



# SPARTA, TENNESSEE BLUEGRASS HALL OF FAME

2009 INDUCTEE

# LESTER FLATT

*In honor of his distinguished career in bluegrass music, including accomplishments and contributions to the heritage of bluegrass music which have brought honor and recognition both to himself and to the City of Sparta, Tennessee*

**MAY 23, 2009**

Credited as being one of the forefathers of bluegrass music and a member of the famous band Bill Monroe & The Blue Grass Boys when the defining sound of bluegrass was originated in 1945. The band was comprised of Bill Monroe, Lester Flatt, Earl Scruggs, Howard Watts and Chubby Wise.

Performed as part of the famed bluegrass duo Flatt & Scruggs from 1948 through 1968

Flatt & Scruggs's original instrumental "Foggy Mountain Breakdown" became an iconic theme song as part of the famous film, "Bonnie & Clyde." Lester Flatt watched the movie for the first time in Sparta's historic Oldham's Theater located on Liberty Square.

Flatt & Scruggs were known for their performance of "The Ballad of Jed Clampett," the theme song for the popular television show "The Beverly Hillbillies," and made several appearances on the show

Flatt & Scruggs were inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1985

Lester Flatt was inducted into the International Music Hall of Honor in 1991

Flatt & Scruggs were inducted into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame in 2008

Flatt & Scruggs were ranked #24 on Country Music Television's "40 Greatest Men in Country Music" in 2003

Lester Flatt was an accomplished songwriter, having penned many hit songs including "Head Over Heels in Love With You", "My Cabin in Caroline", "Down the Road", "Little Girl of Mine in Tennessee", "Don't Get Above Your Raisin." His songs are still being recorded today by artists known worldwide.

Lester Flatt formed his own band in 1969 called Lester Flatt & the Nashville Grass that employed many well known musicians over the years, including Josh Graves, Roland White, Marty Stewart, and Blake Williams

