

Jim Wise

The windup, an outstretched 6 feet, 4 inches body, the smokin' powerful release, and the roar of the crowd have created excitement for Jim Wise in two careers.

A native of Joplin, Missouri, Jim was always focused on sports, but at the age of 14 he bought his first guitar from Grandpa's Discount House for \$89. He "picked and grinned" with his high school friends and played in bands, but he soon learned he couldn't devote time to both sports and musical activities when his sports career began to soar. Jim attended the University of Iowa on a sports scholarship and upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science degree was drafted by professional baseball.

Jim became a successful St. Louis Cardinals pitcher, and after several seasons an injury sidelined his career. After baseball, he moved to Elmhurst, Illinois, to become a park recreational supervisor, and at night he picked up his guitar and honed his singing talents as a solo act at coffee houses and clubs on Chicago's Rush Street. He eventually graduated to his own self-contained touring band, became hooked on music and entertained dreams of becoming a successful country music recording artist.

For the past decade Jim has worked the "roadhouse" clubs and has progressed to large concert venues – being the opening act for major headliners. His stature, smooth baritone voice and a rockin' country set get the attention of the audience on his first song and keeps it. The same attention is kept when you listen to Jim's latest album project produced by Chuck Howard.

Discipline dominated many facets of Jim's life. The evidence of this discipline is Jim earning a 3rd Degree Black Belt in Karate and becoming an instrument-rated pilot because of a fear of flying. This discipline is evident, when he's honing his musical craft.

Jim Wise's view from the top of the mound has given him the dedication and determination needed to pursue any career after professional sports. His dream of becoming a successful country music recording artist will become reality, because his game plan is the same for his two careers; the windup, the powerful release and the roar of the enthusiastic crowd.