

# MCCARTNEY

## FACT FILE

### LIVERPOOL FAMILY

James Paul McCartney was born on born June 18, 1942, in Liverpool, England. His mother, Mary, was a nurse who died of cancer in 1956, and his father, James, a jazz musician, died in the 1970s. McCartney has two siblings. His brother, Michael, is a photographer and his sister, Ruth, a singer.



“Linda McCartney’s Home Cooking”

“Linda McCartney’s Home Cooking” published in 1991. A book of her rock ‘n’ roll photographs from the 1960s came out the following year.

### WINGING IT

The name of McCartney’s band Wings emerged during the birth of his second daughter, Stella. He said he was thinking about angels when the idea of Wings came to him.

### NO THANKS

When the Wings tour pulled into New York City in 1976, McCartney asked former Beatle partner John Lennon and Lennon’s wife, Yoko Ono, to attend the concert. In typical Lennon fashion, the invitation was snubbed. Another former Beatle, Ringo Starr, later attended the Wings concert in Los Angeles but did not jam with McCartney.

### CANVAS COMPOSITIONS

McCartney took up painting after meeting famed abstract expressionist artist Willem de Kooning in the early 1980s. In 2002, The Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool became the first venue ever permitted to exhibit McCartney’s work.

### MY (OTHER) LOVE

McCartney met current love Heather Mills at a London charity function in 1999. She is a former swimwear model who lost her left leg below the knee after she was hit by a motorcycle in 1993. She has become a spokesperson for banning landmines. In 1996, she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for her work with landmine victims.

### GOOD KNIGHT

In 1997, Queen Elizabeth of England knighted McCartney for his contributions to music. It was the second time McCartney had received a royal honor from the queen. In 1965, McCartney and the three other Beatles were made members of the Order of the British Empire.



Queen Elizabeth

### BABY BROTHER

Shortly before former Beatle George Harrison died in late 2001, McCartney — who has referred to Harrison as his “baby brother” — visited his former bandmate. The two spent several hours reminiscing about their times together. In a strange twist, Harrison died in a Los Angeles home that had once been leased by McCartney.

### AT THE SPEED OF SOUND

McCartney-mania is alive and well. Tickets for his 2002 U.S. concert tour sold out fast. In Boston, the concert sold out in 15 minutes. In Philadelphia, it took 19 minutes. In San Jose, tickets were snapped up in 23 minutes. And in Toronto and Washington, tickets were gone within half an hour.



PATRICK SCHNEIDER/KRT

## After four decades, Sir Paul is still here, there and everywhere

BY CHUCK MYERS  
*Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service*

That boyish charm. That distinctive voice. That undeniable talent. For more than 40 years, Sir Paul McCartney has been a fixture on the rock ‘n’ roll landscape. From his beginnings with the Beatles to his still-strong solo career, McCartney has been a rock powerhouse. He not only set a standard for success in the music business, but he also used his stature to promote humanitarian causes.

The son of a jazz musician in England, McCartney embarked on his musical career after meeting John Lennon at a Liverpool garden party in 1957. The two joined forces in what would become one of the most successful songwriting partnerships in music history. Along with guitarist George Harrison and drummer Ringo Starr, McCartney and Lennon formed the Beatles; by the early 1960s, the quartet was on its way to stardom.

With the Beatles, McCartney honed and expanded his musical skills. He was the driving force behind many of the group’s classics, including “Eleanor Rigby,” “Hey Jude” and “Let It Be,” and he gave the album “Abbey Road” its almost operatic quality. “Yesterday,” McCartney’s most famous Beatles number, became the most recorded song in history and has been put to disc by more than 2,000 artists.

While Lennon often was at the center of controversy over his Beatles songs and public quips, McCartney had occasional notorious moments as well. His edgy “White Album” tune “Helter Skelter” earned unwanted attention after it became associated with Charles Manson and the activities of his murderous waifs.

In 1969, McCartney likely broke millions of hearts when he announced his marriage to American-born photographer Linda Eastman. He formed a new band — later dubbed Wings — with his wife after the Fab Four went their separate ways in the early 1970s.

On the strength of songs like the ballad “Band on the Run,”



PHOTO COURTESY OF JANE SCOTT



HARRY HAMBURG/KRT

the tender “My Love,” the buoyant “Silly Love Songs” and the James Bond soundtrack classic “Live and Let Die,” Wings racked up five No. 1 albums and 17 hit singles. In 1976, Wings went on the road for one of rock’s first true mega-tours. The Wings world tour shattered the arena attendance record, surpassing the old record set by the Beatles in 1965.

Wings disbanded in 1981, but McCartney’s success continued to grow over the next two decades. He crafted near perfect pop songs and developed new pursuits, including writing poetry, composing a classical choral piece and painting. He also lent his support to charities and humanitarian causes. With Linda’s encouragement, McCartney became a

**Top: Sir Paul McCartney performs during the 2002 Super Bowl pregame show. Above: McCartney entertains reporters in 1965. Left: McCartney and Heather Mills met with U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell to discuss the worldwide eradication of landmines.**

leading advocate for animal welfare, which he continues to promote today through his support for a ban on fox hunting in England.

In April 1998, Linda McCartney died of breast cancer. She and McCartney had raised four children together: Heather (Linda’s daughter from a previous marriage), Mary, Stella and James. McCartney issued this statement to the press: “Linda was, and still is, the love of my life, and the past two years we spent battling her disease have been a nightmare. She never complained and always hoped to be able to conquer it. It was not to be.”

McCartney did find love again after meeting former model Heather Mills in 1999. The two became engaged in July 2001.

After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, McCartney organized a concert at New York’s Madison Square Garden to raise funds for the families affected by the tragedy.

On the strength of a new album and the popularity of his single “Freedom,” written after Sept. 11, McCartney hit the road again in 2002.

The shows sold out quickly — one in as little as 15 minutes — making it clear that McCartney’s long and winding road still has a very long way to go.

**The Beatles (from left): Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, John Lennon and George Harrison.**

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## SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY

Starting in the 1960s, McCartney and the Beatles had many hit albums, including:



Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band, 1967



Magical Mystery Tour, 1967



The Beatles (The White Album), 1968



Abbey Road, 1969



Let It Be, 1970

**McCartney found success on his own and with his band, Wings. Top albums include:**



Ram, 1971



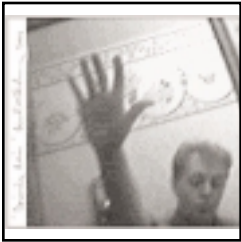
Band on the Run, 1973



Pipes of Peace, 1983



Flaming Pie, 1997



Driving Rain, 2001

