

Let's Talk Dusty!

The Ultimate Forum for Dusty Springfield Fans

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[Rod McKuen - RIP](#)

■ by [edjames](#) » Fri Jan 30, 2015 12:54 pm

Today's news reports that poet/songwriter/lyricist Rod McKuen has died at age 81.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/30/arts/...ottom-well>

He is best known for his many highly successful volumes of poetry, but also his adapting the lyrics to Jacques Brel "Seasons of the Sun" and the title song from the movie The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie "Jean."

To Dusty fans, Rod will be remembered as the English language lyricist for the iconic Brel song "If You Go Away" which Dusty recorded to great acclaim in 1967. Dusty's version of this song is considered to be a major classic in the Dusty Springfield songbook.

He will always be remembered as the host of the 1978 TV special Christmas In New England in which Dusty performed. Rod had this to say about the show:

As my very special guest I picked Dusty Springfield whom I'd worked with previously on the Johnny Cash Show and my own BBC series in England and to help us celebrate the holidays we added The New England Boys Choir. Working with Dusty and having her as a friend had always been special in my life and wait till you hear how beautiful she sings on this show. We had a ball doing it and received great reviews.

When it was first shown on television, "Christmas in New England" was a pick of the week by TV Guide who termed it, "Lovely, two of the great pros, aided by The New England Boys Choir give us a simple, direct and enchanting show that will chase away the Christmas blahs." The Boston Globe said, "McKuen & Springfield's obvious chemistry adds a special glow to the holiday season." And the Los Angeles Times called it, "The warmest and most intimate special in many a Christmas season."

Here's clip from the show:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpsIDilquE8>

RIP Rod.



[edjames](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 220

Joined: Sat Oct 09, 2010 3:00 am

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[Re: Rod McKuen - RIP](#)

■ by [davdreamer](#) » Fri Jan 30, 2015 10:40 pm

He has been remembered in another thread on the forum as well Ed.

<viewtopic.php?f=15&t=7108>

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

Carole x



[daydreamer](#)

Moderator



Posts: 3667

Joined: Thu Dec 17, 2009 8:17 am

Location: Cheshire, England

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[Re: Rod McKuen - RIP](#)

by [pattigee](#) » Sat Jan 31, 2015 3:04 am

Sad to hear of Rod's passing. Although he had a tragic beginning to life, it never made him bitter or mean - just the opposite, judging from his body of creative and beautiful work. And his being Dusty's friend makes his gentleness and kindness that much more valuable to me. 🍷🌹

Here is a link to a Youtube performance by Jimmie Rodgers on American Bandstand in June 1964 of a song he wrote which includes a nice interview with Jimmie after the song about Rod McKuen. Well worth a listen:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_3_F7E7zu8



[pattigee](#)

Little by little



Posts: 68

Joined: Tue Oct 29, 2013 4:13 pm

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[Re: Rod McKuen - RIP](#)

by [JMFabianoRPL](#) » Mon Feb 02, 2015 3:15 pm

He did a similar recording of Baby It's Cold Outside with Petula Clark, which appears on her Duets CD (same one with her and Dusty on "Corner of the Sky."). He also did music for the movie "A Boy Named Charlie Brown."

Of course, his performance with Dusty is must-listen holiday music for me every year. Anyone remember what networks carried Christmas in New England? (I'd have no idea as I would only be a bit over one by then!)

EDIT: Just read his remembrances of Dusty in the Original thread about him. Great to hear someone write something positive about her posthumously as always...can we get one of said people to do a proper book?

[JMFabianoRPL](#)

I'll try anything



Posts: 187

Joined: Thu Oct 13, 2011 2:01 am

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