

Chuck Jackson and the All Stars

<http://www.chuckjackson.com>

On March 11th, 1953 a future bluesman Joseph Charles Jackson was born in St. Joseph's hospital in Toronto. Raised by his grandma Mary Jackson and grandpa Charlie Jackson, Chuck grew up in Port Credit later to become part of the Mississauga Delta. Although he first had a dream of becoming a professional hockey player, at age 5 when his grandpa would have his friends over to play country music, he would sit Chuck on his knee and play the spoons and jam thru the night, Chuck knew hockey wasn't his true calling.

Chuck's grandpa wasn't his only inspiration. In grade 5 Chuck had a music teacher from the hit band "**Robbie Lane and the Disciples**", Mr. Hancock, but he didn't keep his love for music to himself, he taught them songs from "The Beatles", "The Rolling Stones" and many more talented artists from the 1960's.

No doubt, Chuck and friends didn't waste any time, they started their first band "**Blue Condition**". Even though Chuck is now known for his award winning vocals, Chuck started as a bass player. But by high school he realized that harmonica playing, and being a front man was what he really wanted to do

As much as Chuck enjoyed learning, In grade 11 he left school to pursue a music career. After a year off of school, Chuck met up with his friends and they began to tour around Quebec, Ontario, and all of Eastern Canada in their band "**Northern Dancer**", which soon became one of the most popular bands in the bar circuit.

After ten years of playing with his high school buddies Chuck caught his big break by joining one of Toronto's most popular bands "**The Cameo Blues Band**". During this time Chuck married his high school sweetheart Sue Henderson and had his first child Justin Jackson.

After being in "**The Cameo Blues Band**" for 14 years Chuck was offered a job as the lead vocalist of Canada's top Blues Band "**Downchild**". At this same time Chuck met his second wife Suzanne Grady and in 1995 had his second child, the amazing Sydney Jackson, Chuck's pride and joy.

In 1995 Chuck received his first **Juno Nomination** for the Downchild album "**Good Times Guaranteed**". In 1997 Chuck was nominated and then won his first **Maple Blues Award** as Canada's top Blues Male Vocalist, and to date has been nominated 7 times and has won twice.

In 1999 while touring with Downchild and playing at the top festivals throughout North America, Chuck decided to bring the blues home by starting the **Southside Shuffle Blues and Jazz Festival**. Now celebrating it's 11th anniversary, the Southside Shuffle has become one of Canada's top blues festivals. In 2002 Chuck won the "**Blues With A Feeling Award**" Also known as the lifetime achievement award for proving his

dedication in the development of Blues in Canada

Now in his 19th year with Downchild Blues Band and in his 36th year in the Canadian music industry Chuck is very happy with his life and has become a major star in the world of Blues.

Chuck says "Being able to play the music I love and entertain the wonderful people across Canada and throughout the world is certainly a dream come true for a little boy who began playing harmonica sitting on his grandpa's knee and realizing his love for music 50 years ago".