



Sherry Lee Albritton

March 25, 1930 - May 17, 2007

Funeral services for Sherry Lee Albritton, 77, of Richmond, will be held at 3:00 P. M., Saturday, May 19, 2007 in the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home in Rosenberg. Interment will follow at Greenlawn Memorial Park in Rosenberg. Pastor Erin Conaway will officiate the services.

Visitation will be held from 2:00 P. M. until 3:00 P. M., on Saturday, May 19, 2007 in the Chapel of Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home.

Sherry was born on March 25, 1930 in San Benito to E. T. and Mattie May McQuary Albritton. He graduated from Palestine High school in 1947. Sherry received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Texas in Denton. He earned a Master of Education degree from East Texas State University in Commerce, Supervisory Certification earned at the University of Houston and Mid-Management Certification at Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View.

Sherry began teaching in 1950 and retired in 2000 after 50 years. He taught for 38 years in Texas. For 14, he was the Lamar Mustang band director, and for six, he served as director of Fine Arts for the district. He has served as Chairman of Music Region XIV, Executive Secretary of Region XVII and was a charter member of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association having judged marching, concert and sight-reading for over thirty years. In 2001 he received

the Texas Bandmasters Association “Lifetime Meritorious Achievement Award” and the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu International School Bandmaster Fraternity honored him by selecting him into the “Hall of Fame”, Class of 2004.

Sherry touched many lives with his music teaching. He loved traveling and photographing all over the U. S. Sherry was a member of South Main Baptist Church in Houston. He passed away on May 17, 2007 in Sugar Land.

Sherry is preceded in death by his parents, E. T. and Mattie Albritton.

He is survived by his loving wife, Elizabeth McKinnon Albritton; Children: Steve Albritton and wife, Elaine, Susan Scarborough and husband, James, Lee Albritton; Grandchildren: Catherine and Neal Albritton, Laura and Brent Marquart; Brother: Jim Albritton and wife, Chris; Brother-in-law: Dick McKinnon and wife, Priscilla; Along with numerous other family members, former students and many friends.

Pallbearers will be Steve Albritton, Lee Albritton, Neal Albritton, Brent Marquart, James Scarborough and Jason Foster.

Memorial donations may be made in memory of Sherry to the American Cancer Society, Houston Metro Area, Lung Cancer, P. O. Box 570127, Houston, 77257-0127

Tribute Wall

“ Sherry Albritton became Director for a mediocre band program in Hearne, Texas for the 1958-1959 school season. It must have been his first teaching job from the statistics given here.

He began building a band program from the ground up, beginning that first year by trying to teach basic music theory to typical high school teenagers. He didn't repeat the theory to the high schoolers the next year, but over the two years, Hearne's band improved from 3rd Division or 2nd Division, to 1st Division in marching contests. Identical progress was made in concert band contests. He formed and intensely tutored ensembles, quartets, trios, and solo performances, even Student Director for contest, and by the 1960-1961 school season, most of those were also 1st Division ratings.

He generously donated his personal time to tutor those groups of students, and to also to perform and coordinate performances for civic events when it was not really part of the job description. There are fond memories of benefit performances of our jazz ensemble backing up the local players, not to mention numerous Lions Club and Rotary dinners.

Mr. Albritton was the consummate gentleman and prototypical music educator. He was patient, kind, encouraging, and instructive. Teaching music to kids was his avocation.

But, above all else, he was a musician with professional-level clarinet skills. My memory says that he easily could have played dueling clarinets with Pete Fountain. I heard him play in person, just feet away.

Mr. Albritton loved improvisational New Orleans jazz and Ragtime. Every time I hear the haunting clarinet solo in "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin (Theme from The Sting movie) , I'm reminded of Sherry Albritton. The song didn't become widely known until the movie in the 1970s, but the clarinet just sounds like Mr. Albritton.

The internet is a miracle that now allows us to find out what became

of old friends after sixty years, and I'm grateful for this opportunity.

Thanks, Mr. Albritton, for wonderful memories. The world is less without you.

