# University of Oklahoma awards posthumous honorary doctorate to country music star Toby Keith



The University of Oklahoma posthumously awarded country music star Toby Keith with an honorary doctorate during their commencement ceremony over the weekend. Keith, who passed away in February 2023 at 62 due to stomach cancer, had been informed of this honor last fall. His daughter, Krystal Keith, accepted the degree on her father's behalf at the graduation event. The university had previously announced in April that they would honor Keith, citing his significant contributions to music with over 10 billion streams and 44 million albums sold, as well as his philanthropy and business successes within Oklahoma. Keith, who disclosed his cancer diagnosis in 2022 after being diagnosed in October 2021, was celebrated for his extensive support to the university and the state throughout his career. He is survived by his wife of nearly 40 years, Tricia Lucas, their two daughters, Shelley, Krystal, and son, Stelen.