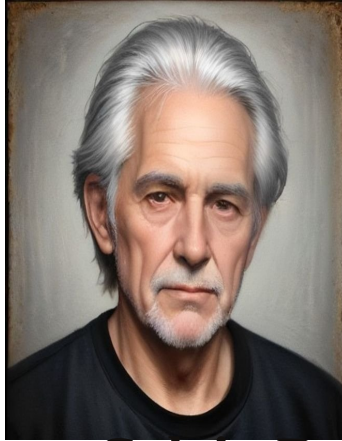




Henry Calvin Boone

August 21, 1948 - September 7, 2026
Nashville, Tennessee

Henry Calvin Boone died in Nashville on September 7, 2026. He was seventy-eight. Born there on August 21, 1948, he grew up behind a club that had a better piano than it had a budget, and he learned both. He could hear a sour cable before the band did. He became a grip and a rigger because a song that falls over is still a song, but it asks more of the singer than it should.

For decades he kept stages alive in rooms whose names changed and whose floors did not. He arrived with a bag of clamps and a patience that did not look like patience from the street. He would not rush a hang. He would not flatter a cheap riser. He would tell a manager the truth about a load-in and then find a way to make Friday possible anyway. Later he took a school-custodian job because the hours were kinder and the work was the same: make the room ready and do not put your name on it.

He married Claudine Boone in 1971. They raised two daughters in a bungalow that grew a garden of tomatoes against the alley. Claudine taught first grade. Henry grilled on a Saturday and considered hot chicken a year-round crop if you were stubborn. After his hearing thinned in the high notes he still came when a small room called, moving slower, listening harder.

Neighbors remember a man who wore a clean shirt to a dusty job, who could sit through a long sound check without checking a clock, and who hummed while he worked as if the room were a conversation. He loved the river at evening, a plate he did not finish, and the particular quiet after the last encore. He died in Nashville, in the heat he had always preferred to a clean cold. The benches are still there. The cables will drift. Someone else will have to tape them.

Services

A gathering in Nashville with one short song, played quietly. A gift to a school arts program or a musicians' clinic is welcome.

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