

Secondo (Conte) Candoli July 12, 1927-December 14, 2001

Memorial Service, Dec. 28, 2001, Mishawaka IN
South Side Gen. Baptist Church

Secondo (Conte) Candoli was the second son born to Tony and Ester Candoli in Mishawaka, Indiana, where he lived and graduated from Mishawaka High School.

Immediately after graduating he joined the Woody Herman Orchestra, working with his older brother, Pete, and traveling throughout the United States. He worked with Woody Herman until he was drafted in 1945. Upon discharge he began his music career again and worked with other top name bands over the years such as the Stan Kenton, Benny Goodman, Dizzy Gillespie, and Shelly Manne Bands.

In 1945 Conte formed his own all-star group with Chubby Jackson, Lou Levy and Frank Rosolino. They played in all the major jazz rooms in the United States and Europe. Conte won numerous musical awards and made the Metronome and Downbeat polls for many years.

Conte moved to Los Angeles and worked with the Lighthouse All Stars. During these years he was the featured recording artist with all important jazz labels. He was a standard request of many top singers such as Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Sarah Vaughn, and Nat King Cole.

Conte played in the "Tonight Show" band in the trumpet section from 1967 until Johnny Carson retired in 1992. He continued to work with Doc Severinsen after that time. He was a prominent member of the Super Sax Group which toured the U.S. and Europe. He had also toured Europe with his own group for many years and continued to be in high demand up until his death.

Though he enjoyed touring and playing live in jazz rooms, as he aged he preferred living in California working on television shows, motion pictures, concerts, recording, and giving music clinics at colleges. He has been featured on 103 CD's, has created six of his own, and soloed or performed on too many to mention.

In 1990 Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles proclaimed September 9, 1990, as "Conte Candoli Day" at the Los Angeles Jazz Society's eighth annual jazz tribute and awards concert in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the history of the development of jazz. He was inducted into the Jazz Hall of Fame.

He loved and enjoyed music until his death on December 14, 2001. When asked if he would ever retire, he responded, "Are you kidding? I love my work!"

He was a great son, brother, husband, father, and uncle. He will always be remembered not only for his musical talent, but for his kindness.

"With trumpets and sounds of cornets make a joyful noise before the Lord and King." (Psalms 98:6)

Submitted by Anthony Zmirski

Note: The Candoli family has a website - www.candoli.com - if anyone wishes to send a message.

FN March-April 2002

Freshmen Fans Exchange

The following members are interested in helping others who may need to buy or sell Freshmen LP's, 45's, memorabilia, etc. Send a note or call. If you're looking to buy an album or more enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope to expedite communication.

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(703) 821-2068

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Ed Monborne
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