



PAUL W. SILKE, 1921 – 2012

Paul W. Silke, Brownsburg, passed away January 31, 2012. He was born July 27, 1921 in Elberfeld, IN to William and Florence McSwane Silke. He received his Bachelors Degree from University of Evansville and his Master's degrees from Indiana State University and Indiana University.

He had been a band director at Tell City from 1954-67 and at band director and councilor at Ben Davis HS from 1967-85. Tell City HS band was the first high school band to be on national television at the Chicago Music Land Festival and they marched in the Presidential Parade in 1961. Mr. Silke had been president of IMEA and received the Hall of Fame award in 1995. He was also a member of the Indiana Bandmasters Association and Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Martha Silke, daughter Gayla Silke Bitner, brothers Don and James Silke, and grandson Evan Sipe.]

He was a member of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church and sang in the choir.

Survivors include wife Phyliss Silke, children Dr. Terry Silke (Sarah), Hal Ayer (Shelley), Laurie Ayre Sipe (Jim), Brent Ayer (Pam); brother Gary Silke (Alice); grandchildren Brook and Christina Silke, Elizabeth Bitner, Samantha, Lauren, and Lindsey Ayer, Alex and Shelby Sipe, Shane, Sydney, and Alyson Ayer.

Published in the Indianapolis Star February 2, 2012.