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Drifters 1: Celebrating 50 Years: Bill Pinkney, , BillMax Publishing, 2003, 0974395315, 9780974395319, . .

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Yakety Yak I Fought Back My Life with the Coasters, Veta Gardner, Jun 15, 2007, Biography & Autobiography, . .

Nightline History in the Making and the Making of Television, Ted & Kyle Gibson "Koppel, Kyle Gibson, 1996, , 477 pages. A behind-the-scenes look at the development of Nightline explains how--and why--the television show was created, its seminal impact on television news, its influential programs

Dancing in the Street Confessions of a Motown Diva, Martha & Mark Bego "Reeves, Mark Bego, 1994, , 286 pages. A soul music great chronicles her career, which included such hits as "Heat Wave" and "Nowhere to Run," offering a backstage glimpse of the tensions, passions, triumphs, and

The Lion Sleeps Tonight , George David Weiss, Hugo Peretti, Luigi Creatore, 2004, , 86 pages. This classic tune is still one of our biggest requests. Strong scoring and limited ranges make this the right choice for the coming season..

Be my baby how I survived mascara, miniskirts, and madness, or my life as a fabulous Ronette, Ronnie Spector, Vince Waldron, Sep 1, 1990, , 318 pages. The leader of the 1960s singing group The Ronettes describes the early days of rock 'n' roll, her affairs with such stars as John Lennon, and her nightmarish marriage to

Bob Dylan, don't look back , D. A. Pennebaker, 1968, , 152 pages. Transcript of the film, Don't Look Back, which is a portrait of Bob Dylan..

Bill Pinkney (August 15, 1925 – July 4, 2007) was an American performer and singer. Pinkney was often said to be the last surviving original member of The Drifters, who achieved international fame with numerous hit records. He was chiefly responsible for its early sounds. The Drifters have had a strong influence on soul, rhythm and blues, and rock and roll music.

Born in Dalzell, South Carolina, Pinkney grew up singing his favorite music, gospel, in his church choir. Before his career with the Drifters, Pinkney was a pitcher for the Negro Baseball League's New York Blue Sox sandlot team. He also served in the United States Army in World War II. He earned a Presidential Citation with five Bronze Stars (for battles including Normandy and Bastogne under General Patton). Returning from the war, Pinkney began to sing again in various gospel choirs. It was there that he would meet and join with the men who became the original members Drifters.

Bill Pinkney, brothers Andrew and Gerhart Thrasher, and bass singer Willie Ferbie were approached by Clyde McPhatter, who had just quit as the lead tenor of the popular R&B group, Billy Ward & the Dominoes. McPhatter proposed they create a new group to record for Atlantic Records. On their first record, "Money Honey", Pinkney, a natural bass-baritone with a multi-octave range, actually sang first tenor. After Ferbie left, Pinkney switched to the bass part, in which he was heard on "Honey Love," "White Christmas," "Adorable," "Ruby Baby," and many other early Drifters recordings. In 1954 the Drifters recorded their version of "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin. That version was featured in the 1990 movie Home Alone.[1] Pinkney can also be heard singing lead on the 1956 recording "I Should Have Done Right" and 1955's "Steamboat". Pinkney was in and out of the group from 1956 through 1958. He did not participate in the recording of later hits like "Fools Fall in Love" and "Drip Drop," which featured bass singer Tommy Evans.

Leaders such as President Bill Clinton and President Nelson Mandela of South Africa recognized Pinkney's contributions. Pinkney received many musical awards, including the Rhythm and Blues Foundation Pioneer Award, and was inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame,[1] United Group Harmony Association, and the Beach Music Hall of Fame.

He was selected for the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame and given a "key to the state", which proclaimed May 14 as Bill Pinkney Day. The cities of Sumter, Bamberg, and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, each presented its "key to the city" to Pinkney. He also was honored by the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives. In 2002, Pinkney received an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Music from Coastal Carolina University. During his final years, he still toured and recorded with The Original Drifters, while encouraging young talent in their musical endeavors.

Pinkney died the evening of July 4, 2007 in Florida from a heart attack, while staying at the Daytona Beach Hilton. He was to perform with The Drifters at the annual Daytona Beach 4th of July celebration, Red, White & Boom. Pinkney's funeral services were held on July 9, 2007 at the Sumter County Exhibition Center in Sumter, South Carolina. Pinkney was buried at the St. Luke AME Church in Sumter.

Along with Brian and Joe, they continue the great Bill Pinkney Legacy with dignity, pride, and respect. For a classic Legendary Drifters show that still blends nostalgic magic with on-stage excitement and / or a new 21st century touch, contact us soon to discuss promotional information and logistics.

**** Kindly note that this is the only Drifters group engaging via a registered Federal Service Mark from the United States Patent and Trademark Office and complying with all State's Truth in Music Laws. Beware of imposters, avoid the misrepresentations, and, above all, accept no imitations.

â€œThe best act of its genre on the music scene todayâ€•, the Bill PinkneyÂ legacy group still reflects the entire legendary Drifters presence in the music industry and weaves a blend of nostalgic magic and on-stage excitement with aÂ 21stÂ Century twist.Â Todayâ€™s sophisticated and informed music lovers reject generic imitations, and, accordingly, The Original DriftersÂ® remain in demand.

Organizer Clyde McPhatterÂ (Mount Lebanon Gospel Singers), BILL PINKNEY (The Southern Knights), and Gerhardt and Andrew Thrasher (The Thrasher Wonders) met while singing gospel.Â When Atlantic Records rejected McPhatterâ€™s first group, these men joined forces, signed with the company, and established in 1953 the foundation upon which a music legacy was subsequentlyÂ built.Â Thirty five years later in 1988, original members MCPHATTER, PINKNEY, GERHARTÂ THRASHER and four later Drifters were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, which filmed PINKNEYâ€™s oral history in 2001 for its Legends Series.

Music Icon BILL PINKNEYÂ was a Negro Baseball League sandlot pitcher, aÂ World War II Presidential Citation recipient with five Bronze Stars (including Normandy and Bastogne), a Rhythm

& Blues Foundation Pioneer, a member of the United Group Harmony Hall of Fame, Vocal Group Hall of Fame, Beach Music Hall of Fame, and a Gospel Hall of Fame Stellar Award recipient.

South Carolina dedicated Bill Pinkney Highway, a park near his Dalzell, Sumter County birthplace, bestowed the Order of the Palmetto, its highest civilian honor, and commissioned him the State's "Ambassador of Music and Entertainment." Coastal Carolina University bestowed an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree.

albums earning three platinum and five gold records and won the Country Music Association's Vocal Group of the Year award four times as well as netting two Academy of Country Music Awards in the top Vocal Group of the Year category and thirteen GRAMMY nominations. When they debuted in 1991 with the hit "Meet in the Middle," Diamond Rio became the first group in the history of

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