 months to live. The diagnosis was later altered to autonomic neuropathy associated with diabetes. The illness forced Cash to curtail his touring. He was hospitalized in 1998 with severe pneumonia, which damaged his lungs. During the last stage of his career, Cash released the albums American III: Solitary Man (2000) and American IV: The Man Comes Around (2002). American IV included cover songs by several late-20th-century rock artists, notably "Hurt" by Nine Inch Nails and "Personal Jesus" by Depeche Mode. Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails commented that it was initially skeptical about the plan to cover "Hurt", but was later impressed and moved by the rendition. The video for "Hurt" received critical and popular acclaim.

June Carter Cash died on May 15, 2003, at the age of 73. June had told Cash to keep working, so he continued to record, completing 60 more songs in the last four months of his life, and even performed a couple of surprise shows at the Carter Family Field outside Bristol, Virginia. At the July 5, 2003 concert (this last public performance), before singing "Ring of Fire", Cash read a statement about his wife that he had written shortly before taking the stage:

The spirit of June Carter overshadows me tonight with the love she had for me and the love I have for her. We connect somewhere between here and Heaven. She came down for a short visit, I guess, from Heaven to visit with me tonight to give me courage and inspiration like she always has.

Cash continued to record until shortly before his death. His final recordings were made on August 21, 2003, and consisted of "Like the 309", which appeared on American V: A Hundred Highways in 2006, and the final song he completed, "Engine 143", which was recorded for his son John Carter Cash for a planned Carter Family tribute album.

Death

While hospitalized at Baptist Hospital in Nashville, Cash died of complications from diabetes at approximately 2:00 a.m. CT on September 12, 2003, aged 71—less than four months after his wife. It was suggested that Cash was hospitalized in 1998 with severe pneumonia, which damaged his lungs.

His career was rejuvenated in the 1990s, leading to popularity with an audience which was not traditionally considered interested in country music. In 1991, he sang a version of "Man in Black" for the Christian punk band American V: A Hundred Highways was released posthumously on July 4, 2006. The album debuted in the No. 1 position on the Billboard Top 200 chart for the week ending July 22, 2006. On February 23, 2010, three days before what would have been Cash's 78th birthday, the Cash Family, Rick Rubin, and Lost Highway Records released his second posthumous record, titled American VII: Ain't No Grave.

Religious beliefs

Cash was raised by his parents in the Southern Baptist denomination of Christianity. He was baptized in 1944 in the Tyronza River as a member of the Central Baptist Church of Dyess, Arkansas.

After more unsuccessful recordings were released in 1984–85, Cash left Columbia (At least as a solo artist; he continued to record for Columbia on non-solo projects until as late as 1990, recording a duets album with Waylon Jennings and two albums as a member of The Highwaymen.) In 1986, Cash returned to Sun Studios in Memphis to team up with Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins to create the album Class of '55 according to Hilburn, Columbia still had Cash under contract at the time, so special arrangements had to be made to allow him to participate. Also in 1986, Cash published his only novel, which was well received by friends and family, to his fans and industry colleagues.

Johnny Cash is said to have "contained multitudes," and has been deemed "the philosopher-prince of American country music."

Legacy

Cash's daughter Rosanne (by first wife Vivian Liberto) and his son John Carter Cash (by June Carter Cash) are notable musicians in their own right. Cash nurtured and defended artists such as Bob Dylan (who once referred to Cash's influence on his own work) and was a strong advocate for the rights of musicians and other artists. He was a prolific songwriter and recorded hundreds of albums during his career, including collaborations with many of the most famous musicians of his time.

Cash's music has been featured in films such as The Shawshank Redemption and Guarding the Garden, where he sings "I Still Miss Someone." His music has also been used in commercials for various products and has been covered by many other artists. Cash was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000 and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2001. He was also awarded a posthumous Grammy Award for Best Historical Recording in 2004.

