



## Marilyn Monroe 1926-1962

By Scott Harrah  
Senior Editor

On August 5th, we will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Marilyn Monroe's mysterious and still unexplained death. If she had been any other star, we probably wouldn't care. But one quarter of a century later, Marilyn is perhaps more famous than she was in life.

"A sex symbol becomes a thing... and I just hate to be a thing," she once said. Not only was she a sex symbol, she was an American myth, the epitome of the whimsicality and self-indulgence that is Hollywood. Only Elvis comes close to the magnitude of her legend, but unlike The King, nobody has ever questioned her veracity. She was the woman everybody wanted and/or wanted to be, and her half-shut eyes, and almost necrophiliac sense of sex appeal and glamour were the cause of that.

She also showed that beneath the little girl giggle, breathy voice and exaggerated femininity was a serious actress who deserved all the publicity and adulation.

Born Norma Jean Mortensen in 1926 in Hollywood, she survived the typical unhappy star's childhood, the typical bad marriage, then dyed her hair blonde, posed for several cheesecake photos and impressed the hell out of Hollywood moguls when she was cast in a bit part for John Huston's "The Asphalt Jungle." When 20th Century Fox cast her in the Bette Davis camp classic "All About Eve," audiences everywhere wanted to know *who* that blonde was. She was cast in lead roles from then on and managed to eclipse rivals like Liz Taylor and Kim Novak, making her *The Glamorous Female Star* of the '50s.

Her private life became a walking soap opera when she sustained two ill-fated marriages to athlete Joe DiMaggio and playwright Arthur Miller.

But it was her hush-hush affair with President John F. Kennedy

that still baffles us today. Two months after she was fired from the production of "Something's Got to Give" for taking off too many sick days and leaving for the East to sing "Happy Birthday" to JFK, she was found dead in her home.

The coroner claimed that Marilyn died from an overdose of sleeping pills, but years later there was speculation that John and Robert Kennedy secretly murdered her. Clues have been found, including evidence that Marilyn kept a diary with some entries that Kennedy wanted kept under wraps. In 1982, Marilyn's former housekeeper Mrs. Eunice Murray admitted to the press that Bobby Kennedy had been at Marilyn's house the afternoon of her death *before* she was found. Since most of the principals involved are either dead or not talking, we may never know what really happened. Nevertheless, Marilyn has become an icon and a symbol of all that encompasses the notion of fame.

## Elvis Presley 1935-1977

By Chris McCubbin  
Staff Reporter

Elvis Presley, "The Complete Sun Sessions" (RCA)

Elvis Presley, "The Top Ten Hits" (RCA)

Elvis Presley, "The Memphis Record" (RCA)

This August marks the 10th anniversary of the black day when King Elvis expired peacefully on his pottie, the book "The Scientific Search for The Face of Jesus" laying open at his feet, as the ghosts of thousands of happy little percodans escorted the corpulent Hillbilly Cat peacefully into that good night.

This 10th anniversary (tin, aluminum, or diamond jewelry according to the almanac) is becoming the occasion for yet another (with luck, the last) major national spurt of Presley necrophilia.

Already this summer has given us a resurgence of the lovely and heart-rendering ballad "Elvis Has Left The Building, by His Friend, J.D. Sumner," a touching elegy in the mode of Milton that defines not only The King, but also his father, Vernon, as God the Son and God the Father. (So who's the holy ghost? Colonel Tom? Priscilla?)

Also this summer keep your eyes peeled for "Elvis After Life," the absolutely true accounts of the faithful few to whom the late King has granted a posthumous personal audience.

It is ironic that amidst all the tasteless schlock of this most tasteless and schlocky of observances, something as tasteful and valuable as RCA's digitally remastered Elvis compilations should appear. Every Presley fan, serious or casual, crackpot or no, should own these records.

