



Larry Shepard's lead Guitar style can be traced all the way back to his country roots. He started playing guitar at age 6 and by the time he was 13 he was gigging in clubs and honky tonk's both near and far.

Early influences on Larry that shaped his playing and performing are Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash and Merle Haggard, Marty Stuart, Vince Gill, real country as Larry would say. By the time Larry reached the age of 18 his talent got recognized and he was fortunate to start traveling on the Hee Haw Tour as guitar player for the Hagar Twins. His stint touring with national acts didn't stop there as he also spent time on the road with David Frizell, Kenny Price and Hank Thompson just to name a few. Continuing to tour around the country, Larry also spent a number of years in an Elvis Presley Tribute band that was nationally recognized as one of the top Elvis Presley Tribute acts in the world.

As his talent grew, so did the demand for Larry's services as he has played with many bands over the years. He played in Hoosier Country with his brother Mike Shepard (currently plays steel guitar for the Wright Brothers) and toured with Hee Haw as well, Gunter & Company, Joe Hess and The Wandering Cowboys, and the Elvis Tribute band with Paul Butler. One of Larry's best memories as a musician was his time with the band Southern Draw where the band packed folks in night in and night out at all the best clubs. Southern Draw had a large following and was getting national attention at that time. The band was fortunate to have none other

than Mr. Hank Williams Jr. himself doing the master mix for the band on their debut recording. But as with most good bands, all good things come to an end and the band disbanded in the 90's.

Over the years Larry has had the good fortune of opening for many national acts such as Gary Allen, Trick Pony, Confederate Railroad, Trace Adkins, Blackhawk, Phil Vassar, and Ricky Skaggs just to name a few. He's also been a part of Nashville recordings written by country star Gary Allen's song writer.

Larry's a true professional night in night out. His lead playing and back up harmonies are a focal point of SouthRidge's sound. His talents aren't just limited to lead guitar, he also plays banjo, mandolin, bass, Steel Guitar, a little piano and yes even drums.

He currently lives in central Indiana and subs often on both band and acoustic gigs to anything country these days, just doing what Larry loves to do, playing country music and putting his signature stamp on the SouthRidge sound.