



Dr. Ernest Earl Wolfle Jr

September 18, 1932 - August 27, 2020

Dr. Ernest Earl Wolfle, Jr., age 87, passed away on August 27, 2020. His home was in Rockville, Maryland. Ernest was born September 18, 1932 in Columbus, Ohio to the late Ernest Earl Wolfle and Mildred Karn Wolfle. He is survived by his wife, Ann Perkins and children, daughter Wendy (Kenny) Winters of Hagerstown, MD; sons Philip (Colleen) Wolfle of Frederick, MD and Ernest Wolfle, III of Rockville, MD; grandchildren Kelsey Winters, Sarah Winters, Sherry Wolfle and Anthony Wolfle.

Ernie graduated from North High School, class of 1950. He was proud to be a member of The Ohio State University Marching Band. He graduated from The Ohio State University in 1955. Ernie earned an M.A. in Music Theory in 1959 from OSU and a Doctorate in Music Education in 1969 from Indiana University.

Ernie was a member of the Lutheran church.

He served in the U.S. Army from January, 1952 - August, 1953 and was honorably discharged as a corporal. He told stories of Camp Polk, Louisiana for the rest of his life. Early in his career, he traveled with the Ted Weems Orchestra in the spring of 1956. He had his own band in Columbus, Music for Moderns, with lifelong friend, Jim Gary. Dick Cone and Paul Holderbaum were members of this band. He played with the Al Longstreth Orchestra, Everett Longstreth, Dave Wheeler, Fred Gump, Red Stamets and Ray Racle. He also enjoyed listening to the Famous Jazz Orchestra of Vaughn Wiester.

He was director of music at Richwood High School, Richwood, Ohio, from 1956-1958 and director of bands at Woodward High School in Cincinnati, Ohio, 1959-1965.

Ernie was professor of music at Montgomery College, Rockville, Maryland from 1967-1993 where he served as director of bands and associate department chairman. He was awarded Emeritus status in 1994. He treasured his friendship with a co-worker at Montgomery College, jazz composer and arranger, Bill Potts.

Dr. Wolfle directed the Rockville Brass Band from 1982-1993.

Dr. Wolfle served as Vice President and Treasurer of the Maryland Montgomery County Arts Council and for 25 years was President of the Maryland Chapter of the International Association of Jazz Educators. He coordinated the I.A.J.E. Eastern regional summer jazz consortium at Montgomery College from 1968-1993.

In 2003, he was inducted into the Columbus Senior Musicians Hall of Fame.

Ernie lived, conducted and performed in the Washington, D.C. area from 1967 to the present, performing at hotels and clubs, Glen Echo, the Kennedy Center, and in recent years, at the Cosmos Club as musical director of the Richard Bray Orchestra. A highlight was playing at the Roseland Ballroom in New York City with the Richard Bray Orchestra. Ernie was happiest playing with and directing musical groups, student and professional. He practiced his trumpet, cornet or flugelhorn daily for over 70 years and was still practicing in August of this year. He developed an interest in tennis as a young boy and participated in the sport until his death. He played doubles three days a week with his tennis friends in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

There will be no public viewing or service. Ernie will be buried in Union Cemetery.

Cemetery

Union Cemetery

3349 Olentangy River Road

Columbus, OH, 43202

Comments



“ Dr. Wolfle was my trumpet instructor at Montgomery College from 1969- 1972. I learned so much from him as I transferred to Penn State and got degreed in Music. I thought of him often over the years but especially today as I researched his name on line only to discover his obituary. I am saddened. My sincere condolences to his family.

Nicholas Ettaro - February 09 at 10:04 AM



“ This news was quite a shock since it was only a couple of weeks ago that i played tennis with him and continued to be amazed at his reflexes and stamina, not to mention his fun demeanor on the courts. He is greatly missed and will be remembered by all of us.

Jim Deye (MVF tennis player)

Jim Deye - September 03, 2020 at 12:07 PM



“ With a sad heart for the family of Ernie Wolfle we want to express our sincere sympathy. It seems like only yesterday he was my band director. What a super musician he was! May light perpetual shine upon him and may God bring peace to his family as you continue your journey.

Jim and Sandra Christy

Sandra Christy - September 02, 2020 at 02:09 PM



“ So sorry the hear of Ernie's passing. Had him as my band instructor my freshman year in high school. He was impressive but had I known of all his accomplishments I would have been more properly impressed. We spent most of our time tormenting him!! RIP Ernie.

Vonnie Wasserbeck - September 01, 2020 at 05:52 PM