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Surf Ballroom & Museum

Killer Vees Plan Special Reunion to Remember Bobby Vee
Performance Predicted to be one of the Highlights of the 2017 Winter Dance Party

CLEAR LAKE, IA – December 13, 2016  The Killer Vees, featuring Jeff, Tommy and Matt Vee along with Ar J Stevens and George Maurer, will reunite at the Surf Ballroom one last time to say goodbye to their father, uncle, friend, mentor and band leader Bobby Vee. Complete with Bobby’s touring string section and cast members from Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story helping out on background vocals, this significant show will be held on Saturday, February 4th as the encore following the annual Three Stars Finale. “This is not a show we ever wanted to do,” said Tommy Vee. “But Dad loved playing the Surf, the ballroom and the fans meant the world to him so this feels important to us and I know it would make Dad smile.”

The show will feature video and stories from Bobby’s career along with all the hits. Bobby’s nephew Matt Vee (son of founding Shadows member Bill Velline) and Ar J Stevens, Bobby’s long time lead guitarist and musical director will cover the lead vocals. “For me to be singing my dear uncle Bobby's songs, in the historic Surf ballroom, is the greatest privilege and honor I can imagine. Bobby is my favorite singer of all time and I was so lucky to be part of his shows over the years as lead guitarist and backing vocalist. It will be a night to celebrate and cherish!” Matt said.

Bobby Vee had a long and storied history with the Surf Ballroom dating back to his earliest days on the road. “Bobby became a mainstay and a fan favorite of the Winter Dance Party, performing during the event countless times since its inception 1979,” recalled Jeff Nicholas, Surf Ballroom & Museum Board President. “I think that out of all of the artists who have performed at the Surf Ballroom during the Winter Dance Party over the years, Bobby made one of the largest impacts on the event and was a dedicated supporter of the venue,” Nicholas concluded. “I think my Dad mentioned the Surf Ballroom from the stage every night,” said Jeff Vee. “It didn’t matter where we were in the world, he would talk about his ties to Buddy Holly and The Surf Ballroom and then play a few of Buddy’s tunes. It was always a highlight of the show.”

Bobby Vee’s career started in Moorhead, MN on February 3, 1959 when his group The Shadows
volunteered to help fill in after learning about the plane crash that took the lives of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper. “My Dad always remembered that night as kind of surreal,” said Tommy. “He said it was kind of like a rock and roll wake… Everybody was in shock.” And so began an international career that spanned 52 years and saw Bobby tour the world and land 38 songs in the Hot 100.

Advance general admission tickets for the 2017 event are on sale now for $115.00 each and are valid for the evenings of Thursday, February 2nd through Saturday, February 4th. Tickets for the event are non-refundable and the entertainment lineup is subject to change. The doors will open each night at 6:30 p.m.

*Surf Ballroom box office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Tickets are on sell now and may be purchased by calling (641) 357-6151 or on-line at www.surfballroom.com.*

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