

*Billy Tipton was a jazz musician.*

*When he died, in 1989, television and newspaper sources proclaimed*

*him to have been a woman who had lived as a man in order to be a jazz musician. "He gave up everything," they said. They were wrong.*

*He didn't give up anything, for he wasn't a woman.*

**Billy Tipton was a (choose one):**

- a. woman
- b. lesbian
- c. crossdresser
- ✓ d. man

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*The gay community was quick to proclaim Billy as a lesbian. They were wrong, too. Billy wasn't a lesbian, either.*

*Billy was married, with three adopted sons. His family did not know of his female anatomy, but they knew*

*something the newspaper and television and gay press didn't— that Billy Tipton was a man.*

Billy Tipton lived and died as a man. His life was not an imposture, and the notion that he was anything less than a man is a denial of everything that he was. Hands off! He's one of ours!