

# Dave ALEXANDER

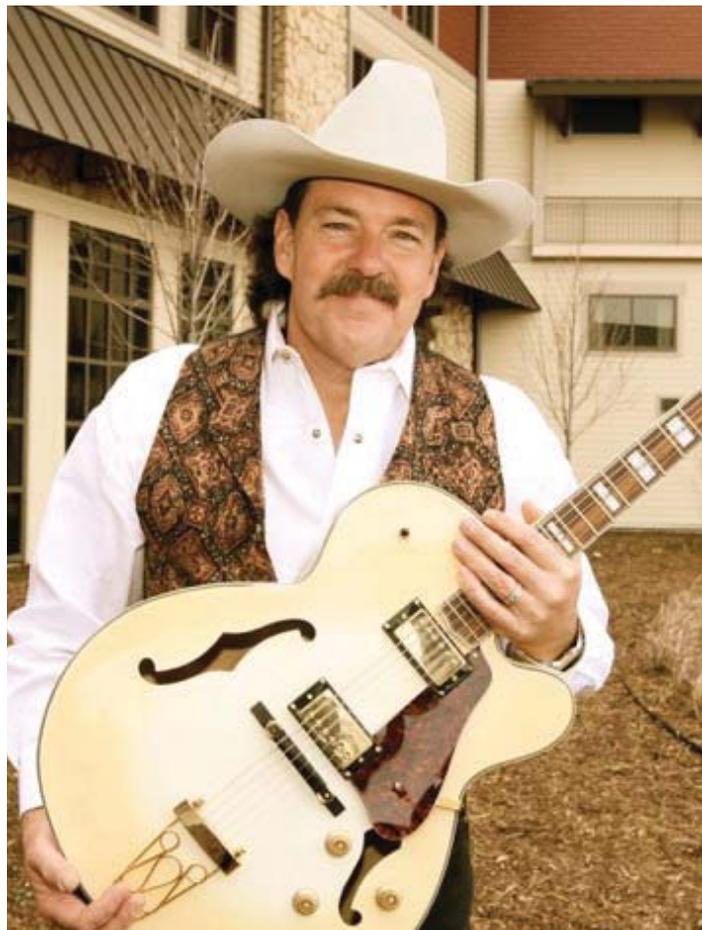
*Class of 1974*

When Willie Nelson penned his Western tune “On the Road Again” marveling at the joy of making music with his friends, he could well have been writing about his relationship with this year’s Great Graduate from the Class of 1974.

Like Nelson, Dave Alexander is a veteran entertainer and one of the most honored performers in the country music world. Among the awards he has received are induction into the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame, the Sacramento Western Swing Hall of Fame, the Seattle Western Swing Hall of Fame, the Ft. Worth Cowtown Hall of Fame and the Oklahoma Country Music Hall of Fame.

Then there are his four Grammy nominations, as well as Entertainer of the Year and Vocalist of the Year awards.

Over the years, this former Tiger has performed and recorded with some of the biggest names in the entertainment industry – folks like George Strait, Toby Keith, LeAnn Rimes and, of course, his pal Willie. But before all those miles on the road were logged and all those awards filled his trophy case, former Broken Arrow High School teacher Jeanne Johnson remembers an “exemplary student who was always kind, considerate and helpful to others.”



Alexander’s career can be traced back to fifth grade where even then he was a standout trumpet player. He attended schools in Perry before moving to Broken Arrow in time to begin his sophomore year and leave behind a legacy that includes being voted Most Talented Student, outstanding jazz band performer and football and wrestling athlete. When it came time for his class to graduate, it was Alexander who was tapped to play the trumpet solo of “Auld Lang Syne” that many of his classmates still fondly remember.

Following college at Oklahoma State University and the University of North Texas, he created Dave Alexander Productions, a contracting service specializing in providing music and musicians for special events in the Dallas-Ft Worth area. Later, he joined the Dallas Cowboys as trumpet soloist and became Music Director for the National Football League team.

Throughout the 1980’s, he was an award-winning music teacher. A highlight of his career at that time was an invitation to perform at Ronald Reagan’s presidential inauguration. Later, he created Dave Alexander and the Legends of Western Swing and toured with the band which featured former members of the Bob Wills Texas Playboys.

Space doesn’t permit a full review of Alexander’s other accomplishments. Just let it be said that few people come close to measuring up to his contributions to the industry he loves. Even fewer can measure up to the respect he has earned from a group of long-time pals who are proud to call him a classmate and friend.