

THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER

Legendary country music singer-songwriter Dolly Parton died last week at the age of 80. She was a remarkable talent, writing more than 3000 songs for herself and other artists, including [I Will Always Love You](#), which was a number 1 hit for her and [Whitney Houston](#). She wrote another of her biggest hits, [Jolene](#) on the same day!

Her talents made her millions, but she was an astute businesswoman and made sure she kept rights to her songs and other businesses like the *Dollywood* theme park. But she was an incredible **philanthropist** too.

In 2016 when wildfires destroyed thousands of homes in her home country she gave affected families \$1000 a month every month for 6 months. She set up The Imagination Foundation which sent monthly books directly to 3m children. She paid for books and tuition fees for any of her *Dollywood* employees who wanted to attend University. She also donated to AIDS research, the Moderna COVID vaccine and campaigned for LGBTQ rights.

She was born into poverty, the fourth of twelve children to an illiterate but hard working father and when she found success she never forgot her roots or the community that she came from.



- What's your favourite Dolly Parton song and why is it [9 to 5](#)?
- Do you think Dolly would want to be remembered for her music or her **philanthropy**?
- If you were rich what would you do with your money?

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