

IN MEMORIAM

BY CLAUDE SLUDER



Gerard D. Duffin, 60

Gerard “Gerry” Duffin, lecturer and assistant technical director of the Musical Arts Center, died in May 2004. From the fall of 1984 until December 2001, Duffin worked in the MAC, where he was often in charge of special effects for making things that exploded or flew. He was the special materials person, working with metal and plastic.

Duffin held degrees from the University of Florida, including a degree in law. He was previously a designer and technical director at the University of Montevallo and a designer at the University of Tennessee. At IU, his activities ranged from theatre and opera to film, TV, and rock concerts.

Leonard Sharrow, 89

Leonard Sharrow, one of the best bassoonists of his generation, died on August 13, 2004. Sharrow taught bassoon in the woodwind department at IU for 13 years during the 1960s and ’70s. In 1977, at age 62, he left IU and was hired by director André Previn as principal bassoonist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. He stayed there until 1987, when he retired.

Born in New York City in 1915, he was the son of Saul Sharrow, violinist with the New York Symphony and the New York Philharmonic. Although he began his musical studies on violin, he soon discovered a love of the bassoon. Graduating from Juilliard in 1935, his first professional position was with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

In 1937, he joined the NBC Symphony, which played for radio drama, quiz, and children’s shows—and later, TV concerts. Both father and son were members of this orchestra. Drafted into the military in 1941, Sharrow played bassoon in the Signal Corps Band at Fort Monmouth, NJ. During his World War II service, he played bassoon and violin, mainly touring the United States in a production of Irving Berlin’s *This is the Army*, which boosted morale and raised money for the Army Emergency Relief Fund. At the end of the tour, the entire troupe appeared in the 1943 movie version of the show, which included Ronald Reagan. Sharrow later played with the Detroit Symphony before returning to the NBC Symphony. Later he played with the Chicago Symphony under Rafael Kabuli and Fritz Reiner.

He moved from Bloomington to Cincinnati in 1999 to be near his son, Neil.



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“Every time Indiana University selects a new Steinway, we are reminded of its commitment to excellence in providing the best instruments possible for the study and performance of music,” said Bruce Stevens, president of Steinway & Sons. Dean Gwyn Richards added, “The quality and reputation of the Steinway piano are unsurpassed and we are truly fortunate to be able to add this new instrument to so many of our performances here at the School of Music.”



At Steinway & Sons headquarters in New York City, Steinway staff join personnel from the IU School of Music as they purchase the school’s twenty-first Model D Steinway piano. Pictured left to right are Bruce Stevens and Peter Goodrich of Steinway; Karin Coopersmith, Menahem Pressler, Evelyne Brancart, Henry Upper, and Edmund Battersby of IU; Sally Coveleskie, Steinway; Craig Gigax, Meridian Music, Indianapolis; Stephen Shaver, IU; and Frank Mazurco, Steinway.