



# Texas Heritage Songwriting Legends

Texas has been the home of hundreds of important and influential songwriters, in many different genres. Many of these trailblazing artists have passed on, but their legacy is present in the vital songwriting community alive in Texas today. To name all the songwriters who have contributed to Texas music over the years would take a book, but here is a brief listing of some of the legends of Texas songwriting, and the songs that are still sung throughout the state, the country, and the world:

## ***Honky Tonkers:***

**Al Dexter** – “Pistol Packin’ Mama,” “Too Late To Worry Too Blue to Cry”

**Lefty Frizzell** – “If You've Got the Money, I've Got the Time,” “I Love You a Thousand Ways,” “Always Late (With Your Kisses)”

**Roger Miller** – “King of the Road,” “Dang Me,” “Little Green Apples”

**Floyd Tillman** – “It Makes No Difference Now,” “Slipping Around,” “They Took the Stars Out of Heaven”

**Ernest Tubb** – “Walking the Floor Over You,” “Tomorrow Never Comes,” “Blue-Eyed Elaine”

## ***Cosmic Cowboys:***

**Waylon Jennings** – “Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way,” “Good Hearted Woman,” “Rainy Day Woman”

**Doug Sahm** – “She’s About a Mover,” “Texas Tornado,” “Mendocino”

**Townes Van Zandt** – “Pancho & Lefty,” “For the Sake of the Song,” “To Live's to Fly”

## ***Blues and RnB legends:***

**"Lightnin" Hopkins** – “Shotgun Blues,” “Mojo Hand,” “Lightnin’s Boogie”

**Blind Lemon Jefferson** – “Matchbox Blues,” “See That My Grave Is Kept Clean,” and “Black Snake Moan”

**Beulah "Sippie" Wallace** – “The Man I Love,” “Up the Country Blues,” “Every Dog Has His Day”

**"Ivory" Joe Hunter** – “Since I Met You Baby,” “I Need You So,” “Empty Arms”

## ***Singing Cowboys:***

**Gene Autry**: "Back in the Saddle Again," "Here Comes Santa Claus"

**Dale Evans** – "Happy Trails," "Angel Unaware"

## ***Cajun & Zydeco Trailblazers:***

**Clifton Chenier** – "Eh, Petite Fille," "Zydeco Sont Pas Sale," "Louisiana Stomp"

**Harry Choates** – "Jole Blon," "Bayou Pon Pon," "Poor Hobo"

## ***Western Swing pioneers:***

**Ted Daffan** – "Truck Driver's Blues," "Born to Lose," "Worried Mind"

**Bob Wills** – "San Antonio Rose," "Sittin' On Top of the World"

## ***The One and Only Father of Ragtime:***

**Scott Joplin** – "Maple Leaf Rag," "The Entertainer," "Swipesy"

## ***Rock and Roll Groundbreakers:***

**Roy Orbison** – "Oh, Pretty Woman," "Blue Bayou," "Only the Lonely"

**Buddy Holly** – "That'll Be the Day," "Peggy Sue," "Words of Love"

## ***Conjunto and Chicano originators:***

**Randy Garibay** – "Barbacoa Blues," "Too Close to the Border"

**Santiago Jiménez, Sr.** – "Margarita," "Viva Seguin"

**Valerio Longoria** – "El Rosalito," "Amor Chiquito"

**Sunny Ozuna** – "Talk to Me," "Andale Mi Amor," "El Bodequero"