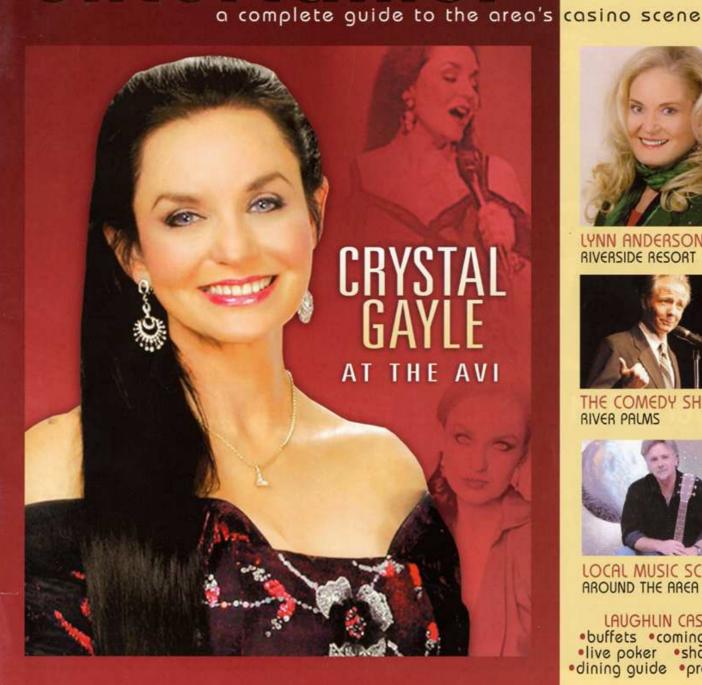
Laughlin, Nevada entertainer

Nov-Dec





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Laughlin, Nevada entertainer - November 28 - December 4, 2007

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 Crystal Gayle in concert at the Avi's Convention Center

rystal Gayle. Sounds like a stage name. And guess what? It is. But it wasn't originally meant to describe the young singer's "crystal clear" vocal quali-

ty-that became part of things as a career blossomed.

"When I started recording, Brenda Lee was on the same label and they didn't want two Brendas," said Crystal Gayle, whose given name was Brenda Gayle Webb, "so Loretta (Lynn—Gayle's famous older sister) thought of Crystal. She saw it on that Southern hamburger chain, Krystal's—although she also said it was because I was bright and shiny. I didn't care what they called me if I was going to get to record. They could have called me 'John'."

And in classic "a rose is a rose and by any other name would smell as sweet", tradition, "John Webb" could sing,

"My mother said I could sing before I could walk," adds Gayle. "Music was a form of entertainment for us as a family. People would sit on their porches and play their guitars, mandolins, banjos—that's what we did to pass the time.

"We didn't set out to make music a career. Music was a big part of my life and I wanted to go to Nashville to sing but not necessarily to become famous. My parents were musical...Loretta, of course...all my brothers are very musical. This was just something I lucked out with. What we could do as a family turned out to be something to do as a career."

So Crystal Gayle set out with her feet firmly planted in a rich family history of music, following in her famous sister's footsteps. But she was walking in designer shoes, not boots. This blue-eyed beauty "coal miner's daughter" from the Appalachian town of Paintsville, Kentucky, didn't linger in the shadow of being Lynn's baby sister. She was doing things her way.

Being the youngest child, she was exposed to a greater variety of music. Radio, and the music scene in gener-

MARKIT

CRYSTAL GAYLE

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While she had her own take on things, she did take advantage of her older sister's inroads in show business. She got her start on stage by singing way, way in the back in Lynn's band.

"I was very shy as a child," she explained. "I didn't know how to do anything but stand in one place and sing. I think I was very shy due to my father dying when I was pretty young. I was a shell inside. Being raised by one parent is, in a sense, hard for a child in relation to certain things. My mother was a strong per-

There are radio stations out there that play 'new' country, which is insulting to me—it's like they never liked our music or something.

"

son and if you have a strong person to be there for you, it compensates for a lot...but sometimes there are little things you still wonder about."

While shyness was something she had to overcome, vocal talent was never a problem. Her career actually took off in 1975 while she was still in school when she released her first major hit recording, "I'll Get Over You."

Gayle's earliest albums, Crystal Gayle, Somebody Loves You and Crystal, reflected her individuality while yielding a bumper crop of hits. These included "Wrong Road Again," "Beyond You," "Somebody Loves You," and "You Never Miss A Real Good Thing (Till He Says Goodbye)."

With her fourth album, We Must Believe in Magic, Gayle became the first female country artist to achieve platinum status. This 1977 album included the country and pop signature smash "Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue"...a song that helped define Crystal Gayle as a star in her own right. "Brown Eyes" opened the world's eyes to Crystal Gayle.

Her follow-up album, When I Dream, also went platinum and contained the song "Talking In Your Sleep," Billboard's most played country song in 1978.

Suddenly, she was everywhere. TV fell in love with her good looks and that long flowing hair. She had her own CBS prime time special, soon followed by an HBO concert special. She appeared in **Bob Hope's** historic NBC-TV Special, "On The Road To China"; she hosted the "American

Music Awards" the "Academy Of Country Music Awards"...and on and on.

All the success allowed Gayle the luxury of completing projects close to

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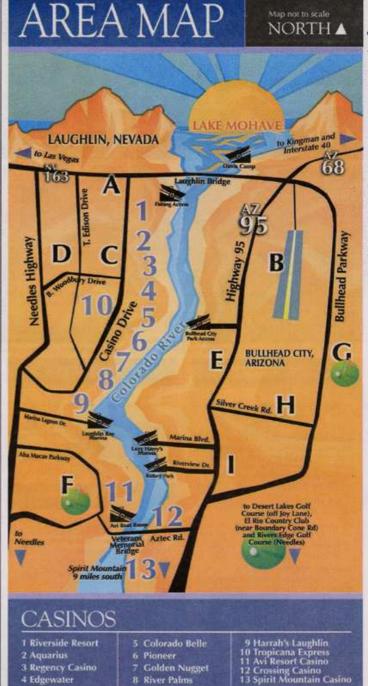
MJ Smith Associate Editor

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