

= Doug Stone =

Douglas Jackson " Doug " Brooks (born June 19 , 1956) , known professionally as Doug Stone , is an American country music singer . He debuted in 1990 with the single " I 'd Be Better Off (In a Pine Box) " , the first release from his 1990 self @-@ titled debut album for Epic Records . Both this album and its successor , 1991 's I Thought It Was You , earned a platinum certification from the Recording Industry Association of America . Two more albums for Epic , 1992 's From the Heart and 1994 's More Love , are each certified gold . Stone moved to Columbia Records to record Faith in Me , Faith in You , which did not produce a Top Ten among its three singles . After suffering a heart attack and stroke in the late 1990s , he exited the label and did not release another album until Make Up in Love in 1999 on Atlantic Records . The Long Way was released in 2002 on the Audium label (now part of E1 Music) , followed by two albums on the independent Lofton Creek Records .

Stone has charted twenty @-@ two singles on Hot Country Songs , with his greatest chart success coming between 1990 and 1995 . In this timespan , he charted four number 1 singles : " In a Different Light " , " A Jukebox with a Country Song " , " Too Busy Being in Love " , and " Why Didn 't I Think of That " , plus eleven more top ten singles . He is known for his neotraditionalist country sound and his frequent recording of ballads .

= = Early life = =

Stone was born as Douglas Jackson Brooks on June 19 , 1956 in Marietta , Georgia . His mother , who was also a country music singer , taught him how to play guitar when he was five . When he was seven years old , his mother placed him onstage to open for Loretta Lynn . His mother and father later divorced , and afterward , he moved to live with his father . He found additional work singing as a teenager : first at local skating rinks , and then at local bars , and later as one member of a short @-@ lived trio ; in addition , he and his father worked as mechanics to make ends meet . He also built a recording studio in his house , while performing in local clubs . By 1982 , Stone was suffering from depression brought on by his musical career , when a friend introduced him to Carie Cohen , who would later become his second wife . He played various local venues , and was discovered by a record label manager while singing at a Veterans of Foreign Wars hall . The manager asked him for demos , which she then sent to Epic Records . He chose to record under the name Doug Stone , so as to avoid confusion with Garth Brooks . Record producer Doug Johnson played three tunes for Epic Records producer Bob Montgomery , who disliked the first two that he heard but enjoyed the third one . Through Montgomery 's assistance , Stone signed with Epic in 1989 , thus becoming the only artist that Montgomery ever signed without seeing perform live .

= = Musical career = =

= = = 1990 ? 1991 : Doug Stone = = =

Stone 's self @-@ titled debut album was released in 1990 with Johnson as producer . Mac McAnally , Mark O 'Connor , Paul Franklin , Brent Rowan , and Willie Weeks were among the session musicians on it . Contributing songwriters included David Lee Murphy , Larry Boone , Randy Boudreaux , A.L. " Doodle " Owens , and Keith Palmer , who would later chart two singles for Epic in 1991 . Its first single , " I 'd Be Better Off (In a Pine Box) " , spent twenty @-@ five weeks on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts and peaked at No. 4 . In addition , the single was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Country Song , and the album was certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America for U.S. shipments of one million copies . The album 's next two singles were both Top Ten singles as well : " Fourteen Minutes Old " at No. 6 and " These Lips Don 't Know How to Say Goodbye " at No. 5 . Following these songs was " In a Different Light " , co @-@ written by Dickey Lee , which became Stone 's first number 1 on Billboard . Stone received three music award nominations in 1991 : the Horizon Award (now New Artist Award) from the

Country Music Association , Star of Tomorrow from Music City News , and Top New Male Vocalist from the Academy of Country Music .

Brian Mansfield gave Doug Stone a four @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half star rating out of five in his review for Allmusic . His review praised " I 'd Be Better Off " in particular , calling the song a " towering expression of self @-@ pity that most singers could spend a career trying to top , " also saying that Stone " came close " to matching that song 's quality in the album 's ballads .

