

Larry C. Mettler

December 29, 1937 - February 15, 2020

Larry C. Mettler, age 82 of Godfrey, IL, died peacefully on the morning of Saturday, February 15, 2020 at Alton Memorial Hospital in Alton, IL.

Mettler was a gifted musician, educator, husband and father. Born on Wednesday, December 29, 1937 in Highland, IL, he was the son of Alvin and Pauline (nee Messerli) Mettler. Larry married Ellen M. Mettler (nee Martin) on August 11, 1968 at the University of Illinois United Methodist Church. Ellen survives along with his son Brad Mettler and daughter in law Catherine, who currently reside in Washington D.C.

Larry was a member of Evangelical United Church of Christ in Godfrey, IL, Phi Sigma Mu honorary music fraternity, Kappa Delta Pi honorary education fraternity, National Education Association, Illinois Education Association, the Music Educators National Conference, and the Illinois Music Educators Association.

After graduating from Highland High School in 1955, Mettler subsequently attended Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL, where he received both his Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees in music education. He then received an appointment at the State University of New York College of Education at Buffalo, New York within the music department. After Buffalo, Mettler began an 18-year career within the Carrollton Community School Unit,

District No. 1. During this lengthy tenure, Mettler directed the Junior High band, as well as the Senior High marching band, concert and pep bands. He also organized many special groups including a brass choir, German band, jug band, and stage band. He maintained active interests in both professional and civic group activities as a public relations chairman for both the Carrollton Education Association and the Greene County Education Association.

After his time in Carrollton, Larry enjoyed additional successful tenures in his musical career including nine years as leader of the music program at St. Angela Merici school in Florissant, MO. Concurrently, Mettler remained a constant and vital leader within the local church community as director of several church choirs, most notably as leader of the music program at Wood River (IL) United Methodist Church for over 15 years. In addition to his music and family, Larry's greatest passion was travel. Having enjoyed visits to 49 states, Mettler also traveled to Europe on multiple occasions. Specifically, he possessed a strong interest in travels to the "old country" as he maintained a lifelong interest in his family's Swiss heritage. Upon his retirement from teaching, journeys also included multiple trips to his beloved Hawaiian beaches and visits to the mountains of the Western United States where he learned to ski at the age of 63. Bowling and visual arts were also among Mettler's many diverse interests.

Larry will be greatly missed by family, friends, and his countless students who will all remember him as a kind, compassionate, and talented man.

Survivors include:

Wife - Ellen M. Mettler, nee Martin, Godfrey, IL

Son - Brad C. (Catherine) Mettler, Washington, D.C.

Sister - Carole I. Augustin, Pocahontas, IL

Brother In-law - Virgil (Amy) Martin, Urbana, IL

Sister In-law - Joan Beyers, Decatur, IL

Brother In-law - Ralph (Michelle) Martin, Broadlands, IL
Sister In-law - Peggy (David) Ropiequet, Mattoon, IL
Brother In-law - Jack (MaryKay) Martin, Seymour, WI
Sister In-law - Debra (Larry) LeCrone, Sidney, IL
Many Nieces and Nephews
Special Family Friend - Lloyd Furlong, Highland, IL.

He was preceded in death by:

Father - Alvin C. Mettler - Died 3/25/1975

Mother - Pauline E. Mettler. nee Messerli - Died 8/21/2004

Brother In-law - Burnell J. Augustin - Died 1/25/2019.

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Private Visitation for immediate family only will be Thursday, February 20, 2020, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Private Graveside Service for immediate family only will be Friday, February 21, 2020, at Highland City Cemetery, Highland, IL, with Rev. Tim Darmour-Paul, Pastor, Grantfork United Church of Christ, officiating.

Interment will be at Highland City Cemetery in Highland, IL.

Memorial contributions may be made to Church Choir at Evangelical United Church of Christ, Godfrey, IL or Donor's Choice.

