

During grad school with this one guy. I started writing nothing very good. And you?

Wanda: Never occurred to me for a second that I could write a song

Earl: Until --

Wanda: Until I met you guys.

Earl: There was a group of us that met at school & everyone was writing stories; the most amazing, well-fit group of people I'd ever met in my life. It was the biggest community of people that belonged together. It'll never happen again, I don't think,

Wanda: It was an amazing coincidence of kindred spirits.

Earl: And the material that came out of it; there were so many stories, so many songs, so many pieces of art & so many bands -- it was really something & it all had to do with the compatibility of the group. That's where all these little offshoots got started.

Robert: You were living in North Carolina for awhile.

Earl: I lived there for about a year, when these guys moved out here, we all decided to leave Boston & New England. These guys came here & I went to NC 'cause I just wanted to be -- quiet. I didn't want to go to another city, I guess.

Robert: Where in NC did you live?

Earl: I was in a place called Lexington, which is famous for being the B-B-Q capital of the world, which it probably is.

Wanda: The B-B-Q is amazing,



*Wanda Taters*

Earl: yeah. It's a town of about 3-5,000 to, I think, about 100,000 coming there once a year for B-B-Q Fest; somethin' to see. I went down there; didn't do much. Just sort of hung out for a year,

Wanda: He had free rent in a cool house with, like, 10 cats.

Earl: I had 6 cats, 6 wild cats: 40 acres & a house I didn't have to pay rent on. It was pretty nice - good for a year. Got a little lonely after that. And I got 12-15 songs out of it.

Wanda: He was working by himself with a 4-track, writing songs. They sounded more acoustic & minimal; **The Butter Bros.**



*Wanda Taters*

Earl: We do some of those songs.

Wanda: Some, yeah. There's still a lot in the wings.

Earl: They were demos for **The Buckets**. I thought I would try to get them going in NC, but there was nothing. The big town I was nearest was Winston-Salem & there was just nothing going on near there. There's a lot of great towns in NC; Winston-Salem, at that time, didn't have much happening & I couldn't generate much interest. Also, down there, country music was sorta -- out. And I was just coming into it. When I started, the most I'd heard of country was Hank Williams & Dwight Yoakum, who got kinda big on the college charts.

Wanda: Hank Williams, Jr.?

Earl: No! I hate Hank Williams, Jr.

Wanda: Hank Williams was having a run on the college charts?

Earl: No; Dwight Yoakum was.

Wanda: Oh.

Earl: I said, all I had heard of country was those 2 -- and **HEE HAW** which I watched all the time when I was a kid. (laughter) Oh God, we watched **HEE HAW** every Sunday night.

Robert: The 1st Buckets show was at the Hotel Utah.

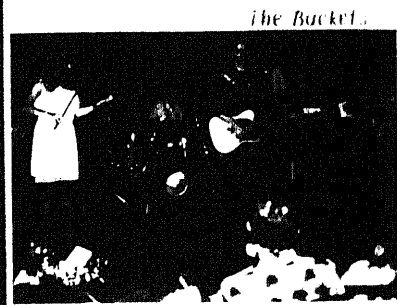
*Earl Butter*



*& Kid Coyote*



**The Buckets: (l-r) Wanda Taters, Kid Coyote, Long John Gonzales, Jo Jo Hoot, Earl Butter**



*The Buckets*