

Twitter Thread by [David Burge](#)

[David Burge](#)

[@iowahawkblog](#)



62nd anniversary of The Day The Music Died.

CLEAR LAKE IOWA
THE FINEST BANDS
Surf
THE FINEST PEOPLE

Fri., Jan. 30th
MIDWEST CARAVAN

Sat., Jan. 31st
RAY LEWIS
And His Orchestra

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd — DANCING 8 TO 12 P. M.

WINTER DANCE PARTY

BUDDY HOLLY
AND THE
CRICKETS
"PEGGY SUE"

THESE TOP
RECORDING
STARS
IN PERSON

THESE TOP
RECORDING
STARS
IN PERSON

BIG BOPPER
"CHANTILLY LACE"

RITCHIE VALENS
"DONNA"
"COME ON, LET'S GO"

THESE TOP
RECORDING
STARS
IN PERSON

DION
AND
The BELMONTs
"I WONDER WHY"

Extra
Attraction

FRANKIE SARDO

New Hit
"TAKE-OUT"

For Ages 12 to 21. This All-Star Cast
Bob Hale to M.C. & Spin Records. Adm. \$1.25; Checking 10c

*Advertisement for the last performance in Clear Lake, Iowa,
February 2, 1959 (Mason City Globe-Gazette)*

Some shots from that final show at the Surf Ballroom. That's Waylon Jennings playing bass for both Buddy Holly and Richie Valens. He didn't ride on the plane because he lost a coin flip.



correction - it was Buddy Holly's guitarist Tommy Allsup who lost the plane ride coin flip to Richie Valens; Waylon Jennings reluctantly gave up his seat on the plane to JR "The Big Bopper" Richardson because Richardson had the flu.

In their last conversation, Buddy Holly kidded Jennings for 'chickening out' of the plane ride, and joked "I hope your damn bus freezes up again."

Jennings, joking back, told Holly "I hope your ol' plane crashes." That joke haunted Jennings for decades.

The Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake survives, though, and is still a gem; and still hosts an annual February commemorative Winter Dance Party.