Tribute Wall

BF

“ *Mr Mettler was a Terrific Band Director at Carrollton High School...Kind, Respectful and Very Talented. He will always be remembered.*
Bill Flatt

Bill Flatt - March 02, 2020 at 07:45 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry C. Mettler.*



February 20, 2020 at 11:54 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry C. Mettler.*



February 19, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry C. Mettler.*



February 19, 2020 at 04:18 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Larry C. Mettler.*



February 19, 2020 at 03:35 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies to the Mettler family for your loss. I never had the pleasure of meeting Larry Mettler but if his son is any indication of the man he was, he was clearly a great man.*

Steve Wilson - February 19, 2020 at 03:32 PM



“ *I have many fond memories of Mr. Melter during my time in Carrollton grade and high school. He was also our choir director at the Methodist Church. He helped build my love for music! I am sorry for your loss.*

Mary Ann (Smith) Portwood - February 19, 2020 at 01:59 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry C. Mettler.*



February 19, 2020 at 11:49 AM

MW

“ He was first Mr. Mettler to me as my Band Teacher (favorite class), and always Mr. Mettler as my adult friend. Just didn't seem right to call him Larry. He has touched so many lives through his music, as has Ellen. Letting me drive his beautiful maroon white leather seats Ford Thunderbird convertible is still a high school highlight memory. I loved his laugh and his integrity. I am very sorry for your/our loss of a wonderful man. I will always remember you, Mr. Mettler.

Sincere Condolences, Marge Baker Weber.

Marge Baker Weber - February 19, 2020 at 09:15 AM

DG

“ Always a pleasure being around Larry Mettler both as my instructor and later teaching; rest in peace. Dick Greaves

Dick Greaves - February 19, 2020 at 01:31 AM

RH

“ Larry was my sister Vicki's band director when she won the John Phillip Sousa award. She loved band with him and the band was great!

Rick Hires - February 18, 2020 at 11:32 PM

EL

“ So sorry to hear this news
Our condolences to Ellen and Brad.
The Elsons

Elsons - February 18, 2020 at 11:13 PM

CS

“ Remembering the many years Mr. Mettler invested in my musical education, the great times we experienced in band. He opened doors for many of us to a richer life experience through appreciation of music.

Cathy(Martin) Schallenberg

Cathy Schallenberg - February 18, 2020 at 11:04 PM

LC

“ Prayers to his family. Mr. Mettler had such a positive impact on so many students. His love of music was shared with so many. Anyone associated with him will have fond memories for years.

Lynn Carter - February 18, 2020 at 10:42 PM

GO

“ Gregory Olmstead lit a candle in memory of Larry C. Mettler



Gregory Olmstead - February 18, 2020 at 09:10 PM

KG

“ Hugs and prayers to the family. Carrollton School District Band has never been the same since Mr. Mettler left there. 🤍🤍🙏🙏🤍🤍

kathy Weber Grizzle - February 18, 2020 at 09:07 PM

GO

“ *Mr Mettler was a special person, great teacher and leader in education. We have so many memories of band, practices, camp, contest, marching in parades and concerts under his direction. We always had fun when we were with both he, and Mrs Mettler. We always enjoyed visiting when we occasionally ran into each other. He is surely rejoicing in heaven! Rest In Peace Mr Mettler.*
Greg and Carol Nolan Olmstead

Greg & Carol Olmstead - February 18, 2020 at 08:59 PM

PB

“ *I was 2nd chair trumpet for Mr. Mettler. My sympathies to you Ellen aka Mrs. Mettler. Will keep you in my prayers. Yours, Penny McGlasson*


Penny McGlasson Brannan - February 18, 2020 at 08:50 PM



“ *Precious Moments - Praying Angel” Resin Music Box was purchased for the family of Larry C. Mettler.*



February 18, 2020 at 01:36 PM

 Robin
Hasty

“ *Many, many thoughts and prayers! He was always a joy to talk to when I got to see him! Rest in Peace.*

Robin Hasty - February 18, 2020 at 01:13 PM

AD

“ I can remember Uncle Larry playing grandma's piano while the rest of us stood around and sang. Happy memories. Rest in peace.
Angela Davis

Angela R Davis - February 18, 2020 at 12:06 PM

SP

“ He was the best band director Carrollton ever had! I learned so much from him. Rest in peace, Mr. Mettler!
Susan Postlewait

Susan Postlewait - February 18, 2020 at 12:27 AM

BS

“ Sympathy to all. God's blessing to each of you.

Bob & Beckie Schrupf - February 17, 2020 at 05:26 PM