

## **Legendary Country and Gospel Artist Leon Everette to be Inducted into the Independent Country Music Hall of Fame**

The induction will take place during the 12th Annual Josie Music Awards Weekend



**Nashville, Tennessee May 6, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](http://www.IssueWire.com))** - The Josie Music Association, LLC, is proud to announce that celebrated artist Leon Everette will be officially inducted into the Independent Country Music Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony will take place on Saturday, September 19, 2026, during the prestigious 12th Annual Josie Music Awards weekend in Nashville, Tennessee.

With a career defined by resilience, talent, and unwavering faith, Leon Everette's journey is remarkable. A two-time Vietnam veteran and U.S. Navy serviceman, Everette first discovered his gift after winning a Navy-sponsored talent contest. This sparked a trajectory that took him from the mailrooms of Nashville to the top of the Billboard charts.

During his tenure with RCA Records, Everette achieved eleven consecutive Top 10 hits and nine gold albums. His #1 hit single, "Hurricane," became a career-defining anthem, leading to high-profile performances on The Grand Ole Opry, Hee Haw, and Nashville Now. An international pioneer, he was the first country artist to perform in Italy and at London's Wembley Stadium, bringing American country music to a global stage.

Beyond the accolades, Everette's most profound chapter began in 1997 when he dedicated his life to faith. Today, alongside his wife Diane, he continues to perform with a focus on gospel and country music, hosting the television show God and Country Time with Leon Everette and Friends and managing his own label, GAC Records.

"I have never met a greater man in my lifetime," stated Wesley Fricks, Everette's manager. "Leon Everette is one of the greatest entertainers of all time, and I am so proud of this accomplishment!"

The induction into the Independent Country Music Hall of Fame on September 19th serves as a fitting tribute to a man who has not only shaped the sound of country music but has also inspired countless others through his devotion and strength.

For more information on Leon Everette, please visit [www.leoneverettemusic.com](http://www.leoneverettemusic.com) or find him on Facebook.

About the Josie Music Awards:

The Josie Music Awards is the largest privately owned, independent, multi-genre award show in the industry, dedicated to celebrating the hard work and talent of independent artists and legends worldwide.

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