

Carroll Copeland, 92, longtime teacher, Long Center manager

Carroll H. Copeland, 92, a 1983 recipient of the *Journal and Courier* George Award, died at 6:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 29, 2004, in St. Mary Healthcare in Lafayette. He lived at 814 Shawnee Ave.

Mr. Copeland received the George Award for his work in raising the money for a grand theater pipe organ for the Long Center for the Performing Arts. He also was credited with the regeneration of the Lafayette Christmas Parade and for enlisting help to receive and answer children's letters to Santa.



Copeland

Born April 18, 1911, in Kennard, he graduated from New Castle High School in 1930 and Ball State University in 1937. He married Margaret E. "Betty" Mills on June 1, 1948, in Portland. She died Dec. 15, 2003.

Mr. Copeland began his school teaching career in 1929. He taught at New Castle High School from 1938 to 1941, Alexandria High School from 1945 to 1951, Franklin High School from 1951 to 1958 and Lafayette Jefferson High School from 1948 until 1975 and was with the Purdue University band department from 1976 to 1977. He was manager of Long Center for the Performing Arts from 1980 to 1996.

He served in the 1st Division Artillery of the Army from Jan. 30,

1942, to May 30, 1945.

Mr. Copeland was a member of Central Presbyterian Church and the Kiwanis Club, both in Lafayette, the Masonic Lodge in Greensboro, Scottish Rite of Indianapolis, American Legion, Phi Beta Mu, American Theatre Organ Society and Henry County Historical Association in New Castle.

He received the Ball State University Distinguished Alumni Award in 1961, Phi Beta Mu Distinguished Alumni Award and America School Band Directors Award, both in 1975, American School Music Association Outstanding Music Education Award in 1978, House of Representatives Award in 1995 and Purdue University Band Service Award in 1996.

He served as grand marshal of the Lafayette Christmas parade in 1984, was named to the Phi Beta Mu Hall of Fame Award in 1981 and the Lafayette School Corp. Wall of Fame in 1987. He was named a Sagamore of the Wabash and received the Sudler Award of Merit, both in 1991, and he served as president of the School Music Association in 1990.

Surviving are three daughters, Susan Fechtman (husband: Fred) of Villa Park, Calif., Lonita Garage of Merrillville and Carmen Burns of Indianapolis; a son, Dennis Copeland of Delphi; and two sisters, Mary Lou Clapp (husband: Claude) of New Castle and Mildred Koons of Fort Wayne.