Literally volumes has been written about Elvis' first recording sessions from Sun, the legendary Memphis blues label. Suffice it to say that on these cuts, recorded in '54 and '55, with their stripped down, no nonsense instrumentals and Elvis' young and far better than perfect voice, sum up everything that is rock 'n'

roll on tracks like "Blue Moon of Kentucky," "Baby Let's Play House," "Just Because," and "Mystery Train."

These albums sound simply gorgeous, and were also given extensive and fascinating liner notes. However, the second record is mostly fluff, consisting of outtakes and alternate takes. We get no fewer than seven alternate renditions of "I'm Left, You're Right, She's Gone." Interesting, but not worth the double-album price.

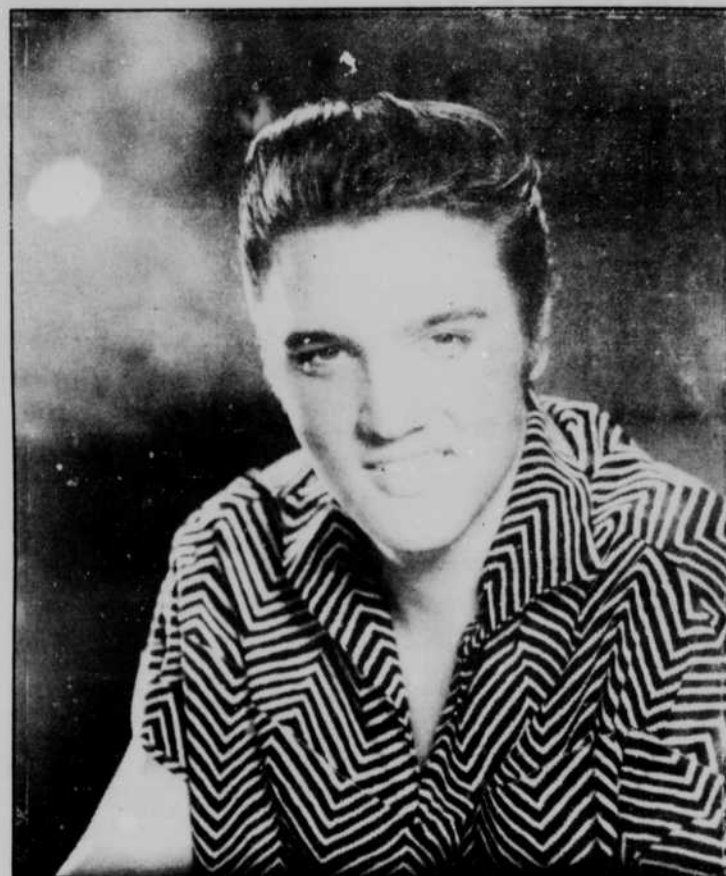
"The Top Ten Hits" is a collection of all 38 of Elvis' top ten radio hits, from "Heartbreak Hotel" to "Burning Love." The only word for this collection is "essential." A one record version containing his 18 number one hits is also available.

"The Memphis Record" is 23 tracks of Elvis made at American Studio in Memphis after his epochal

comeback TV special. These were his first hometown recordings since his Sun days.

America was the home of an amazing string of radio hits in the mid-late '60s. This is the studio that pioneered many of the wretchedly excessive production techniques that fatally marred both the rock and the country music scenes of the '70s.

The 70 backup musicians featured on this album do nothing for Elvis, nonetheless, this album contains the last flickers of Elvis' genius. Here we find one undisputable classic — "Suspicious Minds" — and in songs like "Don't Cry Daddy," "Inherit The Wind" and "Kentucky Rain." — songs that would have been simply mush in the hands of anyone else — we see, for the last time, Elvis' uncanny ability to make the mundane transcendent.



# Pick up some easy credit this semester.

At Havelock Bank we make it easy for college students to pick up credit. Just come in with your application and we'll loan you up to \$7,500 for college. We're even easy to get to at 14th and M. Pick up some easy credit this semester at Havelock Bank.

Havelock Bank Student Loan Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

**HB**  
**Havelock Bank**  
6145 Havelock • 70th & Adams • 14th & M  
467-1161