The Johnny Cash Museum, located in one of Cash's properties in Hendersonville until 2006, dubbed the "House of Cash," was sold based on Cash's will. Prior to this, having been closed for a number of years, the museum was featured in Cash's music video for "Hurt." The house subsequently burned down during the renovation by the new owner. A new museum, founded by Shannon and Bill Miller, opened April 15, 2019, in downtown Nashville.
November 2–4, 2007, the Johnny Cash Flower Pickin’ Festival was held in Starkville, Mississippi, where Cash had been arrested more than 40 years earlier and held overnight at the city jail on May 11, 1965. The incident inspired Cash to write the song “Starkville City Jail.” The festival, where he was offered a symbolic posthumous pardon, honored Cash’s life and music and was expected to become an annual event.\[122\]

A limited-edition Forever stamp honoring Cash went on sale June 5, 2013. The stamp features a promotional picture of Cash taken around the 1963 release of “Ring of Fire: The Best of Johnny Cash. The Undertaker used Cash’s version of “Ain’t No Grave” at WrestleMania XXVII as his entrance theme.\[132\]

On October 14, 2014, the City of Folsom unveiled Phase 1 of the Johnny Cash Trail to the public with a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by Rosanne Cash. Along the trail, eight larger-than-life public art pieces will tell the story of Johnny Cash, his connection to Folsom Prison, and his epic musical career. The Johnny Cash Trail features art selected by a committee that included Cindy Cash, a 2-acre 0.81 ha Legacy Park, and over 3 miles (4.8 km) of multi-use Class-I bike trail. The artists responsible for the sculptures are Sacramento-based Romo Studios, LLC and the Fine Art Studio of Rotblatt Amrany, from Illinois.\[126\]

In 2015, a new species of black tarantula was identified near Folsom Prison and named *Theraphosa johnnycashi* in his honor.\[126\]

In 2016, the Nashville Sounds minor league baseball team added the “Country Legends Race” to its between-innings entertainment. At the middle of the fifth inning, people in oversized foam caricature costumes depicting Cash, as well as George Jones and Reba McEntire, race around the warning track at First Tennessee Park from center field to the home plate side of the first base dugout.\[167\]

The Johnny Cash Heritage Festival will be held in Dyess, Arkansas on October 19–21, 2017.\[176\] It will build on the music festival held for nearly four years on the Arkansas State University campus in Jonesboro. The festival honors Johnny Cash and explores the New Deal programs that shaped his childhood in Dyess, Arkansas. The Festival includes a concert in the field adjacent to the Cash Home and Arkansas roots music in the Colony Circle.

### Portrayals

Country singer Mark Collie portrayed Cash in John Lloyd Miller’s award-winning 1999 short film *Still Miss Someone*.\[171\]

In November 2005, *Walk the Line*, a biographical film about Cash’s life, was released in the United States to considerable commercial success and critical acclaim. The film featured Joaquin Phoenix as Johnny (for which he was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actor) and Reese Witherspoon as June (for which she won the Academy Award for Best Actress). Phoenix and Witherspoon also won the Golden Globe for Best Actor in a Musical or Comedy and Best Actress in a Musical or Comedy, respectively. They both performed their own vocals in the film (with their version of “Jackson” being released as a single), and Phoenix learned to play guitar for the role. Phoenix received a Grammy Award for his contributions to the soundtrack. John Carter Cash, the son of Johnny and June, served as an executive producer.\[171\]

On March 12, 2006, *Ring of Fire*, a jukinetic musical about the Cash oeuvre, debuted on Broadway at the Ethel Barrymore Theater but closed due to harsh reviews and disappointing sales on April 30.\[187\]

Richard Linklater’s award-winning 1993 documentary *The Last Days of Frank and Jesse James* included Cash’s version of “Ain’t No Grave” at WrestleMania XXVII as his entrance theme.\[135\]

### Discography

#### Filmmography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Title</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961 Five Minutes to Live</td>
<td>Johnny Cabot</td>
<td>Also titled <em>Door To Door Maniac</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967 The Road to Nashville</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971 A Gunfight</td>
<td>Abe Cross</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974 The Gospel Road</td>
<td>自己</td>
<td>Documentary film; voice acting role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994 Gone Autry, Melody of the West</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 The Hunter</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
<td>Interview subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 The Winding Stream</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
<td>Documentary film; archive footage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Television

