



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH / CHAIRTY / SERVICE

### FULL MEASURE WITH SHARYL ATTKISSON

Nov 19

30 min.

You might know Travis Tritt as a Grammy award-winning country music superstar. But we recently caught up with him at the Great Fredrick Fair in Maryland and discovered if that's all you know about him, then you don't know Tritt.

Sharyl: If someone said to describe yourself in a paragraph or so, what are the things you would say about yourself?

Travis Tritt: Well I'm just an old down home country boy. I mean I grew up in Marietta, Georgia, which at the time that I grew up it was a small town. So I've always loved the outdoors. I always loved music. I've always loved being a part of a kind of close-knit family and those are the things I still cherish to this day.

Sharyl: Two of your three kids are with you on the road right now.

Travis Tritt: Yes, my oldest son is out on the road with me. He's doing an apprenticeship as a tour manager, and he's also an extremely good guitar player, great singer.

That's Tristan. We also got the chance to meet Tritt's 19-year-old daughter Tyler Reese right before they went on stage at the fair.

Travis Tritt: This is my daughter Tyler Reese.

Tyler Reese: Hi.

Sharyl: Nice to meet you.

Tyler Reese: Nice to meet you too.

She's started her own singing career.



**Travis Tritt: So very, very proud of her.**

**Sharyl: And what is it you learned traveling all across America seeing people at fairs and seeing people in the Midwest and outside these big cities.**

**Travis Tritt: All of the people that are friends of mine and people that I'm closest too are all just ordinary everyday middle America down to earth folks. And that's the people that have primarily made up my audience for all these years.**

**Sharyl: In the past, you have been involved in some veterans' causes.**

**Travis Tritt: Yes.**

**Sharyl: Why did those speak to you, what sorts of things have you been interested in?**

**Travis Tritt: I was very lucky. In the early part of my career, I had an opportunity to do a video, a music video for a song called Anymore.**

**Anymore: I can't hide the way I feel about you.**

**Travis Tritt: The treatment for the video was basically a guy who goes off to war, comes home in a wheelchair disabled and all of the people, with the exception of myself and two other actors, all of the people that were in the video were actually either patients or staff at that VA hospital. I thought that because I had never served in the military. I thought they were going to hate me and found out very quickly that the opposite was true and it made me just really feel a calling to want to get involved, and I immediately called the folks in Washington at the DAV and volunteered my services.**

**Sharyl: What year was that? The song?**

**Travis Tritt: Uh, '92.**

**Sharyl: So since then there have only been many, many thousands more soldiers who've come back without limbs and.**



Travis Tritt: Correct.

Sharyl: With injuries from these wars.

Travis Tritt: We visited so many medical clinics since that time had the opportunity to go to Walter Reed on several different occasions and it's always uplifting. The love for the music is what keeps me doing this. I've been doing this for about 30 something years now and somebody asked me not long ago they said, well, don't you get tired of being out on the road all the time? And the travel and everything does get grueling, but those few hours that you get to spend on stage makes it all worthwhile to me.

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