



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT...

Drew Parker Alcovy High School Class of 2010



Born and raised in Newton County, Georgia, Drew Parker followed his dream to Nashville and has been steadily making a name for himself in Country Music. The Class of 2010 Alcovy High School graduate, who attended Heard-Mixon Elementary and Indian Creek Middle School, signed a record deal with Warner Music Nashville and has already served as a co-writer on Luke Combs' debut platinum record, "This Ones For You", Jake Owen's single "Homemade" and Luke Combs' "1,2 Many". He also wrote Combs' "Forever after all" and "Doin This" which have both hit number one in country music.

Parker's dream was and is to make it big in Country Music. Although he kept busy playing baseball and football and participating in FFA at Alcovy, the dream was never far from his thoughts. He eventually attended the Grady School of Radiologic Technology as a backup plan to his music career. But make no mistake, music was the ultimate goal.

Around age 12, Parker said he traveled to local churches and performed as a gospel singer. After high school, he saved the money he earned as an x-ray technologist and made the bold move to Nashville with his wife, Eastside High School graduate Mallory Sauls Parker.

With Mallory by his side, he set out to make a name for himself in the industry. Along the way, he befriended up and coming country music performer, Luke Combs, and the rest as they say is history. His recent single, "While You're Gone" landed him a nomination from the Country Music Association (CMA) for the Song of the Year Award and soon after he made his debut on the Grand Ole Opry stage in Nashville. He also spends time writing songs for other artists although he noted his ultimate goals are to become a member of the Grand Ole Opry and headline his own stadium tour. When he's not making music, Parker said he enjoys being outdoors and of course spending time with Mallory and their daughter Harley, who was born in 2020.

Although he lives in Nashville now, Parker noted that Newton County would always be home and he had no qualms recommending the local community and school system to others who might consider making a move to Covington.

When asked if there were any special teachers who helped and supported him over the years, he quickly rattled off the names of elementary school teachers Robin Simmons, Betty Bernat, Kim Coady, and Mandy Jones, middle school teachers Betsy Proffitt and Sandy Briscoe, and high school teachers Angela Cooper and Karen Booth.

He added if there is one lesson he learned in Newton County Schools, it's that it's important to be a hard worker. And that dedication and commitment is guiding Parker today on his journey to stardom!

