# **THE GENUINE ELVIS**



### THE GENUINE ELVIS Photos and Untold Stories about the King

Ronnie McDowell, Edie Hand, and Joe Meador



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 $\mathit{Frontispiece:}$  Elvis Presley on Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey's  $\mathit{Stage Show},$  February 1956



Printed in Singapore Published by Pelican Publishing Company, Inc. 1000 Burmaster Street, Gretna, Louisiana 70053 To all the Elvis fans, because he *rocked* all our worlds.





#### Timeless, by Ronnie McDowell, 2005

Standing on an old LP record, a young Elvis Presley is surrounded by the Jordanaires as they look today, with a young guitarist Scotty Moore, drummer D.J. Fontana, and bassist Bill Black. Whatever their ages, the men and the music are timeless. This scene is based on an *Ed Sullivan Show* set, but most fans don't recognize it since the network would only show Elvis and his performers from the waist up due to the way Elvis moved to the music.

### Preface

I am so glad to be a part of this collection from family, friends, and fans, and I know you'll treasure the stories, the photos, and Ronnie McDowell's art expressions.

When Ronnie McDowell and Joe Meador asked me to research the possibilities of an insightful, reflective book on Elvis for his fans, I never dreamed the project and these guys would become so special to me. As a cousin to Elvis Presley, it has been my privilege to reveal to all of you insights into the "genuine Elvis" like never before.

Put on your blue suede shoes, slick back your hair, and roll down the windows of your heart. It's a new rock 'n' roll ride for all of you!

> Edie Hand Cousin to the King of Rock 'n' Roll



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"It is rare when an artist's talent can touch an entire generation of people. It's even more rare when that same artist's influence affects several generations in all walks of life. Elvis made an imprint on the world of pop music unequaled by any other single performer." Dick Clark

*Opposite:* Elvis at Russwood Park concert after his first appearance on the *Ed Sullivan Show*.