

## **BUDDY MORENO AND ADAM TRACY PLAY THE FOUR FRESHMEN IN ST. LOUIS**

Bob Solheim, FS Iowa Representative

As we enter the world with hope for a better world, let me say a few things about two gentleman who have made my world a better and happier place in recent years through music.

Carlos "Buddy" Moreno is still working on a regular basis as a jazz radio broadcaster. Buddy and his radio partner, Adam Tracy, co-host a three hour Saturday show on WSIE 88.7 FM, a public radio station in the St.. Louis suburb of Edwardsville, Illinois. The station is on the campus of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where Adam Joined Buddy in 1994 as an assistant on "The Buddy Moreno Show" as an 18 year old freshman at the college. Adam came to the show as a student of classical piano. He now truly appreciates the music that Buddy has been involved in throughout his life.

Buddy suffered a stroke in June, 2005. Since then, Adam has been the primary "D.J." on the show. But Buddy has made a miraculous recovery and has co-hosted the show several times in recent months; most recently on December 1, 2007! Buddy has been in the music business since his teens. Over those 80 years he has, as written in George T. Simon's book "The Big Bands" at page 281, "projected a pleasant personality and a voice to match". Buddy has done this on recordings with orchestras led by Griff Williams, Harry James, Dick Jurgens, and his own band, the Buddy Moreno Orchestra.

Shortly after Adam began his duties as primary host of the show. He also began planning his wedding to Katie. Buddy was able to attend the wedding with his daughter and son-in-law in October, 2006 along with the writer and a large gathering of family and friends. A more recent highlight was Buddy's 95th birthday party in July, 2007 with about 100 close friends and a dinner dance with music by St. Louis favorites, Gary Dammer and his jazz group and vocalist Sherry Drake. Adam was M.C. of the party and excelled.

Buddy and Adam have impeccable taste in the musical selections of their show. After a "flag waver" big band opener with the likes of Woody Herman, Count Basie, or Gordon Goodwin they weave their way through the three hours with expected and unexpected musical delights among which are The Four Freshmen, Stan Kenton, Sue Raney, Marilyn Maye, the Hi-Los, Vic Damone, Steve Lawrence, Frank Sinatra, Peter Marshall, Kevin Stout, and Buddy Moreno himself!

At the Pittsburgh convention, Ross Barbour called in to Buddy and Adam's show on Dick Hatfield's cell phone to the delight of Buddy and Adam and their listeners. Ross remembers Buddy as a fine singer and band leader. Two of the more notable sideman in Buddy's band were Bill Trujillo, a 1950's Kenton tenor sax member and someone close to our own Curtis Calderon, a trumpet player featured on the band's theme song "Devil May Care", a fellow Texan, Don Jacoby. May Buddy and Adam continue to provide us with great music for years to come!



**Son in law Mike, Buddy Moreno (94) and daughter Julie**



**Buddy Moreno at age 95**