= = = 1991 @-@ 1992 : I Thought It Was You , From the Heart , and The First Christmas = = =

I Thought It Was You , his second album , was released in August 1991 . Also certified platinum , it produced three more chart singles : the No. 4 title track , followed by the number 1 " A Jukebox with a Country Song " and " Come In Out of the Pain " at No. 3 . " A Jukebox with a Country Song " spent two weeks at number 1 , thus becoming his only multi @-@ week number 1 single . Stone co @-@ wrote the track " The Feeling Never Goes Away " with Kim Williams and Phyllis Bennett , and then @-@ labelmate Joe Diffie co @-@ wrote " Burning Down the Town " . Alanna Nash of Entertainment Weekly gave the album an " A " , saying that it contained " sex @-@ and @-@ smolder ballads " comparable to Conway Twitty . Mansfield was less favorable , saying that Stone " seems to wallow in sorrow " .

In early 1992 , Stone began experiencing dizziness and pain in one of his arms . He also began feeling chest pains which he initially thought were heartburn . After feeling disoriented at a concert in Oregon , he canceled an appearance at the Academy of Country Music telecast . He then underwent quadruple bypass surgery at Centennial Medical Center to alleviate four severe arterial blockages near his heart which had initially gone undiscovered by doctors . Following the surgery , Stone changed his diet and began exercising , in addition to touring in support of his third album , From the Heart , released that August . The album 's title was seen by many music writers , including Irwin Stambler and Grelun Landon of Country Music : The Encyclopedia , as ironic in the wake of Stone 's heart surgery .

With a gold certification for shipments of 500 @,@ 000 copies , From the Heart produced two more number 1 singles in " Too Busy Being in Love " and " Why Didn 't I Think of That " . The other two singles were " Warning Labels " and " Made for Lovin ' You " , at No. 4 and No. 6 respectively . The latter had previously been recorded by both Dan Seals and Clinton Gregory . Mansfield thought that From the Heart was more consistent than Stone 's previous two albums , saying that his " voice is at its pain @-@ wracked best " on " Warning Labels " and that " The heart references take on a special meaning given the open @-@ heart surgery that preceded this album " . Nash criticized the album as " sappy , lightweight tales of infatuation and starry @-@ eyed courtship " . One month after From the Heart , Stone released a Christmas album titled The First Christmas . Although this album produced no singles , " Sailing Home for Christmas " was made into a music video . Stone was nominated in both 1992 and 1993 for Star of Tomorrow by Music City News , and Top Male Vocalist from the Academy of Country Music , winning the former award in 1993 . He toured in 1992 with Patty Loveless , Lynyrd Skynyrd , and Hank Williams , Jr .

= = = 1993 @-@ 1995 : More Love and Greatest Hits , Vol . 1 = = =

His fourth album , More Love , was released in November 1993 . Unlike his previous albums , Stone co @-@ produced with James Stroud , except on the track " Dream High " , which Stroud produced with Tom Bahler and Bruce Swedien . It also included different session musicians than his previous albums , such as guitarist Dann Huff and backing vocalist Curtis Wright . Its lead @-@ off single was " I Never Knew Love " , which spent two weeks at No. 2 on the country singles charts and accounted for his only entry on the Billboard Hot 100 , where it peaked at No. 81 . The album 's next two singles were the No. 4 " Addicted to a Dollar " and the title track , which Stone wrote with Gary Burr , at No. 6 . Tom Roland of New Country magazine criticized the album for " continu [ing] to mine the drippy side of Stone " through " manipulative " ballads , but cited " Addicted to a Dollar " and " Love , You Took Me by Surprise " as being " tougher " than Stone 's previous works .

