

FOLKWAYS RECORDS FTS 31104

# BLUE GRASS HILL **with** BILL PRICE



BILL PRICE, SPENCER PHOTO SERVICE, CHARLOTTE, N.C.

COVER DESIGN BY RONALD CLYNE

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1985

MUSIC LP



# BLUE GRASS HILL with BILL PRICE

## SIDE B

1. The Moon Shines Tonight On N.C.  
(Bill Price) Bill Price Music, Inc. BMI 2:15
2. Possum Holler  
(Jones) Glad Music Co. BMI 3:00
3. Pretty Polly  
(P. D.) (Saluting the Country Partners RCA 1955) 2:10
4. Honoring the Father of Bluegrass (Big Mun)  
(Bill Price) Bill Price Music, Inc. BMI 2:20  
(Honoring My Days as a Bluegrass Boy and agent for The Honorable Bill Monroe)
5. I Chose the Wrong Girl  
(Bill Price) Acuff & Rose Publ Co. BMI 2:42

## SIDE A

1. Bluegrass Hill  
(Bill Price) Bill Price Music, Inc. BMI 3:35
2. The Bottle  
(Bill Price) Bill Price Music, Inc. BMI 3:50
3. Our Christmas Tree  
(Bill Price) Bill Price Music, Inc. BMI 2:48
4. Bluegrass Spectacular  
(Bill Price) Bill Price Music, Inc. BMI 2:37
5. When I Lost You I Didn't Lose Your Memory  
(Bill Price) Glad Music Co. BMI 2:47

I was looking for a word to describe Bill Price. I thought of energetic. Yes, he's that! Friendly, yes! Accomplished, describes him further. I thought of the trials in his life... his many disappointments and grief. Then it came to me... He's a survivor!

They tell us that to really put feeling into a song, you have to suffer a lot; and Bill has certainly had his share of that. This album expresses the great ability of Bill Price; to put feeling in writing and singing the material for this album. For example, "The Bottle," "Bluegrass Hill," his old standard, "Pretty Polly," and the great tribute to Bill Monroe, "Honoring The Father of Bluegrass," (Big Mun).

Come back with me to the year 1954. It is June and getting hot as Nashville's pavements and the red brick of Ryman Auditorium, can get. A North Carolina boy whose idol was the father of Bluegrass Music, was getting his first big break. After listening to Bill Monroe for many years, even going back to the age of twelve; when he would tune in the Op'ry on a battery operated radio back home on "Bluegrass Hill," here was his big break. He would sing with the master himself!

Later Bill Price became the original mandolin player and tenor singer for the famed, "Sunny Mountain Boys," led by Jimmy Martin. The group was on WFFB, Middletown, Ohio. J.D. Crowe was the original Banjo player. Subsequent events caused this great act to go in separate directions. Bill Price formed, "The Country Partners," and started building a name for himself.

Through efforts of the late Jimmie Skinner, and Lou Epstein in Cincinnati, Ohio; Bill was signed to an exclusive recording contract with RCA Victor Records, and a writer's contract with Acuff and Rose Publishing Co., Nashville, Tenn. His appearances for Victor were supervised by Chet Atkins, and the late "Hall of

Fame" member, Steve Sholes in New York. Bill and the Country Partners turned out such hits as "Another Old Dog In The Race," "The Maple On The Hill," and the unforgettable, "Pretty Polly," plus others.

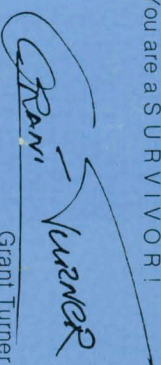
I remember Bill Price when he would come in for his own appearances on "The Grand Ole Op'ry." He had been recording songs for "Pappy" Daily out of Houston, Texas. These songs still exist! I remember many of Bill's appearances arranged by Ott Devine, who also hired me on the announcing staff of WSM, back in 1944.

There have been some dark years for Bill. I know. He lost a wife and two children to cancer. And after all the suffering that brought on, there were times, I know, when everything looked black and hopeless.

But today the clouds have parted, and the sun is shining thru. Bill's first sweetheart, Geraldine G. Batts had suffered the loss of a husband. The two took up their lives where they had left off, as teenagers. A bluegrass wedding took place on May 26, 1984 at their home, on "Bluegrass Hill." They are now happily married and maintain a large home and farm including a Music Studio, at Indian Trail, North Carolina.

The very songs you hear in this album prove that Bill with Geraldine's help, has put his life back together.

More power to you, Bill! You are a S U R V I V O R !



Grant Turner  
Dean Of The Grand Ole! Op'ry Announcers

## CREDITS

Bill Price—  
All vocals/rhythm guitar  
Clarence Green—  
guitar/mandolin, vocal 3A  
Rick Norris—banjo

Donnie Scott—dobro  
Jim Atkins—bass  
Steve Thomas—fiddle  
Gloria Coffey—all female  
vocals/harmony/  
tambourine

Produced by: Bill Price  
Cover Photo: Spencer Photo Service, Charlotte, NC  
Personnel: Geraldine G. Price  
Recorded at Arthur Smith Studios, Charlotte, NC (except 5A—recorded at Music City Studios, Nashville, TN, with staff musicians)  
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