



Justin L. Nelson

December 16, 1928 - September 29, 2015

Justin Louis Nelson (1928 - 2015)

Justin Nelson of Cedar Falls died Tuesday, September 29, at the age of 86. Justin had many interests and talents. He was born in 1928 into a musical family, he said.

"My Dad and all his brothers and sisters played musical instruments. My Dad's brother, Louis, went on to pursue music and attended ISTC and Eastman School of Music. He was in the Army Band in China during WWII, playing the French horn. My Mother's father, Fred Beaty, played baritone horn in the Finchford Band. Fred's brother, Will Beaty, played cornet and had also directed the Finchford Band, and he also played in the Janesville Band. Will's son, Roscoe, played in the Finchford and Janesville Bands, and was also a member of the Cedar Falls Municipal Band in 1912."

Following in his forebearers footsteps Justin joined the Cedar Falls Municipal Band in 1944. For 66 years he played the sousaphone and tuba. It was a source of great joy and pride for "The Old Tuba Tooter". His other musical activities included playing string bass with the Harry Smith Dance Band and singing with The Zionnaires Gospel Quartet.

Along with his avid love of music, Justin was also an amazing mechanic and builder. Many may still remember Nelson's Engine Shop, which opened in 1957 and, until 1998, he repaired various things such as lawn mowers, snow blowers and guns. There was almost nothing Justin couldn't fix. Combining his

loves of music and tinkering, he even once created a working "garden hose" horn, which could actually make music!

Justin is survived by his wife, Darlene Nelson; his son, David Oren Nelson (Christopher D. Caudle) in Somerville, TN; step-daughter, Susan Klousia (David Klousia) in Mason City, IA; step-granddaughter, Elizabeth Klousia (Jacob McLaughlin) in Mason City, IA and step-son, Mark Bliton, in Torrance, CA.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Preston and Mae (Beaty) Nelson; a step-son, Dan Bliton; and his first wife, Karen.

Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, October 2nd at Richardson Funeral Home.

Memorial services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, October 3 at Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls.

Memorials may be directed to the Cedar Falls Municipal Band.

Cemetery Details

Finchford Cemetery

Finchford, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 2. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Richardson Funeral Service
615 Main Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-3525
richardsonfuneralservice@gmail.com
<http://richardson.funeralplan2.com>

Funeral Service

OCT 3. 10:30 AM (CT)

Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church
7401 University Avenue
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-7589
<http://naz.org>

Tribute Wall

SC

“ I never remember Justin not being around our family. He supported my parents in their last years frequently dropping by to check on them. He often placed flowers at their grave stones at the cemetary Justin was a very special part of the Melichar family. We will miss him. Sonia Melichar Callahan

Sonia Melichar Callahan - July 21, 2016 at 11:32 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Justin L. Nelson.



October 01, 2015 at 09:05 PM

LT

“ I am very sorry for your loss. Justin was special to me because my Dad (Bob Lamb) and I played in the Cedar Falls Municipal Band with Justin for many years. When my Dad was about 90, and I took him back to Cedar Falls for a visit, Justin was very kind to us. He took us up to the old band room with all its memories, posed for photos with my Dad, and then took us to the new band facility to show us that one. When my Dad passed away, only a couple of years later, Justin attended the funeral and even came to the graveside with us. I will always remember his kindness and caring. May he now be playing and singing with the angels. Linda Lamb Todd

Linda Lamb Todd - October 01, 2015 at 08:42 PM

JM

“ My good friend Pete moved to Cedar Falls a few years ago, and we had the pleasure of visiting Justin and Darlene several times. I'm a musical saw player from Illinois ,and we had delightful conversations sharing our musical saw music and stories. Pete even made a trombone bell attached to a garden hose that Justin had showed him, and we both enjoyed seeing his instruments. He even had a very large saw attached to a plank of wood that someone had to sit on so he could play a few notes. We enjoyed our visits with this wonderful couple. Darlene, we are very sorry for your loss, but the memory of our visits will live on. He's playing musical saw with the angels this very moment.

John Mueller - October 01, 2015 at 07:56 PM

SF

“ So sorry for your loss. I knew Mr. Nelson when our children were in grade school, and scouts together. He was a nice man to know and liked lessoning to the Cedar Falls Municipal Band. I'm so sorry for your loss. A loss to all of us. Sharon Fobian

Sharon Fobian - October 01, 2015 at 02:23 PM

 Phillip Nelson

“ I am Phillip Nelson Born July 1952 to Galy Roy Nelson and Jeanne and Justin was or would be I believe my 2nd cousin. I just wanted to express my condolences and prayers to the family. To my memory I only remember My DAD coming to Waterloo and he dragged us all over (boys 2 of us) I am pretty sure we went to Preston's home and then Justin came by. I was very young and It has seemed a very long time ago also I have seem them all again my Grand Parent's, George and Viola Nelson 50th Anniversary in Waterloo. Love and Prayers and to all loved ones RIP Justin and GOD is now your receiver. Phillip Nelson

Phillip Nelson - October 01, 2015 at 02:17 PM

MB

“ *He will surely be missed. Please accept my condolences.*

Mary Bozik - October 01, 2015 at 11:42 AM

DD

“ *Justin Nelson was an amazing person and friend. The Old Tuba Tooter was a key member in our CF Municipal Band for 66 years, the longest tenured community band member in Iowa. His dedicated, talented and inventive services were highly valued and respected. As a frequently featured concert soloist on tuba, he also played on the ancient Sarrusaphone which he restored. Justin played on all-size saxophones, sang, and even played musical saws. His diligent, practical, methodical work on all kinds of projects produced marvelous results so beneficial to the band and our treasured history. Next summer we plan to celebrate Justin in the best manner we know. With kind thoughts, many wonderful memories, and music!*

*Dennis Downs
CFMB Director*

Dennis Downs - October 01, 2015 at 11:27 AM