Charles Sangerhausen - March 30, 2020 at 12:26 PM

EG

“*Mrs. Albritton, Steve, Lee and Susan, I just heard about Mr. Albritton's death. I always enjoyed hanging out at your house when I was a kid. He was a such great guy! I'm sorry I've lost touch with you all over the years. I miss you all and I'd love to hear how you all are doing. Again, I'm sorry I didn't hear about this until now and missed his funeral. Please accept my late condolences.*”

Eddie Guidry - December 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GT

“*Mr. Albritton was my band director at Taft, Texas, and was one of my heros.*”

Glenn Travis - November 19, 2007 at 12:00 AM

RG

“*S.L. always gave me great advice when I started in Carlsbad. He was a great man, and all of us in Carlsbad were at a loss to learn of his passing, God has a great director for the Heavens band.*”

Robert R. Galindo - November 17, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ My sis & I played the bassoon & oboe at Lamar Consolidated with Mr. Albritton. We all just loved him! ... especially when he was on his bullhorn! He made us work hard while we played hard. We send our condolences to his family & loved ones. We pray God comforts you during your time of loss.

Linda Chase Nichols & Carolyn Chase Carnahan

Linda Chase Nichols - May 23, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ My high school band memories are wonderful ones thanks in large part to Mr. A. He was a prominent figure in helping to mold my character as an adult. He was greatly respected as a teacher, band director and friend, and it was my honor to have served under him for 4 years. My prayers are with you all during this time of grief.

*Deb Legler Wleczyk
Class of '72*

Debbie Legler Wleczyk - May 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

NK

“ Oh the music that must be playing in heaven.
To the family of the man that touched so many lives through his passion for music and love of teaching. The confidence he showed in me - that allowed me to grow in "confidence & pride in myself" is an gift that I carry with me everyday
God bless you all and may He give you comfort and peace.

Much love and respect,

Nancy Vogler Kirkland

Nancy Vogler Kirkland - May 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

IG

“ To the Albritton family,

I am so sorry to hear of Sherry's passing. I can not tell you what an impact he made in my life. Out of all the teachers I've ever had, he is the one that I will remember the most. He was the best Music teacher ever and he not only taught us to learn to play but to LOVE to play and that personally made a big difference for me. I am now in my 40s but Mr. Albritton has NEVER left my mind and I'm so thankful that he was a part of my life. God Bless you all and know that there are so many people who are keeping your family in their prayers. Thank you all for allowing us to share such a great man with you.

With much love,

Irene Gonzales-Prescott

Irene Gonzales-Prescott - May 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Liz, Steve, Susan and Lee

I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. "A". He made such an impact on my life, the interest he showed in helping me to be better. I have such fond memories of the days in the Lamar High Band - the Monday and Thursday drills during marching season; the Fort Bend Cnty Fair Parade, the Six Flags Band Days. It was truly an honor to know him and be a part of his bands and my prayers and thoughts are with you during this difficult time.

Douglas Schultz - May 18, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ Albritton Family-Mr.Albritton left such a good impression on me-to this day I remember him fondly, if we suffered the cold,wet,humidity he suffered with us. My sincere condolences,this is something hard to accept I have been through it,praying helps alot.

anita villagomez - May 18, 2007 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Sherry hired me to help with the George Jr. High band back in the early '80's. He asked why I wanted to move from a high school head director position to a junior high assistant position. I said that I wanted to learn to teach. I will never forget what he said. "I can help you do that". And he did!

Sherry was such an outstanding musician. I always enjoyed watching him work with a band. I learned something new every time he grabbed a baton. I have thought about his advice to me on many occasions over the years. He will be missed.

Sincerely,
Mike Henderson

Mike Henderson - May 18, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Liz, Steve, Susan and Lee,

I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Sherry, you all are like a second family to Robert and I.

I will never forget all the Sweepstakes and cleaning up the yard after your house was wrapped for all those years. It was great!

Please accept my deepest sympathy for your entire family in this moment of loss.

*Love always,
James*

James Dolnik - May 18, 2007 at 12:00 AM

VV

“ *He was a VERY loved man by all his previous students. He didn't take anything off of anyone and that's what made us all love him very much. He will be greatly missed,*

Vicki L. Vogler - May 18, 2007 at 12:00 AM