Starting in June 1994 , Stone discovered that he was having breathing problems which were affecting his singing . He consulted throat doctors at Vanderbilt University 's medical center , who failed to find any problems in his throat , while a second consultation revealed a lump in his left nostril . Upon its discovery , Stone feared that it might be cancer , and that it would put an end to his career . As a result , Stone quit smoking , although the lump was later discovered not to be cancerous and was successfully removed . While Stone was undergoing treatment , his Greatest Hits , Vol . 1 compilation was released in late 1994 . Also receiving a gold certification , the album comprised nine of his previous hits and the new song " Little Houses " , which debuted on the charts in October 1994 and peaked at No. 7 in early 1995 . After its release , Stone made his acting debut in the 1995 film Gordy , in which he starred as Luke McAllister , a struggling musician . The movie 's soundtrack featured four songs from More Love : " More Love " , " That 's a Lie " , " Wishbone " , and " Dream High " , as well as two other songs that Stone performed : " The Heart I Broke " and " I Could Always Count on You " .

= = = 1995 @-@ 1999 : Faith in Me , Faith in You and Make Up in Love = = =

Also in 1995 , parent company Sony Music Entertainment chose to move Stone from the Nashville division of Epic Records to that of Columbia Records . This decision was made to give Stone a new promotional team . His only Columbia album , Faith in Me , Faith in You , was released in March of that year , with Stroud again serving as co @-@ producer . This album 's three singles were comparatively less successful than his previous singles , with none reaching Top 10 : the title track peaked at No. 13 , followed by " Sometimes I Forget " at No. 41 (his first single to miss the Top 40) and " Born in the Dark " at No. 12 . Stone suffered a nearly @-@ fatal heart attack in December 1995 and a mild stroke in 1996 , reducing his ability to record and tour . Stone would later remark that he was " lucky " to have survived his health issues in this timespan . One of his few performances in this timespan was at a show in Dollywood , a theme park owned by Dolly Parton , in mid @-@ 1996 . His last charting single for Columbia was " Gone Out of My Mind " , which he recorded for the multi @-@ artist compilation album A Tribute to Tradition in 1998 .

Stone signed with Atlantic Records and released Make Up in Love in 1999 under the production of Wally Wilson . A more pop @-@ oriented album than his previous ones , the album produced a minor Top 20 hit in its title track . Its next singles were a cover of R.B. Greaves 's 1969 single " Take a Letter Maria " , which Stone took to number 45 , and " Surprise " , which spent only one week on the country charts , at number 64 . Also included on the album were a duet with Leslie Satcher titled " The Heart Holds On " , and the Bobby Braddock @-@ penned " The Difference Between a Woman and a Man " , which was later recorded by Josh Turner on his 2003 debut album Long Black Train . Stephen Thomas Erlewine gave the album a mixed review , saying that " Since Stone 's voice is pleasant , the music is often pleasant , but it 's hardly memorable . " Andy Turner of Country Standard Time was more favorable , saying that it " does not come off ' too country for country ' yet is still engaging largely because of Stone 's voice ? soft with built @-@ in teardrops . " Also in 1999 , Stone and Skip Ewing co @-@ wrote " In the Name of Love " on the only album released by female country duo Redmon & Vale .

= = = 2000 @-@ present : The Long Way , In a Different Light , and My Turn = = =

In December 1999 , Stone was aboard an airplane which skidded off a snowy runway at O 'Hare Airport in Chicago ; there were no injuries . Stone began piloting ultra @-@ light airplanes as a hobby in 1999 and 2000 . In March 2000 , he suffered a broken left ankle , cracked rib , concussion , and bruised kidney after crashing his plane in Robertson County , Tennessee , and was briefly hospitalized before he resumed touring . Stone later said that the accident made him decide to quit flying planes . After the September 11 , 2001 attacks , rumors circulated that Stone had been on one of the hijacked planes ; a spokeswoman for the singer confirmed that he was at home with his family that day .

