



Good times and good friends await you in Knoxville,
a vibrant and beautiful river city with an abundance of great restaurants,
nightlife, museums, shopping, family fun and national championship sports.
It's a warm, welcoming place with its own distinct history, spirited arts
community and blessed with the natural beauty of the Tennessee River and the
Great Smoky Mountains.

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FAMOUS KNOXVILLIANS

Here are a few folks and items with roots in Knoxville, Tennessee.

- Roy Acuff, country singer
- James Agee, Pulitzer prize winning writer
- Chet Atkins, musician
- Marilou Awiakta, writer
- Ava Barber, country music singer
- Charlotte Barr, poetry writer
- Bill Bass, forensic anthropologist
- Polly Bergen, actress & singer
- Brian Bell, guitarist for music group "Weezer"
- William Blount, U.S. Statesman and Governor of the Southwest Territory
- Rebecca Brandewyne, romance writer
- Clarence Brown, American film director
- Kristian Bush, American folk rock and country singer
- Jake Butcher, banker
- Carl Butler, musician
- Julie Cannon, writer
- Tamika Catchings, WNBA basketball player
- Kenny Chesney, country music singer
- Henry Cho, comedian
- Mary Costa, voice used in Disney movies
- Linda Cousins, writer
- John Cullum, actor, TV series "Northern Exposure," Tony Award winner
- Lowell Cunningham, comic book creator of "Men in Black" series
- Kid Curry, a member of Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch
- Beauford Delaney, artist
- Joseph Delaney, artist
- George Dempster, former Knoxville Mayor, Dempster Dumpster inventor
- Eleanor Dickinson, artist

- Steve Duncan, member of Grand Ole Opry
- Milton Estes, Grand Ole Opry star
- Roy Evans, Major League baseball player
- Everly Brothers, singing duo
- Faith Fancher, first African American woman television reporter in Knoxville
- David Glasgow Farragut, American naval hero
- Dave Foster, writer
- Graham Foust, writer
- Megan Fox, actress
- Nikki Giovanni, writer
- James Franklin Goodson, founder of JFG Coffee
- Daryl Green, writer
- Alex Haley, American biographer, scriptwriter, famous author of the novel “Roots”
- Jack Hanna, zoo director & animal adventurer, guest of David Letterman & other TV shows
- William Henry Hastie, first African-American federal judge
- Todd Helton, MLB’s Colorado Rockies first baseman & former UT player
- Nora Hendrix, grandmother of Jimi Hendrix
- Homer & Jethro, parody singers
- Con Hunley, musician
- Dennis Hwang, designs special logos for Google.com
- Caledonia Johnson, a slave who became Knoxville’s first millionaire
- Judybats, band
- David Keith, actor, won golden globe for “An Office and a Gentlemen” in 1982
- General Henry Knox, military, city named after him
- Johnny Knoxville (P.J. Clapp), actor and MTV funnyman
- Charles Krutch, photographer
- Joseph Wood Krutch, writer
- Peyton Manning, NFL star and 2006 Superbowl champion for the Indianapolis Colts, former UT football player
- Lowell Mason, “World’s Smallest Gospel Singer”
- Cormac McCarthy, novelist
- Walter “Brownie” McGee, guitarist & songwriter
- Reggie McKenzie, pro football player, former UT player
- Raleigh McKenzie, pro football player, former UT player
- George McMillan, writer & reporter
- Scott Miller, musician for the “Blue Collar TV” series
- Mountain Dew, soft drink originally produced in Knoxville, TN
- Ryan Murphy, creator of the acclaimed cable drama “Nip/Tuck”
- Ella Nolan, from ABC’s “The Bachelor”
- Adolph Ochs, former owner of the New York Times
- Randy Orton, WWE Champion
- Candace Parker, WNBA player
- Dolly Parton, country music star, song writer, actress, author, owner of Dollywood

- Chad Pennington, NFL star for the Miami Dolphins
- Petro's Chili & Chips, restaurant began at 1982 World's Fair Park in Knoxville
- Dr. Jerry Punch, analyst on ESPN
- Brad Renfro, movie actor, best known for acclaimed film "The Client"
- John Rogers Sr., judge
- Mitch Rouse, comedian & TV actor
- Doris Sams, one of the first female baseball players
- Edward Terry Sanford, Supreme Court Justice
- Bessie Smith, Blues singer
- Quentin Tarantino, actor & director of "Pulp Fiction" & "Kill Bill"
- John Tate, WBA Heavyweight Champion
- Bernard Taylor, one-time Olympian and former Top Featherweight Champion
- Eddie Taylor, famous billiard player known as the "Knoxville Bear"
- Tennessee Marble, largely exported marble
- Bob Thomas, actors, radio announcer, writer
- Dave Thomas, Wendy's Restaurant creator, worked at Regas Restaurant
- Jake Thomas, actor on "Lizzie McGuire" TV show
- Joyce Carol Thomas, writer
- Joseph Reddeford Walker, founded Walker's Pass in Yosemite
- James Melvin Washington, writer
- Tina Wesson, won one million dollars on TV's "Survivor" in 2001
- Hugh Lawson White, political leader
- Reggie White, former Green Bay Packers NFL star, former UT Defensive lineman
- Ralph Wiley, Sports Illustrated & ESPN sports journalist

The Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corporation promotes the Knoxville/Knox County area as a premier destination for conventions, sports-related events & leisure travelers to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of the City and County, while generating economic impact & development.

"It's All Here, Just for You. Enjoy!"

www.Knoxville.org