



## Blaine Ellis Edlefsen

August 24, 1930 - December 22, 2013

Blaine Ellis Edlefsen, 83, of Champaign, died on Sunday, Dec 22, 2013 in Draper, UT, of cancer. He was born August 24, 1930, in Soda Springs, Idaho, the son of Jesse Abner Edlefsen and Ethel Rowley Edlefsen. He married Jean Josephine Harris August 29, 1952 in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

He is survived by five children and 10 grandchildren, Steven Jonn and Jo-Ann and their children Kirsten, Alexander, and Natasha of El Segundo, California; Paul Jay and Sharon and their son Nathaniel of Salt Lake City, Utah; Erik Blaine of Champaign; Miriam Sara Edlefsen Ballejos and her husband Ernest of Tacoma, Washington; and Kathryn Ann Edlefsen Enniss, her husband Ryan and their six children, Rachel, Joseph, Alayna, Jack, Michael and Sarah, all of Draper, Utah. Also living is Blaine's brother, Lynn Edlefsen and his wife Nan of Chubbuck, Idaho.

Blaine was raised in Driggs, Idaho, and from an early age learned to sing from his mother. He played saxophone and clarinet in school bands and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brigham Young University in Provo, UT in 1952. He completed his Master of Music degree in Music Literature and Performance on the oboe from Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, New York in 1953. From 1953-1961, he was an Instructor of Music at BYU and performed with the Utah Symphony Orchestra. From 1959-61, he again attended the Eastman School of Music, earning his Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance and Pedagogy of the Oboe in 1966.

He became an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois School of Music in 1961, retiring as Professor Emeritus in 1994. During the summer of 1965 he held what is believed to have been the first oboe camp in the US. His film, Making the American Scrape Oboe Reed, made in 1969 was the first to illustrate the art of oboe reed making. He published courses of study for students learning the oboe at the beginning, intermediate and advanced-intermediate level for Belwin Mills. He was a member of the Illinois Woodwind Quintet and performed in the Champaign-Urbana, Springfield and Kankakee Sympony Orchestras and the Univerity of Illinois Sinfonia da Camera as principal oboist. He was also a founding member of the International Double Reed Society. He was a versatile musician playing clarinet, flute saxophone and English horn as well as the oboe.

His hobbies include travel, italic hand writing, bridge, reading about exploration and primitive cultures; mnemonics and awareness; physical fitness including weight lifting and tai chi, in which he has a blue belt. He was a loving husband, father, brother and friend who will be greatly missed.

Funeral services will be held in Teton, Idaho at the LDS Church, 209 S. Main Street on Monday, Dec. 30th. Visitation will be from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, with a memorial service at 1 pm. He will be laid to rest in Cache Clawson Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to your favorite charity.

# Tribute Wall

LS

“ Dr. Edlefsen was my dear friend, colleague and Oboe Mentor for the past 40 years. We met for oboe lessons when I was in 8th grade and he has been an important part of my life ever since.....I have been so blessed to have known this great man for most of my life! My heart is heavy with grief knowing he has left us! Sending my Love and Deepest Sympathies to his family.

Lori Vliet Smithling - January 01, 2014 at 08:34 AM

KD

“ Sending prayers of peace for Blaine's family. He was my advisor and oboe teacher in the early '80's. He cared about his students and more importantly his family often talking of the trips he would take to visit them. Rest in peace.

Karen DeBauche - December 28, 2013 at 01:03 PM

EM

“ It does not seem long since I saw Blaine at County Market on Kirby, shopping and looking well. He always asked most solicitously about Austin, my husband who was his colleague in the University of Illinois School of Music. I believe Blaine was the last surviving member of the Woodwind Quintet as Austin died on Dec. 4 at 93. Those were good days for them. Austin had high regard for Blaine and his musicianship. You have our deep sympathy.

Ellen McDowell - December 27, 2013 at 07:36 PM

JW

“ As soon as I turned to the obituary page of the newspaper, I said to myself, "I know that face". I always loved to hear Blaine play.

Joseph T. Woolley - December 27, 2013 at 01:56 PM

TS

“ I was saddened to read of the loss of another former BYU band member. I express my sympathy to all of the members of the family. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers. May the Lord and memories of happy times with Blaine comfort and strengthen you at this difficult time.

Thais Stewart Shelley - December 27, 2013 at 12:14 PM

SC

“ To all of Blaine's family, his many students and friends and those who had felt the hospitality and warmth in his home, his departure is a great loss - - as he joins the multitudinous masters in the eternal orchestra on high.

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**Steve Craven** - December 26, 2013 at 08:08 PM