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Shotgun Slade</td>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td>Episode: “The Stalkers”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Wagon Train</td>
<td>Frank Hoag</td>
<td>Episode: “The C.L. Harding Story”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>The Rebel</td>
<td>Pratt</td>
<td>Episode: “The Death of Gray”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>The Deputy</td>
<td>Bo Bradock</td>
<td>Episode: “The Deathly Quiet”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969–1971 The Johnny Cash Show</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>Host and performer 58 episodes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973–1972 Sesame Street</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>4 episodes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974–1988 Home Improvement</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>4 episodes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Columbo</td>
<td>Tommy Brown</td>
<td>Episode: “Swan Song”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Johnny Cash and Friends</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>4 episodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976–1985 Johnny Cash specials (various titles)</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>15 specials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Thaddeus Rose and Eddie</td>
<td>Thaddeus Rose</td>
<td>Television film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>The Muppet Show</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>Episode: “#5.21”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>The Pride of Jesse Hallam</td>
<td>Jesse Hallam</td>
<td>Television film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Saturday Night Live</td>
<td>Lamarr Potts</td>
<td>Episode: “Johnny Cash/Elvis John”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Murder in Coweta County</td>
<td>The Baron</td>
<td>Television film; also producer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>The Baron and the Kid</td>
<td>Will</td>
<td>Television film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>North and South</td>
<td>John Brown</td>
<td>6 episodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>The Last Days of Frank and Jesse James</td>
<td>Stagecoach</td>
<td>Television film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Curly Wilcox</td>
<td>Television film</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Eagle Davy Crockett</td>
<td>Elder Davy Crockett</td>
<td>Episode: “Rainbow in the Thunder”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman</td>
<td>Kid Cole</td>
<td>4 episodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Renegade</td>
<td>Henry Travis</td>
<td>Episode: “The Road Not Taken”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>The Simpsons</td>
<td>Space Coyote</td>
<td>Episode: “The Mysterious Voyage of Homer”; voice acting role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>All My Friends Are Cowboys</td>
<td>Himself</td>
<td>Television special</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Awards and Honors

Cash received multiple Country Music Association Awards, Grammys, and other awards, in categories ranging from vocal and spoken performances to album notes and videos. In a career that spanned almost five decades, during which he rose to recording industry icon status, Cash was the personification of country music to many people around the world. Cash was a musician who was not defined by a single genre. He recorded songs that could be considered rock and roll, blues, rockabilly, folk, and gospel, and exerted an influence on each of those genres.

His diversity was evidenced by his presence in five major music halls of fame: the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame (1977), the Country Music Hall of Fame (1980), the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame (1992), GMA’s Gospel Music Hall of Fame (2010), and the Memphis Music Hall of Fame (2013); Cash was the only country music artist inductured to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a “performer”, unlike the other country members, who were inducted as “early influences”.

His contributions to the genre have been recognized by the Rockabilly Hall of Fame.\[136\] Cash received the Kennedy Center Honors in 1996 and stated that his induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1980 was his greatest professional achievement. In 2001, he was awarded the National Medal of Arts.\[138\] The meticulously reported biography is said to have filled in the 80 percent of Cash’s life that was unknown, including details about Cash’s battles with addiction and infidelity.\[140\] The book reportedly does not hold back any details about the darker side of Johnny Cash and includes details about his affair with his pregnant wife June Carter’s sister.\[243\]

### Published works

Johnny Cash: *The Man, His World, His Music* (1969). This biography is considered definitive.\[147\] The meticulously reported biography is said to have filled in the 80 percent of Cash’s life that was unknown, including details about Cash’s battles with addiction and infidelity.\[140\] The book reportedly does not hold back any details about the darker side of Johnny Cash and includes details about his affair with his pregnant wife June Carter’s sister.\[243\]
Listen to music from Johnny Cash like Hurt, Ring of Fire & more. Find the latest tracks, albums, and images from Johnny Cash. Cash is widely considered to be one of the most influential American musicians of the 20th century. Although primarily remembered as a country music icon, his genre-spanning songs and sound embraced rock and roll, rockabilly, blues, folk, and gospel. This crossover appeal won Cash the rare honor of multiple induction in the Country Music, Rock and Roll, and Gospel... read more.

Last Tracks. Last 7 days. johnny cash music musicians HD Wallpaper posted in People Wallpapers category and wallpaper original resolution is 1280x1024 px. johnny cash music musicians HD Desktop Background was Posted on 2016-12-07. You can download free the johnny cash music musicians wallpaper hd desktop background which you see above with high resolution freely. Also if you can download a resized wallpaper to fit to your display or download original image. Download hd wallpapers of 142089-johnny_cash-music-musicians. Free download High Quality and Widescreen Resolutions Desktop Background Images. johnny cash music mus... John R. “Johnny” Cash (born J. R. Cash; February 26, 1932 – September 12, 2003) was an American singer-songwriter, actor, and author, who has been called one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century. Although he is primarily remembered as a country music artist, his songs and sound spanned many other genres including rockabilly and rock and roll—especially early in his career—as well as blues, folk, and gospel. This crossover appeal led to Cash being inducted in both the Country Music Hall of Fame and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Late in his career, Cash covered songs by