



Edwin C. Black

August 5, 1938 - March 21, 2023

Edwin C. Black

Musician, Teacher, 84

Edwin C. Black, 84, of West Orange, NJ, peacefully passed away in his sleep at his home on Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

Born in Kittatining, PA, to the late Clair Black and Ethel Frampton, Edwin earned degrees from Montclair State University and Teacher's College, Columbia University. He was also a proud veteran of the Naval Academy of Music.

Edwin spent the majority of his teaching career as the orchestra conductor for Belleville's Middle School and High School. Other teaching credits include Jersey City State College, Mountain High School, Bloomfield School District, and the Summer School at Dartmouth University.

He performed with several organizations including 25 years with the Paper Mill Playhouse and was a founding member with over 30 years of service to the Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea. Additional credits include: The NJ Pops, the NJ Philharmonic Concert at Carnegie Hall, Lake George Opera, Summit Symphony, Plainfield Symphony, NJ Symphony (first chair), Garden State Art Center, National Ballet @ Newark Symphony Hall, Tower Brass Trio Opera Theater of NJ, Chamber Symphony of NJ, Lakeland Youth Symphony (conductor), Choral Art Society, and the Montclair Early Music Group. He was a founding and charter member of the West Orange Community Band, the

founder of Garden State Wedding Music, the conductor and later chairman of the Region 1 Junior High School Orchestra, and served as the NJ President of the American String Teacher's Association.

An avid NJ Jackals and Dallas Cowboys fan, Ed loved riding his bicycle, playing tennis, and reading in his spare time.

He was married to the late Kathryn "Kay" Black for 38 years, and is survived by his children; Andrew Black, and Vivian Sturchio, and two grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at 5:00 pm, Wednesday March 29, 2023, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 73 S Fullerton Ave, Montclair, NJ 07042.

In lieu of flowers, please contribute to your local Middle and High School Music programs.

Funeral services have been entrusted to the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank St., (Rt. 23), Sussex, NJ. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.pinkelfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Private Cremation Services

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 29. 5:00 PM (ET)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
73 S. Fullerton Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07042

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Edwin C. Black.*



March 28, 2023 at 08:13 PM



“ *Echoing others' comments, knowing Ed through Montclair Early Music and sharing musical experiences with him was a delight.*

Kathleen Caccavale - March 27, 2023 at 01:33 PM



“ *If Mr. Black hadn't been my teacher for all those years in Belleville, from summer music camp to middle school and high school, I would not be the person I am today. He transformed the lives of countless students by showing us a world beyond our small town - a world in which we could belong, explore, and succeed. Mr. Black was a hero, mentor, and inspiration. Sending my love and condolences to the Black family.*

Ben Dookchitra - March 26, 2023 at 05:23 PM

KB

“ *Condolences and Heartfelt Sympathy to the Black Family... I was one of those colleagues that taught along with Ed for many years in Belleville. I was in the Art Dept and when Both Music and Art were combined I saw him at dept meetings. I never met a Nicer Man ever. Ed was always positive and always had something good to say about everyone.. When My daughters were in Band and Orchestra, I frequently saw Ed when I became President of the Music Parents Assn. He was truly a Wonderful man and will be truly missed by Everyone, including that Thousands of students he had over the years. I am with Many who were Fortunate enough to be touched by his life. Rest Im Peace Mr Black!*

Ken Burde - March 26, 2023 at 12:22 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Edwin C. Black.*



March 25, 2023 at 02:43 PM

AP

“ Andrew and family, I am so saddened to read of Ed's passing! He was a magnificent person and musician, and a great encourager of students of all ages. A few years ago, he convinced me to return to playing clarinet after a 40 year hiatus so that I could join the West Orange Community Band he was helping to found. It was such an honor to play there (and in the Montclair Early Music group) with him.

We talked often of bike rides, and he'd wistfully hope to ride his again and we talked of sharing a ride. His pride in his family was always at the forefront of a conversation. He was always generous in opening his home to rehearsals which doubled as wonderful social events.

Ed will be greatly missed, but he will live on in all of the musicians who he so inspired. My deepest sympathies to all of Ed's family!

Ann Pollack

Ann D. Pollack - March 24, 2023 at 08:34 PM