

Sports & Entertainment

Friends and those in music industry pay tribute to Lulu Roman, beloved 'Hee Haw' star and Gospel music icon

MT. JULIET, Tenn. – April 24, 2025 – With heavy hearts, we mourn the sudden passing of Louise “Lulu” Roman, an extraordinary country and gospel music artist, comedian, and beloved star of the legendary television show Hee Haw. Lulu, aged 78, passed away unexpectedly on the evening of April 23, 2025, leaving behind a remarkable legacy of music, humor, and unwavering faith that resonated with fans across the globe.

Friends and colleagues share their fond memories of Lulu:
“So sorry to hear of Lulu Roman passing. I loved her joyful attitude! She always lifted everyone up and her voice will live on forever in the country music community. She was a legend in our industry and will be missed!”
- Lee Greenwood
“I am saddened that Lulu Roman has passed. I have known Lulu

since the beginning of my career and she has been a special friend ever since. It’s hard to say good-byes. I will miss my old friend.”
- Crystal Gayle

"Lulu Roman was a dear friend of 40 years and she will always be remembered as one who made people laugh and smile. What better tribute is there? I talked to her a few days ago. We shared one last laugh and I told her that I loved her. I will really miss her. May God bless her soul." - T. Graham Brown

“Lulu has been a part of my life for the past 56 years, from the day we first met at WLAC in May, 1969, for the first taping of ‘Hee Haw.’ From that moment we have shared laughter and tears, raised children, lost too many friends, wrapped each other in consolation and relished the amazing friendship and family ‘Hee Haw’ gave us. It is



“Lulu shown in cornfield she made famous on America’s iconic series, “Hee Haw” (Photos by Jeremy Westby)



not easy to say goodbye, even knowing she’s in a far better place, within a circle of unending love and joy. I will miss her and will cherish every sweet, silly glorious memory of times spent together.” – Cathy Baker

“We were as different as night & day. Working together since 1972 we were the original Hee Haw Honeys and the original Kornfield Friends. Yet we would often squabble and then makeup by saying “I love you Lu and she would say “I love you too Sugar.” Lulu was a gift in my life. She played my mother twice and yet she was just 3 years older than me. We were Gossipy Girls and

now Lulu is my angel in heaven. I thank God for her time here on earth and I know we will all see her again in that big Kornfield in the sky someday. She will sing us home. Lulu, I will always love you.” - Misty Rowe

“Lulu was my friend for 50+ yearsone of the most genuine and caring people i have ever known.... she was generous to a fault, and her talent was beyond description. To say I will miss her doesn’t even begin to describe the loss.” - Diana Goodman

“Lulu Roman’s talent knew no bounds. I was honored to perform with her on ‘Hee Haw,’ as well as in many stage shows, but more than a cast mate, Lulu was my big sister. For twenty-six years of deep love and loyalty, whether crying tears of sorrow or joy, we were there for each other — always. While the whole world mourns an icon, I mourn the best big sister anyone ever

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welcomed back with open arms." The department released a memorandum, April 23, 2025, directing more clarity regarding the department's efforts to bring back to the military service members who were involuntarily separated for not taking the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as providing additional remedies for those service members.
"We're doing everything we can, as quickly as we can, to reinstate those who were affected by that policy," Hegseth said.
In the memo signed, April 24, 2025, Hegseth directed the secretaries of each military department to conduct a comprehensive review of their Military Equal Opportunity and DOD civilian Equal Employment Opportunity programs to ensure prompt and impartial investigations, fair treatment to all parties involved, and timely and appropriate resolution of allegations of discrimination.
"The DOD has equal opportunity programs for service members and civilians to report discrimination and harassment — that's a good thing," he said. "But what's not good is when these programs are weaponized — some individuals use these programs in bad faith to retaliate against superiors or peers."
The secretary said the memorandum, titled "Restoring Good Order and Discipline Through Balanced Accountability," will address that problem and enable commanders to again lead with confidence.

Finally, the department released a memorandum today, directing the undersecretary of defense for personal and readiness to conduct a review of existing medical waivers offered now by the department and to determine if those waivers should still be offered.

Among them, Hegseth said, are those for medical conditions such as schizophrenia, paraphilic disorders, congestive heart failure and the chronic use of oxygen. "Applicants for military service ... must be physically and mentally able to perform their duties under the harshest of conditions without risk to themselves or others," Hegseth said. "That's why we need clear, high and uncompromising medical and mental standards for those who desire to serve."

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