

## Elvis and the “Colonel”

[Elvis Presley](#) was born on January 8, 1935, and died on August 16, 1977. When he was 13, his family moved to [Memphis](#), a city **nicknamed** the "Home of the Blues", although music in Memphis has had many styles, including rock and roll, soul, and hip-hop. Elvis’s first recordings began with [Sun Records](#), a small, legendary label that also produced songs by Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash and others. But Elvis was quickly **spotted** by Colonel Tom Parker, who was not a real colonel, and not even called Tom Parker. Instead, his real name was Andreas van Kuijk, and he had arrived in the United States as an **illegal alien**, perhaps fleeing his native Netherlands for murdering someone. Parker was an incredibly **shady personality**. He became an **inveterate** gambler, and **milked** Elvis until his tragic, early death, brought on by exhaustion and taking too many prescription drugs. But Parker was the marketing genius behind the musical genius of Elvis: he promoted the sexy bad boy “[Elvis the Pelvis](#)”; he promoted the [clean-shaven GI](#) who served his country; he made Elvis the [star of Las Vegas](#) and forced him do two shows a day; he organised the [Aloha from Hawaii](#) concert in January 1973, which an estimated worldwide television audience of 1.3 billion people saw (when the global population was 3.9 billion). The Colonel made money from selling “I like Elvis” **buttons**, and from selling “I hate Elvis” buttons. Parker died in 1997... Elvis lives forever.

Nickname=name replacing a real name

To spot= to see, to notice

Illegal alien= a US term for someone who enters a country illegally

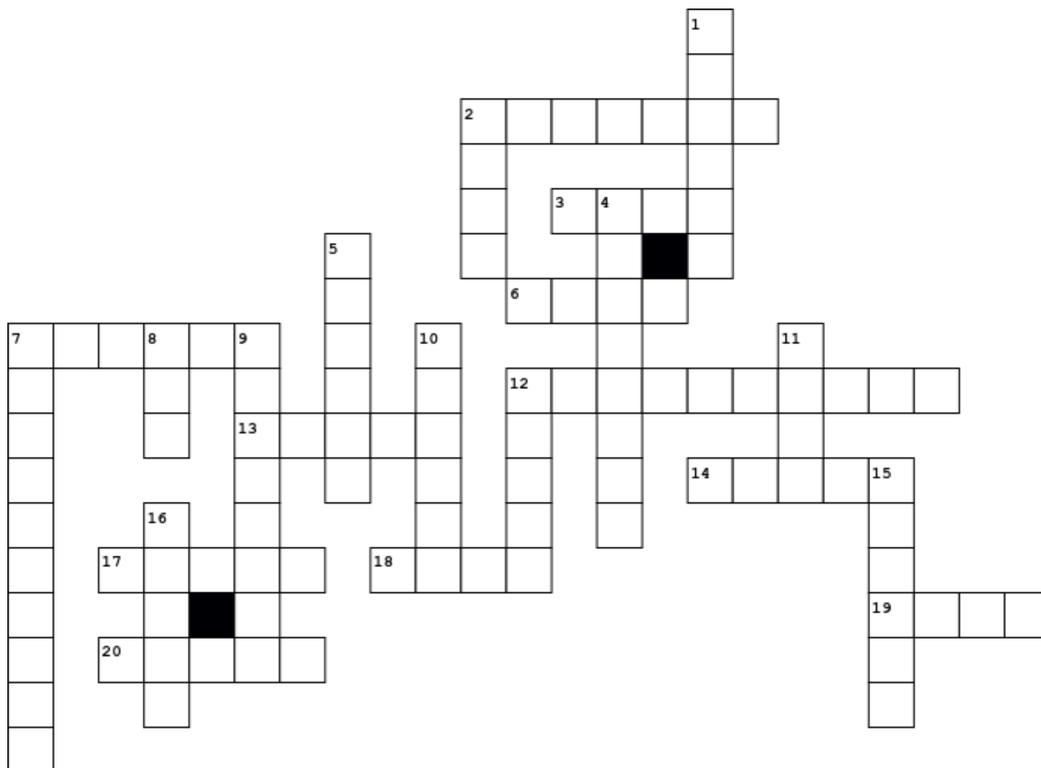
Shady personality= an unclear, dishonest person

Inveterate=chronic

To milk someone= to exploit someone

Buttons=badges

The crossword uses song titles by Elvis (on-line version here: <https://crosswordlabs.com/view/elvis-greatest-hits>).



### Across

- 2. Can't help \_\_\_\_ in love.
- 3. \_\_\_\_ Christmas.
- 6. Always on my \_\_\_\_ .
- 7. Hard \_\_\_\_ woman
- 12. \_\_\_\_ minds.

- 13. Blue \_\_\_\_ shoes.
- 14. One \_\_\_\_.
- 17. Mystery \_\_\_\_.
- 18. Jailhouse \_\_\_\_ .
- 19. Way \_\_\_\_.
- 20. It's now or \_\_\_\_ .

### Down

- 1. Return to \_\_\_\_ .
- 2. A \_\_\_\_ such as I.
- 4. Are you \_\_\_\_ tonight.
- 5. Little \_\_\_\_ .
- 7. \_\_\_\_ hotel.
- 8. Hound \_\_\_\_.

- 9. (You're the) devil in \_\_\_\_.
- 10. In the \_\_\_\_ .
- 11. \_\_\_\_ creole.
- 12. All \_\_\_\_ up.
- 15. Love me \_\_\_\_ .
- 16. Don't be \_\_\_\_ .