



Left to Right: Dick Burns, Zelda Sherman, Dick Sherman, Roger Booth

THE DO'S & THE DON'TS

Dick Sherman, Zelda Sherman, Roger Booth, Dick Burns

The Do's & The Don'ts originally began as The Escorts in 1959. The group's first official gig was playing the grand opening of Montgomery Ward's store in Washington, Iowa. They wouldn't stay long in Ward's store window as the group quickly became Eastern Iowa's #1 touring and recording rock attraction.

Original members of the group included Dick Sherman, Roger Booth, Dick Burns, and Zelda Sherman, who joined the band in 1962. In 1966, The Escorts were signed to New York's Red Bird Records, releasing their single "I Wonder If She Loves Me" backed with "Our Love May Not Live Again," both written by Roger Booth. It was at this time that The Escorts would change their name to The Do's & The Don'ts at the urging of the record company.

In the July 2, 1966 edition of Billboard Magazine, "I Wonder If She Loves Me" was featured in the Spotlight Singles with the prediction that it would reach the Top 60 of the Hot 100 Chart. Quote, "No newcomer to the rock and roll scene, the group has a hot single sure to score high in the teen-age market." Unfortunately, Red Bird Records was sold that same year, and copies of the single stopped being pressed. As a result, The Do's & The Don'ts did not hit the Billboard Hot 100 Chart as predicted.

After their first single, The Do's & The Don'ts would go on to release eleven more records, for a total of twelve during their career. The group would also make appearances with well-known acts such as Sam The Sham & The Pharaohs, The Four Seasons, Tommy James & The Shondells, The Everly Brothers, and Gary Lewis & The Playboys.

For a ten year run, the group was recognized and awarded for "having a band of neat appearance, providing a wholesome form of entertainment, and top quality danceable music" by the National Ballroom Operators Association. Additionally, in both 1965 and 1966, they won awards for being Iowa's Best Dressed Band.

The Do's & The Don'ts are recognized as one of the first full-time rock groups to form in Eastern Iowa and the first one in the state to feature a female keyboard player in what was predominantly a male-dominated business.

