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Home | Profile | Active Topics | Active Polls | Members | Search | FAQ

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All Forums

- Let's Talk Dusty! The Forum
- Don't Forget About Me
- Dusty and Tom

- Forum Locked
- Printer Friendly

Author

Topic

Clive
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 28/08/2009 : 17:25:25



I think Dusty said in a later interview that she and her brother Tom were never close. Biographies have touched upon some sibling rivalry between them as children.

Is it kind of accepted that the relationship could have been better? If so why do you think that is?

1455 Posts

For me it seems like they were a lot closer than lots of other brothers and sisters.

Once they grew up and moved apart many siblings only saw each other at family weddings and funerals and exchanged the occasional card, and especially at the time many homes did not have a telephone so that was all the contact there was, nobody thought it strange.

Once Dusty and Tom left home there was no reason for them to spend time together if they didn't want to. Yet Tom invited Dusty to form a group, when she went solo he wrote songs for her, he guested on her TV show, they went on holidays together, enjoyed mutual friends.

Sure when Dusty emigrated to the US maybe he wasn't there for her but how different is that from any family separated by distance?

What do you think?

boztiggs
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 28/08/2009 : 17:53:47



I agree, its perfectly normal for siblings to go their own seperate ways without it meaning that they dont get on. Ive always liked to think that they did get on, especially because of what you said clive, and also because he just looked like a nice guy, and looking at their childhood holiday pics etc they seemed like any other brother and sister. And of course, his trip to ireland at the end. Ive often wondered about any rivalry, but isnt that normal too?

United Kingdom
3367 Posts

Neil

" Here in the gloom, of my lonely room, i hold his photograph and pray ill see him soon oh-oh"



Baby Blue
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 28/08/2009 : 18:26:00



OK here are my thoughts on Tom:

1. It irks me that Tom shows no responsibility for Dusty's stone marker in Henley and that only her fans take care of it.
2. I'm also bothered by the fact that he never showed or made any comments about the movie. I wish that he would insist it has to be Dusty

USA
3185 Posts

singing the music and no one else, they way Selina's family did and take some charge.

3. I wish he would be involved in keeping her legend.

4. I do wish he was there for her during her difficult times. I have a feeling that some of her difficult times caused some of the problems between Dusty and Tom, but that's their personal lives and probably should remain exactly that.

5. I get the feeling that there was a lot of competition and sibling rivalry between the two throughout their lives. In Dusty's younger years I could see it being hard for Dusty to keep up with her big brother.

6. I am almost surprised that Tom was at Dusty's funeral.

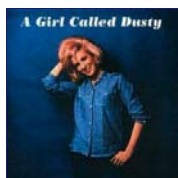
7. It's obviously a complicated personal relationship that fans and maybe even personal friend don't fully understand.

Marty



Cardiff Bluesgirl
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 28/08/2009 : 19:05:06



United Kingdom
1809 Posts

well for what my opinion is worth I have three sisters all older than me and we all seem to have survived the ups and downs of being 4 girls of quite big different age gaps. we have had a very different set of life experiences, all have very different likes and dislikes + quite a few similar ones. we are all over the place Geographically, Wales Yorkshire and Canada and so cant all meet up that often but when we do we seem to get on ok.

we make allowances for each other, most of the time, we generally support each other and I am sure most families have the same issues.

as for Dusty and Tom, we will never really know and thats ok. it must have been quite something having two very talented but very different people in the family and there would inevitably have been struggles for recognition etc. from what we all know I dont think anyone, family or not could have done much with Dusty when she was in her bad times and especially when she was roaming the World. I am sure many of her friends and family were not always aware of how bad things were and she probably wouldnt have wanted those most important in her life to know some of her experiences. at the end she was thrilled that Tom was around, according to the stories and he was still her "big brother" to her anyway. I share the sadness evryone else does about her down times but she came back and I am sure mended many fences. He was there for her then and he did all the right things when she left us. His privacy is important to him and he was reclusive before the sadness of losing his sister. I dont think anyone can judge him as noone knows enough to do so. I agree it is a shame that Dusty and her memory and so on seem to be a bit rudderless as far as her estate is managed but again we just dont know enough to comment and be too critical of him.

I am sure he never stopped loving Dusty or caring about her but sometimes, sadly you can only sit back and watch.

"every day I find you're in my heart and on my mind"

liz.



Sue
Little by little
★

Posted - 28/08/2009 : 22:54:00



United Kingdom
428 Posts

It seems that Tom is a very quiet, shy man. But, the impression i got was that he still took an interest in Dusty when she went solo, for instance he made comments in a review to the NME about 'Dusty Definitely', re' what had happened to the bass and drums on the track 'Another Night', and he did write songs for her.

There's a nice photo' in the Paul Howes book taken in 1964, with Dusty and Tom walking along arm in arm. I only know, me and my own brother are fairly close, but, we'd rather die than be seen doing that! Different families have different attitudes, i guess.

I find it touching that he reappeared on the scene as soon as he knew she was seriously ill, and that he made that journey to Ireland to carry out

Dusty's final wish. I'm sure that there is still a lot that we don't, and won't know.

Sue xx



daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 29/08/2009 : 08:16:42



I'm sure that there is a lot we still don't know, as Sue says. Why should we really, we weren't part of their family or inner circle and as a family they weren't outwardly demonstrative as Dusty herself said. I'm sure they had their ups and downs and their fights and falling outs, but I'm also sure that they cared for and looked out for each other in their own way. Tom definitely visited with Dusty in America during the 70's as I've seen at least two photo's taken at different times.

United Kingdom
5404 Posts

Carole x

"There's a part of you that's a part of me..."



Isparks18
Little by little
★

Posted - 29/08/2009 : 13:27:29



Carole--Agree with you. We don't know what went on there and why should we?

Linda



USA
132 Posts

Michael Muccino
Little by little
★

Posted - 30/08/2009 : 03:25:59



All of these posts seem quite insightful - We can only speculate as to their relationship, and it really is a private matter. BTW, as mention was made of Tom fulfilling her wish of scattering her ashes off the coast of Ireland, was/is she as popular in Ireland as she is in Britain?

Michael

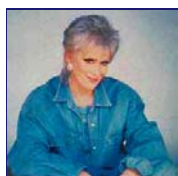
"Ever since we met you had a hold on me."



USA
634 Posts

Clive
I'll try anything
★★

Posted - 30/08/2009 : 09:12:29



quote:

Originally posted by Michael Muccino

BTW, as mention was made of Tom fulfilling her wish of scattering her ashes off the coast of Ireland, was/is she as popular in Ireland as she is in Britain?

Michael

1455 Posts

Yes Dusty had big hits in Ireland during the sixties and also with her Pet Shop Boys produced songs.
What Have I Done To Deserve This reached Number 1 in the Irish charts.



Michael Muccino
Little by little
★

Posted - 30/08/2009 : 19:55:34

Great to hear- Thanks again, Clive!



Michael

"Ever since we met you had a hold on me."



USA
634 Posts

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