

# DON EDWARDS



MOONLIGHT  
AND SKIES

## MOONLIGHT AND SKIES

No message, no agenda, no nothin' just a little bunch of songs I've always liked such as this semi-obscure version of **St. Louis Blues**. I decided to record **That's How the Yodel Was Born** for those of you who, for whatever reason, enjoy yodeling songs. I've always liked **Can't Shake The Sands Of Texas From My Shoes**. I learned it from a Gene Autry record. I also took the liberty of compiling a couple of songs out of fragments I found here and there. I put a little tune and chorus to **The Long Trail** by Roger Pocock from his book, *Curly*. **The Dying Cowboy Of Rimrock Ranch** is an obscure old song I found in John Lomax's book, *Cowboy Songs*. I don't know where it originally came from, but a version of it was recorded by the Carter Family with the title *Goodbye To The Prairie*. I seem to be most associated with Bob McDill's great song **Coyotes**. It has enjoyed quite a degree of success over the years, but I never dreamed it would become the featured song in Werner Herzog's documentary film *Grizzly Man*. I had no idea it was Tim Treadwell's favorite song either. Guess you never know who's listening to your music.

**My Blue Heaven** has always been one of my favorite old-time pop songs. It was a monster number one hit in 1927 for America's number one pop singer Gene Austin, who, by the way was a major role model for Jimmie Rodgers. I have always been a huge fan of Jimmie Rodgers and have featured two more of his songs on this record, **Land Of My Boyhood Dreams** and **Moonlight And Skies**. The latter along with *Waiting For A Train* were hugely popular among cowboys from the 1930's to the 1950's.



Me and my pal Rebel.



My Grandson Jake.  
Maybe the next generation  
of cowboy singers.

Ever since I was a little kid listening to Gene Autry on the radio every Sunday night (had no TV), I was always trying to learn those songs he would sing. **Boots And Saddle** was one of the first I remember learning. I later found a recording of the song by Riley Puckett and became a big fan of his too. It was Riley Puckett who led me to **Ragged But Right**.

How could anyone who's ever lived in Texas not be inspired by the music of Bob Wills? Although I had met Mr. Wills on several occasions I never really knew him. But if there was one thing we both had in common it was a love for Cindy Walker. Without a doubt, Cindy is one of the greatest songwriters ever! One of my favorites of Cindy's Western songs is **Dusty Skies**. I have recorded it before, but here it is once more.

One of the earliest recordings of **Goodbye Old Pal** that I have is by Cliff Carlisle who I believe may have been the song's author. I have sung the song for many years, but never recorded it until now. The song really hit home here this past March when I had to put down my favorite horse Rebel. He was a beautiful sorrel Morgan. A kind, gentle and smart friend and pal for thirty years. He's sleeping peaceful now beneath the Texas sky.

I hope you folks will enjoy this record as much as we enjoyed making it. No message, no agenda, no nothin' just playing music with some friends who just happen to be great players as well as great people whom I love and admire. Thank you very much and good night lovers of good music wherever you are.

**Don Edwards**  
**Sevenshox Ranch**  
**Hamilton Co. Texas**



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Tracks 1-3-5-8-10 Recorded at Eagle Audio Fort Worth, TX  
Engineer & Mix - Mike Talmage

Tracks 2-6-7-9-11-13 Recorded at The Western Jubilee  
Warehouse Colorado Springs, Colorado  
Engineer & Mix - Butch Hause

Tracks 4 and 12 Recorded at Casey Jones Recording,  
Burleson, Texas

Engineer - Aarom Meador Mix - Butch Hause

**Produced by Don Edwards**

**Executive Producer Scott O'Malley**

Mastered by David Glasser - Airshow Mastering, Boulder, CO

Cover photo, photo to left - Donald Kallaus

Photo of Don & Rebel - Dick Cappleman

Layout & Design - The Fabulous Weed Brothers

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# DON EDWARDS - MOONLIGHT AND SKIES

1. **MY BLUE HEAVEN** *George Whiting*—Walter Donaldson, Donaldson Publishing, ASCAP  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Rich O'Brien - guitar; Cindy Cashdollar - dobro; Mark Abbott - bass; Glen Rothstein - clarinet
2. **ST. LOUIS BLUES** *W.C. Handy, Traditional*  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Norman Blake — mandolin
3. **LAND OF MY BOYHOOD DREAMS** *Jimmie Rodgers*, Peermusic, ASCAP  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Rich O'Brien - guitar; Cindy Cashdollar - dobro
4. **BOOTS AND SADDLE** *Walter G. Samuels—Leonard Whitcup—Teddy Powell* Crisscott Music Co., ASCAP  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Rich O'Brien — guitar; Bob Boatright — fiddle; Mark Abbott - bass
5. **THAT'S HOW THE VODEL WAS BORN** *Greene — Javits — Anthony*  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Rich O'Brien - guitar; Cindy Cashdollar - dobro; Mark Abbott - bass
6. **MOONLIGHT AND SKIES** *Jimmie Rodgers* Peermusic, ASCAP  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Norman Blake — guitar
7. **RAGGED BUT RIGHT** *Traditional*  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Norman Blake — guitar
8. **THE LONG TRAIL** *Trad. Arr./Adapt. By Don Edwards* Night Horse Songs, BMI  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Rich O'Brien - guitar; Cindy Cashdollar - dobro; Mark Abbott - fiddle
9. **COYOTES** *Bob McDill*, Polygram International Pub., Inc. Ranger Bob Music, ASCAP  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Norman Blake - fiddle; Nancy Blake — cello; Butch Hause — bass;  
Jon Chandler - Harmonica; Hannah Alkire - cello
10. **DUSTY SKIES** *Cindy Walker*, Mesa Music Company, BMI  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Rich O'Brien - guitar; Cindy Cashdollar - dobro; Mark Abbott — fiddle; Rich O'Brien - mandolin
11. **GOODBYE OLD PAL** *Cliff Carlisle*  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Norman Blake - resonator slide guitar
12. **CAN'T SHAKE THE SANDS OF TEXAS FROM MY SHOES** *Gene Autry — Diane Johnston — Kenneth Pitts*  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Rich O'Brien — guitar; Bob Boatright — fiddle; Joey McKenzie — banjo; Mark Abbott - bass
13. **THE DYING COWBOY OF RIMROCK RANCH** *Traditional Arr./Adapt. By Don Edwards* Night Horse Songs, BMI  
Don Edwards - vocal and guitar; Nancy Blake - harmony vocal; Norman Blake — guitar



"Edwards... now considered by many to be the best Cowboy and Western music artist in the world, perhaps ever." – Tucson Citizen

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|--|--|
| 1. MY BLUE HEAVEN - 2:41                   | 7. RAGGED BUT RIGHT - 2:42                                 |
| 2. ST. LOUIS BLUES - 3:26                  | 8. THE LONG TRAIL - 2:58                                   |
| 3. LAND OF MY<br>BOYHOOD DREAMS - 3:25     | 9. COYOTES - 4:31  |
| 4. BOOTS AND SADDLE - 4:45                 | 10. DUSTY SKIES - 3:45                                     |
| 5. THAT'S HOW THE YODEL<br>WAS BORN - 4:45 | 11. GOODBYE OLD PAL - 2:54                                 |
| 6. MOONLIGHT AND SKIES - 3:12              | 12. CAN'T SHAKE THE SANDS OF<br>TEXAS FROM MY SHOES - 3:23 |
|  | 13. THE DYING COWBOY<br>OF RIMROCK RANCH - 4:08            |



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