

E.A. Lightfoot

*taken from a Texas Encyclopedia
under "Men of Texas"*

Arkansas



A. LIGHTFOOT, who is widely known throughout the Lone Star State as a Bandmaster, has for the past several years devoted his efforts to the successful leadership of the Sherman Municipal Band, and the city is indeed fortunate that it has so capable and enthusiastic a director. Mr. Lightfoot first organized the band in 1920 as a military band, with one hundred pieces, and a complement of commissioned and non-commissioned officers. Under his leadership the band was brought to the highest grade of excellence, and the band has recently been granted sufficient funds by the city to insure its continued success. This money will be raised by a direct tax, the work of the organization having previously depended upon appropriations by the city government, and the generosity of the citizens of Sherman. Mr. Lightfoot began with all new material, and by his enthusiasm and genuine talent for organization he has arrived at a band that promises to be a permanent organization. Between Mr. Lightfoot and the players there exists the perfect understanding that is absolutely essential for the best results. (Not only a musician of the highest degree, possessing a keen knowledge of music, and great interpretative talent, Mr. Lightfoot has that further requirement of the successful, the talent of keeping an assemblage of musicians in the proper mood for the best work.)

The Sherman Municipal Band gives a series of free concerts during the summer that are at all times well attended by the citizens, and they also give their services in any way that will reflect credit on their city. Mr. Lightfoot gives his entire time to his work as conductor, and all beginners in band work are given instruction for a period of two years, after that time arranging for further instruction if their ability warrants it. The Band Studio is located on South Travis Street, and Mr. Lightfoot spends most of his time here drilling his men, and planning further improvements for his organization. Mr. Lightfoot is the highest paid bandmaster in the Southwest, having attained this distinction by his superior methods of imparting to the player the knowledge he must have in a clear, decisive manner.

Prior to the organization of the Sherman Municipal Band, Mr. Lightfoot had devoted many years to the successful direction of like organizations, his first work being at Summerville, Texas, where he directed a band for the Santa Fe Railroad. He gave five years to this work developing a splendid organization. His next work was at Greenville where he gave six years of indefatigable work to the development of a municipal band in that city, in the meantime organizing a band at Paris, and devoting fifteen months to perfecting this work. During the war Mr. Lightfoot was active in the work of the Students' Army Training Corps, and was Government Musician at Burleson College. He came to Sherman in October, 1920, and has since given his time to the organization of his well-known band. Mr. Lightfoot possesses a decided talent toward the writing of music. He produces original scores for his organization and plans that he will develop from an amateur band a successful concert organization, men whom he has taught and trained himself. He plans, eventually, to devote his entire time to concert work.

Mr. Lightfoot was born at Pittsburg, Texas, in 1887, son of Dr. Lightfoot, a well-known dentist of that city, who came from Kentucky as a young man. He was educated in the public schools and graduated from the high school. He began his musical work at the age of eleven, and had soon mastered various instruments. His band training has been gained by actual experience and hard work, and this, combined with a natural talent as a bandmaster, has been responsible for his success along this line.

Mr. Lightfoot was married at Pittsburg, in 1911, to Miss Elizabeth May Jarrett. They now make their home in Sherman and are well known in musical circles. He is a member of the Lions Club of Greenville.



PROF. GEORGE E. CASE, one of the oldest and best known teachers of music in Texas, has for thirty-six years been a factor in music circles of Sherman and Grayson County, where he is a teacher of Piano, Voice and Pipe Organ. Prof. Case has a well appointed Studio in his home at 602 South Crockett Street, where he has large classes of pupils. Prof. Case is a pioneer among men of his profession, and has seen every evidence of his success in the work accomplished by the great number of students who obtained their musical education under his able guidance, during the many years he has been engaged in teaching.

Prof. Case was born in New Jersey in 1863. His parents, William J. Case and Mary Case being old residents in the State of New Jersey, where his father was widely known in the manufacturing business. Prof. Case's early education was obtained in the public schools of Flemington, New Jersey, where he graduated from High School in 1881. After finishing high school, he entered on his musical education and became a student at the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, where he remained for four years, finishing at that institution in Voice, Harmony, Counterpoint and Piano courses. He then studied under the following celebrated teachers: Louis C. Elson, George W. Chadwick, Dr. Lewis Mass, W. H. Dannelli in Voice, Stephen Emory in Harmony and Henry M. Dunham in Organ.

