

Dolly Parton's Health Struggles Could Lead to 'Avatar' Performances

Dolly Parton is reassuring fans that she is still moving forward despite ongoing health concerns that have increasingly disrupted the country music legend's public appearances.

The 80-year-old recently missed the opening of Dollywood's new NightFlight Expedition attraction after her doctor advised her against traveling. Parton instead appeared virtually at the Aug. 14 event, explaining that dehydration and occasional dizziness had kept her home in Nashville.

The absence was another reminder that Parton has been navigating a difficult season physically and personally.

According to Page Six, Parton revealed that some of the health problems she is now addressing were pushed aside while she cared for her husband, Carl Dean, before his death in March 2025. The couple had been married for nearly 60 years.

"I am dealing with some health issues that I just didn't pay attention to when I was watching over Carl," Parton told People, according to Euronews.

For Parton, health struggles are not entirely unfamiliar territory. Euronews reported that she recalled being sidelined for several months by what she described as "female issues" during the early 1980s. But her recent challenges have arrived alongside the grief of losing the man who had been by her side for most of her adult life.

Parton has previously described herself as feeling "worn down and worn out" following Dean's death, Euronews reported.

Over the past year, those physical concerns have become

increasingly visible. Page Six reported that Parton previously battled kidney stones and dehydration and ultimately canceled her planned Las Vegas residency as she continued receiving medical care. Still, she says the conditions she is facing are treatable and that she is responding well to treatment.

And while her schedule may look different, Parton has made one thing clear: She is not finished working.

“Seriously, though, even though I’m still healin’, I’m still workin’,” she said, according to Euronews.

That determination could even lead Parton into an entirely new kind of performance.



To order Jonathan Cahn’s bestselling book, The Avatar, visit .

Euronews reported that the singer is working with companies to explore potential “avatar performances,” which could provide another way for Parton to connect with audiences as traditional touring becomes more physically demanding. As Page Six noted, Parton is currently entering the “early stages of development” for this technology.

The technology would place Parton among a growing number of major entertainers whose likenesses have been recreated digitally for audiences.

As Parton focuses on healing, continue to pray for renewed strength, health and peace for the beloved singer during this season of grief and recovery.

Abby Trivett is a writer and editor for Charisma Media and has a passion for sharing the gospel through the written word. She holds two degrees from Regent University, a B.A. in Communication with a concentration in Journalism and a Master of Arts in Journalism. She is the author of the newly released book, *The Power of Suddenly: Discover How God Can*

Change Everything in a Moment. *For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@.*