Around Town

F orgettable. Timolin and Casey Cole had such high hopes. The Grammy Awards show was going to honor their sister, Natalie. Her unexpected death on New Year’s Eve had left a big hole in their lives and those of music lovers around the world, and the tribute dug it even deeper.

Death played a prominent role in the Feb. 15 show, with salutes expected for Cole, the Eagles’ Glenn Frey, David Bowie, Maurice White of Earth, Wind & Fire, B.B. King and Motorhead’s Lemmy Kilmister.

First up was Lady Gaga with a high-energy, over-the-top piano eight-song medley to Bowie, complete with flaming red hair. The Eagles with Jackson Browne saluted Frey with Take It Easy. With The Thrill Is Gone, former Grammy winners Bonnie Raitt and Gary Clark Jr. joined first-time multiple winner Chris Stapleton to say farewell to B.B. Frey.

Before announcing song of the year, Stevie Wonder and Pentatonix offered an a cappella rendition of That’s the Way of the World for Maurice White. Wonder got a big laugh when he joked that only he could read the winner — the card was in braille. The award went to Ed Sheeran’s Thinking Out Loud. Though Motorhead, founded in England half a century ago, was considered a seminal influence on heavy metal and punk, it won only one Grammy. Yet Kilmister received the full treatment, courtesy of the Hollywood Vampires — Alice Cooper, Joe Perry and Johnny Depp. Yes, that Johnny Depp, who cut his show biz teeth playing in bands in Broward County.

Into the memorial clips and still nothing — Celine Dion’s husband, Rene Angelil, Lesley Gore, Ben E. King, Chris Squire from Yes, Paul Kantner from Jefferson Airplane, Lynn Anderson and many others. Finally, the last clip — the Unforgettable video. Forty-five seconds of Natalie singing in a virtual duet with her legendary father, Nat King Cole, who died in 1965. The original video of Nat singing was recorded in 1953. The duet, cut in 1991, won three Grammys, including Song of the Year.

Those Grammys had special significance because they marked Natalie’s triumphant recovery from drug addiction and cemented her place among the great pop singers.

Nevertheless, Cole’s sisters, who live in Boca Raton, thought there would be some sort of actual tribute to her fitting of her artistry and stature. She had 21 Grammy nominations and nine wins. She was such a force in the music industry and she transcended genres. … I think she should be recognized for the impact she has had.”

The show’s producer, Ken Ehrlich, who attended Natalie’s funeral in Los Angeles, countered that he had spoken with Timolin before the show and thought the family was OK with the clip. They discussed a live performance, he said, but then 45 seconds of a clip “where her father throws her a kiss, she throws him a kiss, and then she turns to the audience and throws everybody a kiss” was the perfect ending to the farewell segment.

“I hadn’t looked at that clip in several years,” Ehrlich added, “but when I saw it again, I knew it was right.”

As the situation cooled, the sisters tempered their comments, stressing that Natalie be remembered not for the outrage and utter disappointment at the disrespectful tribute, or lack thereof …,” they said in a written statement.

“It’s very bittersweet,” Timolin said. “We were hoping that there will be some sort of actual tribute to her fitting of her artistry and stature. She had 21 Grammy nominations and nine wins. She was such a force in the music industry and she transcended genres. … I think she should be recognized for the impact she has had.”

The show’s producer, Ken Ehrlich, who attended Natalie’s funeral in Los Angeles, countered that he had spoken with Timolin before the show and thought the family was OK with the clip. They discussed a live performance, he said, but then 45 seconds of a clip “where her father throws her a kiss, she throws him a kiss, and then she turns to the audience and throws everybody a kiss” was the perfect ending to the farewell segment.

“I hadn’t looked at that clip in several years,” Ehrlich added, “but when I saw it again, I knew it was right.”

As the situation cooled, the sisters tempered their comments, stressing that Natalie be remembered not for the outrage and utter disappointment at the disrespectful tribute, or lack thereof …,” they said in a written statement.

“It’s very bittersweet,” Timolin said. “We were hoping that there will be some sort of actual tribute to her fitting of her artistry and stature. She had 21 Grammy nominations and nine wins. She was such a force in the music industry and she transcended genres. … I think she should be recognized for the impact she has had.”

The show’s producer, Ken Ehrlich, who attended Natalie’s funeral in Los Angeles, countered that he had spoken with Timolin before the show and thought the family was OK with the clip. They discussed a live performance, he said, but then 45 seconds of a clip “where her father throws her a kiss, she throws him a kiss, and then she turns to the audience and throws everybody a kiss” was the perfect ending to the farewell segment.

“I hadn’t looked at that clip in several years,” Ehrlich added, “but when I saw it again, I knew it was right.”

As the situation cooled, the sisters tempered their comments, stressing that Natalie be remembered not for the outrage and utter disappointment at the disrespectful tribute, or lack thereof …,” they said in a written statement.

“It’s very bittersweet,” Timolin said. “We were hoping that there will be some sort of actual tribute to her fitting of her artistry and stature. She had 21 Grammy nominations and nine wins. She was such a force in the music industry and she transcended genres. … I think she should be recognized for the impact she has had.”

The show’s producer, Ken Ehrlich, who attended Natalie’s funeral in Los Angeles, countered that he had spoken with Timolin before the show and thought the family was OK with the clip. They discussed a live performance, he said, but then 45 seconds of a clip “where her father throws her a kiss, she throws him a kiss, and then she turns to the audience and throws everybody a kiss” was the perfect ending to the farewell segment.

“I hadn’t looked at that clip in several years,” Ehrlich added, “but when I saw it again, I knew it was right.”

As the situation cooled, the sisters tempered their comments, stressing that Natalie be remembered not for the outrage and utter disappointment at the disrespectful tribute, or lack thereof …,” they said in a written statement.

“It’s very bittersweet,” Timolin said. “We were hoping that there will be some sort of actual tribute to her fitting of her artistry and stature. She had 21 Grammy nominations and nine wins. She was such a force in the music industry and she transcended genres. … I think she should be recognized for the impact she has had.”

The show’s producer, Ken Ehrlich, who attended Natalie’s funeral in Los Angeles, countered that he had spoken with Timolin before the show and thought the family was OK with the clip. They discussed a live performance, he said, but then 45 seconds of a clip “where her father throws her a kiss, she throws him a kiss, and then she turns to the audience and throws everybody a kiss” was the perfect ending to the farewell segment.

“I hadn’t looked at that clip in several years,” Ehrlich added, “but when I saw it again, I knew it was right.”

As the situation cooled, the sisters tempered their comments, stressing that Natalie be remembered not for the outrage and utter disappointment at the disrespectful tribute, or lack thereof …,” they said in a written statement.

“It’s very bittersweet,” Timolin said. “We were hoping that there will be some sort of actual tribute to her fitting of her artistry and stature. She had 21 Grammy nominations and nine wins. She was such a force in the music industry and she transcended genres. … I think she should be recognized for the impact she has had.”

The show’s producer, Ken Ehrlich, who attended Natalie’s funeral in Los Angeles, countered that he had spoken with Timolin before the show and thought the family was OK with the clip. They discussed a live performance, he said, but then 45 seconds of a clip “where her father throws her a kiss, she throws him a kiss, and then she turns to the audience and throws everybody a kiss” was the perfect ending to the farewell segment.

“I hadn’t looked at that clip in several years,” Ehrlich added, “but when I saw it again, I knew it was right.”

As the situation cooled, the sisters tempered their comments, stressing that Natalie be remembered not for the outrage and utter disappointm...