



## George Arthur Hussey JR

February 28, 1927 - February 26, 2024

IN MEMORY OF:

GEORGE ARTHUR HUSSEY, JR

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

Emeritus Professor and Musician, George A. Hussey, Jr., passed away two days short of his 97 years in Deaconess Hospital, Evansville, IN due to complications from spine surgery.

He was born in Cleveland, OH on February 28, 1927. He was a veteran of WWII where he served in the Army/Air Force along with performing in the Army band. George then graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College of Music in Berea, OH in 1950 where he met and married his wife, Grace Campbell. They were married a few months shy of 70 years. She preceded him in death on December 29, 2019.

As a young musician he performed on the road with the jazz group lead by Buddy Morrow playing tenor saxophone, but his love was always classical music. George held principal Oboe along with English Horn with the

Chattanooga, TN Symphony, the Indianapolis, IN Symphony; the St. Louis, MO Symphony and the St. Louis, MO Muni Opera. While in St. Louis he received both his MA in Music Education and Doctorate of Oboe and English Horn from Washington University.

In 1963 he came to SIU-C with his wife, Grace and two children Marcia and Scott where he taught applied oboe students, various music courses, private students and performed with the Woodwind Quintet. He also headed the music department at the Siu-C Nakajo, Japan Campus for several years and conducted the SIU-C Symphony his final year before retirement for a total of 34 years. George loved his oboe lessons with then SIU-C president Albert Somit and the two often played duets together privately.

He became choir director of his church, First Christian Church Disciples of Christ-Carbondale for several years.

George contributed his musical talent to not only performing but also to teaching many students, some who have gone on to great performance and/or teaching careers of their own. Perhaps the Heavens will be filled with the sound of the English Horn solo from Defilla's The Three Corner Hat, his favorite.

George is survived by his children, Marcia and Scott; adopted children, Robert and Megan; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by wife, Grace who greeted him in Heaven, along with his parents and other relatives.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A private inurnment was in Pleasant Grove Memorial Park Mausoleum.

A Celebration of Life for George and Grace Hussey, hosted by the family will be Sunday, March 10, 2024 from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm in the First Christian Church Disciples of Christ, Carbondale.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

**Pleasant Grove Memorial Park Mausoleum**

# Previous Events

## **Celebration of Life**

MAR **10**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church Disciples of Christ  
306 W Monroe st.  
Carbondale, IL 62901

# Tribute Wall



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of George Arthur Hussey JR.*



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March 06, 2024 at 01:03 PM



“ *Rhonda and Kevin McClain planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of George Arthur Hussey JR.*

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**Rhonda and Kevin McClain** - March 06, 2024 at 01:03 PM



“ *I absolutely love that comment about him enjoying playing duets. That was my greatest joy. Performing beautiful music with such an amazing talent was something I looked forward to at my lessons. Blessed to study with such an amazing role model who taught us so much more than music. A little French, a little philosophy and everything about how to treat people.*

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**Tracy Ellis Kietzer** - February 29, 2024 at 07:23 PM



*My oboe teacher at SIU and afterwards we visited regularly as friends over the years. He was a kind, patient, upbeat man who made me a better oboist and human being. Loved his stories of earlier years, including train trips down to New Orleans. Peace, Admiral!*

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**Danny Rifkin** - May 17, 2024 at 02:59 PM

MC

“ I’m sorry for your loss. Sounds like a talented man. I hope good memories sustain you.

Marcia Chew - February 29, 2024 at 10:37 AM

AS

“ I began playing Oboe in 4th grade. When I told my CSO instructor I wanted to major in Oboe in college without hesitation he told me to go to SIU to study with Mr Hussey who he knew and respected for many years. He was 100% correct. Mr Hussey became not only my best instructor but also my best friend. We kept in constant touch and I saw him on every visit to SIU since graduating. He was a warm and caring person who will be terribly missed. Thank you Mr Hussey for everything. Alan S '72

Alan L Shlachter - February 29, 2024 at 10:11 AM

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Alan L Shlachter - February 29, 2024 at 09:18 AM

DK

“ We are sorry for your loss. May he rest in eternal peace! Our heartfelt condolences to the Hussey family.

Dimitrios H. Karayiannis - February 27, 2024 at 09:40 PM