



LeRoy Broussard

Born: Rayne, Louisiana, June 8, 1921, died November 5, 1991.  
Instrument: accordion, vocals, songwriter

He wrote the “B.O. Sparkle Waltz,” “The Cush Cush Song,” and “Send Me the Key.”

He started playing at eight, professionally at fifteen and worked with Chester Issac, “Pee Wee” Broussard and The Melody Boys,” and Cleveland Crochet.

Style: Cajun

Toured locally in Louisiana and Texas.

He formed ca. 1940, “The Happy-Go-Lucky Band,” “The Lagniappe Gang,” ca.1978.

Recordings: (LP)\* “LeRoy Broussard and the Lagniappe Gang,” (Cajun)-1983. He worked with Leon “Crip” Credeur, Raymond Cormier, Harry Lee Bart, Bobby McBride, Willie “Tee” Trahan, Jesse Credeur, Gerald Broussard, and Merlin Fontenot.

The son of Ulysses and Clotilde Broussard, both musicians, he would steal his father's accordion to practice and learned to play without his father knowing. When he was ten the family moved to Winnie, Texas, and a few years later, at about fifteen he started to play professionally with local Cajun bands.

In the early 1940s he moved back to Louisiana and joined “Pee Wee” Broussard's band, “The Melody Boys.” It was just a few years later that he formed his own group, “The Happy-Go-Lucky Band.” By the mid 1940s he was back in Texas playing music and managing the B.O. Sparkle Club in Bridge City, Texas, and by the late 1950s back in Louisiana working for the city of Lafayette, Louisiana, where he retired after fifteen years due to disability.

On the second of November, 1991, at a jam-session at the Friendly Inn, Lafayette, Louisiana, he dropped in to play a few songs with his friends. He played four numbers and stopped

playing complaining of weakness. He died three days later at his home in Carencro, Louisiana. He played the music he loved for fifty years. According to Mr. C. J. Broussard, LeRoy was the first Cajun accordionist to play dances standing up contrary to the credit given the late Austin Pitre. Mr. C.J. Broussard, who is said to have owned eleven night clubs, hired LeRoy to play at his B.O. Sparkle Club in the early 1950s. What brought all this about was that LeRoy would play his accordion when at home often lying in bed! Mr. C.J. asked him how long he could play standing up and the reply from LeRoy was, "As long as you want." Mr. C.J. Broussard had LeRoy play his dances standing up from then on.

\*Columbus "Boy" Fruge claims LeRoy recorded "Lemonade Song," for Victor Records in 1929.

His remains are interred in Green Lawn Memorial Cemetary, Lafayette, Louisiana.