

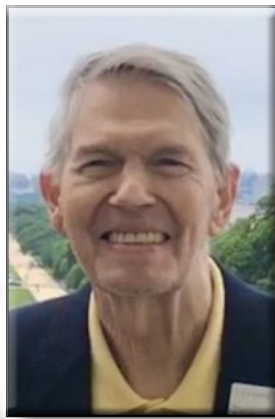
# Good bye to a Great Friend, Bob Solheim

by Barb Meyers

We lost another long time member of the Four Freshmen Society. Bob loved The Four Freshmen and big band jazz. It's hard to write a small article about someone who was a friend to everyone. There are so many stories from all of us it would be impossible to tell them all.

Mel and I were lucky enough to call him our friend. We were all living in Tucson at the time we met him. He talked Mel into becoming the Arizona Rep, and although we were members, that put us on the path of getting more involved.

He eventually left Arizona to be closer to his kids and grandchildren. He slowly was unable to come to conventions. Bob sent me many pictures that I might be able to use in the *Fresh News*. However he didn't tell me who a lot of them were. This one I knew.



## Terrific in Tennessee

by David Mehl

The Four Freshmen, Group 27, presented a concert to a large, enthusiastic audience in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee on October 21, 2021.

When you think of the words "exceptional blend" your first thought might be the advertisements for your favorite whiskey or coffee.....until you hear Group 27. After you do, they will be the first thing you think of exemplifying "exceptional blend."

I have been a devoted fan of the guys since 1948. (Yes, I know—I'm old.) In all of that time, and many concerts, albums and youtube presentations later, I have never been more emotionally moved as I was during the concert on October 21.

The guys were simply terrific! Group 27 has an exceptional blend. Very smooth. The four voices combine to create the epitome of the "Freshmen sound" that we all love so much. It blew me away!

As a long time trumpet player, I was anxious to hear Jake Baldwin. Wow! He can play! I think Jake has more control of his instrument than any other trumpeter I have heard. He can do it all, seemingly effortlessly. His solos were very tasty yet reflective of his excellent technical expertise. You will love Jake.

Bob Ferreira was at his best as the emcee. He warmed the audience with his charm, humor and knowledge.

The guys were having a good time and it was reflected on the audience.

The venue was great. Lawrenceburg's art deco Crockett Theatre was built in 1950, and is one of the few theatres from this era still operating in the United States. It is listed on the National Historic Registry.

I had the opportunity before the concert to talk with about 30 people in the audience and not one had ever heard The Four Freshmen. I was glad when Bob invited them to join the society.

The concert was 90 minutes with no intermission. It kicked off with *Day In, Day Out* and was full of wonderful Freshmen "standards" and some new things including some great solos by Tommy, Ryan, Jake and Bob. It ended with a rousing version of *Route 66* and an encore of *Graduation Day*.

I urge you to go hear them. We drove four hours each way. It was worth it. The future looks very bright for this group. I can't say enough about how much Diane and I enjoyed hearing the guys.



Please consider registering for the Convention online at [ffs2022.com](https://ffs2022.com)