

## Randy Meisner – Bio

Randy Herman Meisner was born on 8<sup>th</sup> March 1946 in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. In his mid-teens he became the bass player in the local band The Dynamics – which also featured Larry Soto, Richard Rohnke and John Ankony. In late 1962 Paul Asmus was recruited when Rohnke entered the military, by which time the band had adopted the name The Drivin' Dynamics. The band cut a four song EP with Meisner taking the lead on Sam Cooke's "You Send Me." As the band's popularity increased further line-up changes followed, and in 1965 following a battle of the bands contest in Denver, Meisner was persuaded to join contest winners The Soul Survivors [NOT the hit band of that name]. When the band relocated to California they changed their name to The Poor. The band line-up included xxxx. During 1966/67, The Poor released a number of singles on Loma, York and Decca Records.

For a time Meisner worked as a session musician and joined Poco for their first album **"Pickin' Up The Pieces."** Apart from Meisner, the original line-up of Poco was composed of Richie Furay and Jim Messina from the recently imploded Buffalo Springfield, plus Denver, Colorado musicians and old acquaintances of Randy's, Rusty Young and George Grantham. Young and Grantham had previously been members of The Boenzee Cryque. Meisner left soon after Poco's debut album was completed and was replaced by Timothy B. Schmit [ex-Glad]. In 1970 Randy joined Rick Nelson's Stone Canyon Band and played on a couple of the fifties teen idol's country-rock recordings, including **"In Concert"** recorded at Doug Weston's Troubadour. Concurrently, along with Don Henley [drums], Glenn Frey [guitar] and Bernie Leadon [guitar], Randy was a member of Linda Ronstadt's road band. In 1972, signed by David Geffen's Asylum Records, the latter quartet took the name The Eagles. As well as being the band's bass player Meisner, on occasions, played guitar and also contributed original songs to the band's albums most notably sharing the lead vocal on "Take It To The Limit" [co-written with Henley and Frey] which gave the band a # xx U.S. Pop Chart hit. The song gave the band its first gold single. Following the success of **"One of These Nights"** the band became major league players but tired of touring and wishing to spend more time with this family, Meisner left The Eagles after they recorded and toured **"Hotel California"** and his replacement was Timothy B. Schmit. When the band's double album **"Live"** [1980] was released, it featured Meisner's lead vocal on a 1976 recording of "Take It To The Limit."

Meisner went on to sign a solo recording deal with Elektra Records which resulted in two albums **"Randy Meisner"** produced by Alan Brackett and **"One More Song"** produced by Val Garay. In 1981 "Hearts On Fire," co-written with Eric Kaz, and the opening track on the latter album gave Randy a # 14 U.S. Pop Chart hit. In 1982 CBS/Epic released another self-titled collection. Seven years later, the original members of Poco, including Meisner, reformed and cut the album **"Legacy."** Three years later, Meisner and Billy Swan were members of the band Black Tie which enjoyed a hit single with a cover of Buddy Holly's "Learning The Game." For a time Meisner performed with former Flying Burrito Brothers/Firefall guitarist Rick Roberts in the Meisner-Roberts Band.

In 1999, Randy joined current Eagles - Glenn Frey, Don Henley, Joe Walsh and Timothy B. Schmidt - plus past members Bernie Leadon and Don Felder in New York when the band was inducted into Cleveland, Ohio based National Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. It was the first and only occasion on which all seven members were on stage together, and together they performed "Take It Easy" and "Hotel California." The following year, Meisner was inducted into The Nebraska Music Hall of Fame in Mitchell, Nebraska. The same year Meisner cut an album with the World Class Rockers, the line-up of which includes former members of Journey, Steppenwolf, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Santana and Toto.

Produced by Cary E. Mansfield, and mostly featuring songs composed by Charlie Rich Jr [and a few co-written with Billy Swan], **"Meisner, Swan & Rich"** was released in 2001 by Varese Sarabande. Recorded on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1982, at Nicks Uptown Theatre, Dallas, Texas, and co-produced with Buford Jones, **"Live In Dallas"** was initially released in Japan during 2001 and surfaced in the States the following year on Sound City Music. Produced by Randy Meisner and Joey Stec [Millennium], and also released by Sound City Music, **"Love Me Or Leave Me Alone"** was a studio collection that featured songs new and old. Randy has contributed to studio recordings by James Taylor, Joe Walsh [who eventually joined The Eagles], former band mate Rick Roberts, the late Dan Fogelberg, Danny O'Keefe, Mac Gayden, Bob Welch, Peter Lewis, Richie Furay [ex-Poco], Richard Marx & Electric Range.

Discography :

with Poco - **"Pickin' Up The Pieces"** [1969] :

with Rick Nelson – **“In Concert”** [1970] ; **“Rudy The Fifth”** [1971] :  
with The Eagles - **“The Eagles”** [197] ; **“Desperado”** [197] ; **“On The Border”** [197] ; **“One Of These Nights”** [197] ; **“Hotel California”** [1976] :  
with Black Tie - **“When The Night Falls”** [1992] :  
with World Class Rockers – **“World Class Rockers”** [2000] :  
with Billy Swan & Charlie Rich Jr. - **“Meisner, Swan & Rich”** aka **“”** [1994??? 2001] :  
Solo - **“Randy Meisner”** [1978] ; **“One More Song”** [1980] ; **“Randy Meisner”** [1982] ; **“Live In Dallas”** [2002] ; **“Love Me Or Leave Me Alone”** [2004] :

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