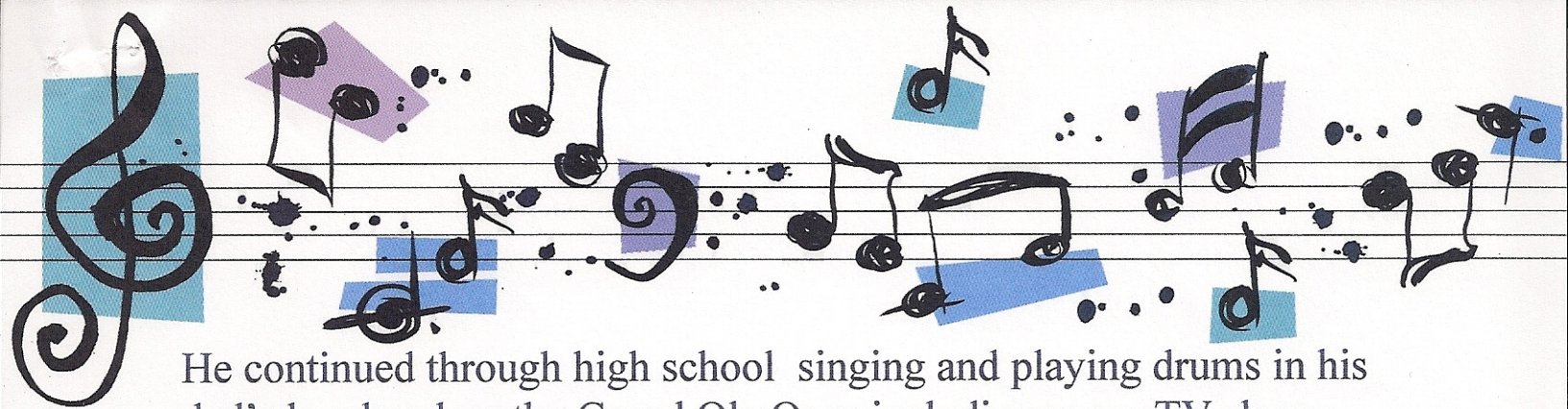




Jimmy Martin jr.

On August 28, 1954 Jimmy Martin Jr. Was born in Nashville, Tennessee. The first child of Barbara Gibson and bluegrass king Jimmy Martin, his destiny sealed into the history of bluegrass music from birth. His momma being a Gibson and his daddy being a Martin, everybody knew Jimmy was born to be a singing, guitar man. At the young age of three years old, his earliest memories were of hanging out on the set of Casey Clark's Barn Dance in Detroit and watching his dad on live television with Sonny and Bobby Osborne every Saturday night. His early childhood years were centered around music, watching his dad practice guitar, rehearse and write songs and learning how to sing himself, sitting on his dad's knee. From Detroit, it was on to Toledo and then down to Shreveport and the Louisiana Hayride. There, his dad developed a new band including J.D. Crowe and Paul Williams. Jimmy was influenced on this tour by such greats as Johnny Horton, Merle Kilgore, Doug Kershaw, Claude King and even Elvis Presley. D.J. Montana started giving him drum lessons at age four. At age 5, they moved to Wheeling, West Virginia where his singing debut happened on the WWVA radio show. Back in Nashville at age eight, he became a member of the sunny mountain boys and was a featured singer. At age 9, he was a featured performer at the Centennial Park Hootenanny hosted by Porter Wagner in front of 10,000 people. He also performed on the regional television show, The Duke of Peducah.





He continued through high school singing and playing drums in his dad's band and on the Grand Ole Opry including many TV shows, while participating in his high school marching band. At age 17, he sang on the original multi-platinum album "Will The Circle Be Unbroken", where his picture is shown on the inside cover. At 18, Jimmy enlisted in the Navy and become a hospital corpsman. He was honorably discharged at age 20. He then returned to Nashville, where he studied studio engineering and worked as a studio drummer, while playing in several bands. At 21, Jimmy moved to Miami where played music on the Emerald Seas and Carnival Cruise ships. He was signed by Walter B. & Walters Agency doing many Florida road band tours. At 24, he moved to Colorado to play with the "Central City Blues Band" and then toured on the ski area circuit for a year. The next year, he moved to Knoxville, TN to join the band "Freeport" where they received a regional #9 hit in the country music category. At 29, Jimmy went back down to Florida to join the "Hot Walker Band" performing regionally including several USO tours at Guantanamo Bay. At 36, he spent 16 years as the band leader at Sonny Stardust in Ft. Lauderdale, while still making special guest appearances with his dad in the last years of his life. In 2005, Jimmy moved back once again to Nashville to take care of his dad's estate after he passed away. He began playing locally and working as a studio musician. He began work on the release of his first bluegrass cd "A Tribute To My Dad" which is now completed. He is currently playing and touring with the Sunny Mountain Boys, with the intention to keep spreading the tradition of bluegrass music here in the US and throughout the world.

