

NEAL MCCOY

JUST THE FACTS

Name: Born Hubert Neal McGaughey, Jr. When he first got his record deal, Neal changed the spelling to McGoy, and then to McCoy.

Hometown: Jacksonville, Texas

Birth date: July 30

Height: 6ft. 1in.

Family: Neal has been married to Melinda for 22 years. They have two children, daughter Miki and son Swayde.

Heritage: Neal's father is a Texan of Irish decent and his mother is Filipino. He often refers to himself as a "Texapino."

Influences: Charley Pride, Frank Sinatra, Michael Jackson.

Favorite stage wear: Starched, pressed Wrangler jeans.

Favorite road lunch: Double cheeseburger with mayonnaise and lettuce only.

Skincare: "I've got a lot of wrinkles, and I think it's from smiling so much. At least that's what I write them off to!"

First concert: The Carpenters in Nacogdoches, Texas.

Beginnings: McCoy got his start as an opening act for Charley Pride, soon earning his own slot on the show. "Charley was so good onstage, making people feel relaxed," McCoy recalls. "And offstage, he was still the same guy, very approachable. I tried to learn that from him."

Good deeds: Neal and Melinda founded the East Texas Angel Network (ETAN) in 1995. Their foundation provides financial assistance to families of children with serious illnesses. So far, the organization has raised over 2 million dollars for the children of East Texas.

Matchmaker: Neal and Melinda introduced Bryan White to his wife, soap opera star, Erika Page.

Kane Entertainment

Awards:

Entertainer of the Year, 1998 & 1999 *TNN/Music City News Country Awards*.

Video of the Year "Then You Can Tell Me Goodbye," 1997 *TNN/Music City News County Awards*.

Albums:

At This Moment (1990)

Where Forever Begins (1992)

No Doubt About It (1994)

You Gotta Love That (1995)

Neal McCoy (1996)

Greatest Hits (1997)

Be Good At It (1998)

The Life Of The Party (1999)

24•7•365 (2000)

On Performing: "When the audience is really into it, it just doesn't get any better. On stage is where I belong."

Smooth moves: "I like to move around when I sing. I guess that's why those 'groove' songs come natural to me."

Legacy: "I hope to teach my kids right from wrong, and teach them to have a decent attitude about life. I enjoy life, and I hope my kids will get that from me."

Philosophy: "Some people say, 'I don't care if they like me or not.' Not me! I want people to like me, and if they don't like me, I want to do something about it. And the way I'm able to do that is by singing and entertaining. It's the best way I know to get through to people."

"I'm in this business to enjoy it, to have fun, to entertain people, and hopefully to make enough money to provide for my family. And thankfully, so far we've been able to do that."