



Alvin Danford

October 9, 1925 - December 26, 2014

Alvin R. Danford, Age 89 of San Pierre, IN passed away December 26, 2014 in his home. Friends may call after 11 AM CT Tuesday, December 30, 2014 at Saint Luke Community Church, San Pierre, IN. Funeral Services will be 1 PM CT Tuesday, December 30, 2014 at the church. Burial will be in Oak Grove Cemetery, LaCrosse, IN.

Tribute Wall

JD

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



joan danford - March 17, 2020 at 04:13 PM

PS

“ I believe it was in the early 70's Mr. Danford was my piano teacher when I lived in North Judson. He was a wonderful teacher as he made the piano more "current" for me as a young boy. To this day his instruction carries through. Although I don't "play" piano, I play guitar, banjo, and sing. His example of excellence will always be with me. Thank you Mr. Danford. God's Peace to your family.

Pete Scheuerman - April 29, 2018 at 08:07 AM

BF

“ My condolences to the family.

Becque Ford - April 29, 2018 at 08:07 AM

“Joan and Keith Danford Share Memories: ALVIN ROY DANFORD WAS THE LAST LIVING MEMBER OF THE TOMMY DORSEY BAND. ALVIN MAINLY PLAYED THE PIANO FOR TOMMY DORSEY'S BAND, PLUS SEVERAL OTHER INSTRUMENTS THAT INCLUDED GUITAR, DRUMS, AND ALL HORNS. ALVIN COULD PLAY ANYTHING BY EAR, BUT COULD ALSO READ MUSIC. ALVIN ATTENDED AND GRADUATED FROM VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY. THE NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA CAME TO VALPARAISO COLLEGE TO PERFORM DURING ALVIN'S SECOND YEAR OF COLLEGE. WHEN THE ORCHESTRA ARRIVED AT THE COLLEGE, THEIR PIANO PLAYER BECAME ILL. THE ORCHESTRA ASKED THE ADMINISTRATION IF THERE WAS ANYONE THAT COULD PLAY THE PIANO WELL ENOUGH TO SET-IN. THEY SAID THAT ALVIN DANFORD MIGHT BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE. ALVIN PRACTICED FOR 2 HOURS WITH THE NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, AND PLAYED FOR A WEEK OF PERFORMANCES, DOING EXTREMELY WELL. WHEN THAT ORCHESTRA PERFORMED ANYWHERE, BIG NAME STARS AND MUSICIANS CAME TO HEAR THE PERFORMANCE. TOMMY DORSEY CAME TO HEAR THE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, AND TOOK NOTE OF THE PIANO PLAYER. ALVIN PLAYED FOR TOMMY DORSEY FOR AT LEAST 10 YEARS AFTER HIS GRADUATION FROM COLLEGE. ALVIN WENT ON TO WRITE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THAT ORCHESTRA. ALVIN'S FAVORITE MUSICIAN TO PLAY WITH WAS IKE COLE (NAT KING COLE'S BROTHER) ALVIN BECAME WELL KNOWN IN THE MUSICIAN'S WORLD AND, WROTE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DOC SEVERINSEN'S BAND, WHO PLAYED FOR THE JOHNNY CARSON TONIGHT SHOW, ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOZO THE CLOWN TV PROGRAM, AND LATER WROTE FOR AND WITH JOHN TESH. HE ALSO DID SOME ARRANGEMENTS FOR GEORGE AND GRACIE BURNS. ALVIN PLAYED PIANO IN CHICAGO FOR SEVERAL YEARS WHILE GIVING PRIVATE MUSIC LESSONS TO THE ELITE. AFTER RETIRING FROM THE ROAD, ALVIN TAUGHT IN MANY OF THE AREA SCHOOLS AND

GAVE MUSIC LESSONS IN HIS HOME. ALVIN'S FIRST LOVE WAS MUSIC AND TEACHING MUSIC TO OTHERS. ALVIN HAD STUDENTS FROM AS FAR AWAY AS GERMANY, AND A LOT OF STUDENTS RIGHT OUTSIDE HIS FRONT DOOR. ALVIN DANFORD REMEMBERED FOR HIS MUSIC.

B. AGER - April 29, 2018 at 08:07 AM