



Dick Hardwick

Laughing is his life ... Laughing is his business

He wasn't the local jokester

He wasn't even the class clown!

Dick Hardwick was one of the really COOL guys- a hip kid and an "A" student of the arts-who began playing drums for pay with college bands by the time he was 11 years old.

It seems his father frequently served as a hometown public speaker... and he also had the only danceband in town... so every Fri-Sat night Pop Hardwick turned into a local "star!" "I was only three years old when I'd sit at the edge of my daddy's bandstand," Dick Hardwick recalls, "and I would just be fascinated with the sparkle on their drums. That's what really initiated my interest in playing drums at such an early age."

This sound was absolutely intoxicating to Hardwick. It was entertaining! It was so different from what he had been playing! And it gave him a deep desire for wanting to "beat his drums"... so to speak... performing this exciting, new, sassy, sound. So they returned to Indiana and promptly landed a job at the local Legion's Club.

This marked the true birth of Hardwick's career as a comedian, although he was totally unaware of any milestone at the time-- because to him it was just "horsing around" in-between songs! A quick study in many musical instruments gave Hardwick an obvious edge, but he also had something else, maybe even more important.

And the reason is still the same. "Because I can do my entire routine without using one 4-letter word," Hardwick insists. It's a huge part of why this zany comedian is in constant demand for conventions and meetings.

Hardwick, who makes his home in Hollywood, has taken his humor to such impressive venues as The Las Vegas Hilton, Silver Legacy and Caesars Palace to name a few. And over the years, he has worked hundreds of dates for many national names such as AT&T Wireless, State Farm and McDonalds and more.

Dick Hardwick has played as a musician on John Prine's Grammy winning album "The Missing Years". He appeared as an actor in Jackie Gleason's final film "Nothing In Common", co-starring Tom Hanks. He's done radio and television commercials. And he's been featured with major acts like Johnny Mathis, Gladys Knight, Ray Charles and so many more.

Back in the beginning, it was Hardwick's dad who first taught him to play those "sparkling" drums, but since that time he has expanded his musical expertise to also include string bass, guitar, harmonica, jaw harp, bones, washboards, and calliope. However, the instrument he has truly mastered is the LAUGHING MACHINE.

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"When you asked me not to worry about our employees laughing, I had no idea we would all be bent over our chairs laughing so hard!" - Casio-Phonemate

"Thank you for making our 27th Annual Convention our most successful show in Safari Club history. I have received excellent feedback and many compliments noting that President Bush and General Schwartzkopf were both laughing pretty hard!" - The Safari Club

"What impressed us the most, as you exceeded our Top Ten event, was how much you genuinely cared about each of the people you introduced. You showed respect and admiration for all the efforts of our winning managers. And, you were funny!" - Kentucky Fried Chicken

"I would highly recommend Dick Hardwick for anyone living and breathing who likes to laugh." - Michigan Assoc. of Fairs & Exhibitions

"Dick Hardwick's performance at our National Sales Meeting surpassed our expectations! It's been 30 minutes since Dick's show ended, and my cheek bones still hurt from the constant smile on my face"... - The Taylor Company

"Our incentive audiences were thoroughly entertained in each venue... I don't believe there is a day that goes by now that the phrase 'There ya' go'... isn't muttered by an attendee who fondly remembers your appearance"... - Mike Ross, Dir of Special Events, UNISYS Corp.

"Anyplace I put Dick Hardwick he is always a success. He is immediately likable, dependable and a tremendous talent. I recommend him to anyone wanting a successful event... he is a special person." - Sonny Anderson, Sonny Anderson Associates, Inc.