



Van Nixon had trained for a very different career when he was awarded the Minnesota Music Award for Acoustic Guitar in the early 1980's. Trained in opera at Simpson College, in Indianola, IA, Van's tenor voice soared through arias and all varieties of classical music.

Van has made a name for himself as a solo artist in the Midwest, singing and accompanying himself on acoustic guitar. He was featured as a front act for famed artists Peter, Paul & Mary, and his mentor, Richie Havens. Other artists who have inspired Van's musical style are James Taylor, Bob Marley, and Bill Withers. On the Twin Cities music scene, Van was the lead vocalist for the popular reggae group, The Maroons. The Maroons were known for their annual headline performance at the annual May Day Celebration in South Minneapolis, Cedarfest, and other progressive venues of the late '80s and '90s. More recently he has performed as lead singer with the reggae groups, Positive Vibrations, and The Van Nixon Trio. He is also frequently featured as a soloist for sacred music and gospel events.

Currently, Van and his wife, Kathy, perform together regularly in Senior Living Centers in the Twin Cities and throughout the Midwest.