Stone signed to Audium Entertainment in 2002 and recorded The Long Way . This album included

seven new songs and acoustic re @-@ recordings of " More Love " , " Born in the Dark " , and " I 'd Be Better Off " . One of the original songs on it was " POW 369 " , which was later recorded by Darryl Worley . Stewart Mason thought that it was " not nearly as suffocatingly slick " as Stone 's previous albums , but questioned its commercial success . His next album did not come out until 2005 , when he signed to the independent label Lofton Creek Records , recording the album In a Different Light . The album included a cover of " Georgia on My Mind " , which was the first single , and re @-@ recordings of " In a Different Light " and " Why Didn 't I Think of That " . A second album for Lofton Creek , My Turn , followed in 2007 . It was led off by the single " Nice Problem " . William Ruhlmann praised this album for having " a timeless country feel " , also saying that " Stone sings with as much fervor and sincerity as ever . " Ken Tucker of Billboard wrote that " He sounds as good as ever and his music is still relevant " .

In 2013 , Stone toured with Bryan White and Shenandoah as part of the " Reliving the 90s Tour " . He also returned to acting , with roles in the films When the Storm God Rides and The Story of Bonnie and Clyde .

= = Personal life = =

Stone married his second wife , Carie Cohen , in 1982 . The couple separated in July 1994 , and Cohen filed for divorce two months later , accusing Stone of excessive drinking and infidelity . He married Beth Snyder in December 1996 after being engaged to her for a year . As of 2005 , he had one daughter , Baili , with Beth , and five children from his previous marriages : daughter Michelle and son Daniel from his first marriage , son Chanse and daughter Kala from his marriage to Cohen , and another son , Dustin , who played in Stone 's road band in the 2000s .

In 2005 , Stone was sentenced to six months in jail for civil and criminal contempt for failing to release his financial records and failing to pay alimony and child support . Stone was arrested on April 9 , 2009 in Panama City , Florida , for domestic violence against Dustin . They reportedly engaged in a heated dispute over his son 's disabled car and Stone 's drinking . In August 2010 , he was jailed for driving under the influence in Gallatin , Tennessee , and released the same day on \$ 3 @ , @ 000 bail .

On March 29 , 2015 , Stone married fiddler Jade Jack in Oklahoma .

= = Musical styles = =

Stone is known primarily for his neotraditionalist country sound , his baritone singing voice , and emphasis on ballads . In Country Music : A Biographical Dictionary , Richard Carlin describes him as " a solid country crooner whose style is reminiscent of Merle Haggard . " Steve Huey of Allmusic wrote that Stone " made his name as a lonesome baritone balladeer , though he 's also adept at hard uptempo country . " Zell Miller , author of They Heard Georgia Singing , wrote that Stone has " established himself as a mellow country crooner who is known as ' Mr. Sensitive ' " and " the Dean Martin of country music because of his unique flair for communicating the fragility of a broken heart with his delicate baritone voice and laid @-@ back style . "

Kurt Wolff of Country Music : The Rough Guide described Stone 's musical style less favorably . He wrote that Stone seemed " schizophrenic . Half his reputation was established with self @-@ deprecating downers like ' I 'd Be Better Off (In a Pine Box) ' , but then he 'd just as easily turn around with a schmaltzy love song like ' Too Busy Being in Love ' . " He compared " I 'd Be Better Off " and " Warning Labels " favorably to Haggard as well , and thought that the change of producers on More Love gave him a " much beefier sound " .

= = Discography = =

Albums

Doug Stone (1990)

I Thought It Was You (1991)

From the Heart (1992)
The First Christmas (1992)
More Love (1993)
Greatest Hits , Vol . 1 (1994)
Faith in Me , Faith in You (1995)
Make Up in Love (1999)
The Long Way (2002)
In a Different Light (2005)
My Turn (2007)
Number @-@ one singles
" In a Different Light " (1991)
" A Jukebox with a Country Song " (1991 @-@ 1992)
" Too Busy Being in Love " (1992 @-@ 1993)
" Why Didn 't I Think of That " (1993)