Prof. Case was assistant Piano Teacher in New England Conservatory of Music for one year, then taught the same instrument for one year at the New England Conservatory of Music at Martha's Vineyard. He was for one year instructor in voice at Baylor University at Waco, Texas. Prof. Case enjoys the distinction of playing the first pipe organ in Sherman, which was at the Presbyterian Church. Prof. Case was married in Sherman in 1888 to Miss Lota W. Williams, a member of a prominent family of Sherman, her parents being old settlers of that city. They have three children: Mrs. Clifford Hardwick, Roger Case and Calvin Case. Prof. Case is the present organist at the First Baptist Church, Sherman, and Director of the Austin College Glee Club. He is a member of the B. P. O. E. and the Woodlawn Country Club. Prof. Case is recognized as a teacher of renown and is a tireless worker. He is identified with and takes an active interest in all agencies working for the greater civic development of Sherman.

Andte moderato

1790

4.1.12

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. A dynamic marking of *p* (piano) is present. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature and time signature. The music consists of several measures of chords and moving lines in both staves.

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The treble staff continues with a treble clef, two flats, and 4/4 time. The bass staff continues with a bass clef, two flats, and 4/4 time. The notation includes various chordal textures and melodic fragments.

Handwritten musical score for the third system. The treble staff concludes with a treble clef, two flats, and 4/4 time. The bass staff concludes with a bass clef, two flats, and 4/4 time. The system ends with a double bar line.

pians

Organ Arr.

Aldine High School Prayer Song
1950

E.A.L.

Andante mod.to

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a piano (p) dynamic marking and contains several measures of music, including chords and moving lines. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, featuring a simple bass line with long note values.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves. The upper staff features a crescendo hairpin and a piano (p) dynamic marking. The lower staff continues the bass line with long note values.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece with two staves. The upper staff ends with a double bar line. The lower staff continues the bass line and also ends with a double bar line.

**ALDINE HIGH SCHOOL BANDS
WINTER CONCERT
December 13, 2001, 7:00 pm**

**NINTH GRADE BAND
Mary Hymel, Conductor**

Star-Spangled Banner	Key/arr. Sousa
"Valdres" Norwegian March	Hanssen/arr. Bainum
Adeste Fidelis	arr. Ployhar
Jingle Bells	arr. Dawson

**CONCERT BAND
Beverly Diano, Conductor**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing/Let It Snow!	Ployhar/Lavender
Themes from the Nutcracker Suite	Tchaikovsky/arr. Johnson
The Christmas Song	Torme/arr. Higgins
Battle Hymn of the Republic	arr. Bocook

**SYMPHONIC BAND
Jeff Laird, Conductor**

Traditions of Christmas	Davis/arr. Longfield
A Christmas Festival	Anderson
Aldine School Song	Lightfoot
America the Beautiful	Ward/arr. Dragon

A note from the Aldine Band Students to tonight's audience:

During tonight's performance.....

Please observe appropriate concert etiquette:

- Refrain from any conversation while groups are performing
- Do not exit or enter while a group is performing
- Remove restless "little ones"

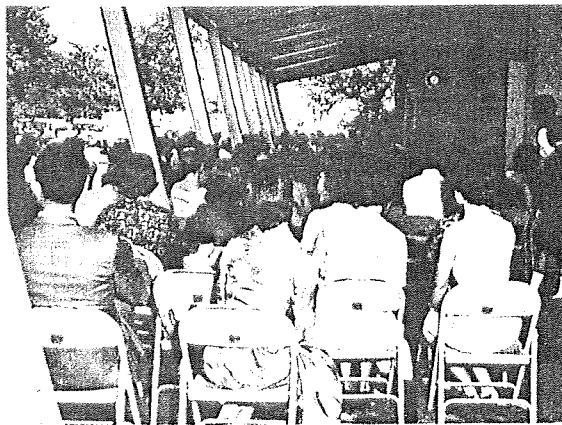
We hope to present a concert worthy of your undivided attention. In addition, part of our educational experience in the Aldine Band includes learning and displaying proper etiquette in a formal concert setting. Your cooperation this evening is greatly appreciated.

The Aldine Band and the Aldine Band Boosters wish to acknowledge and thank Mrs. Julie Allen for her "Century Club" booster membership and generous donation.

E. A. Lightfoot taught music to some 4000 students during his many years as a bandmaster. His groups were tops in their field.



He's
taught
music's
magic to thousands



A big reunion party was recently held for Lightfoot by former members of the Aldine High Band. It was a sentimental occasion.



BECOMING a bandmaster was easier for E. A. Lightfoot than pulling a tooth. Literally, that is. During the two years he worked in the office of his father, a dental surgeon, he kept running out of the room when the forceps were in action.

"I would get sick at the stomach every time my father pulled out a tooth," he recalls, with a grimace.

So he turned from the grind and groan of a dental drill to the crash and swelling music of a band. Music was his big love. And he has been faithful to it through the many years.

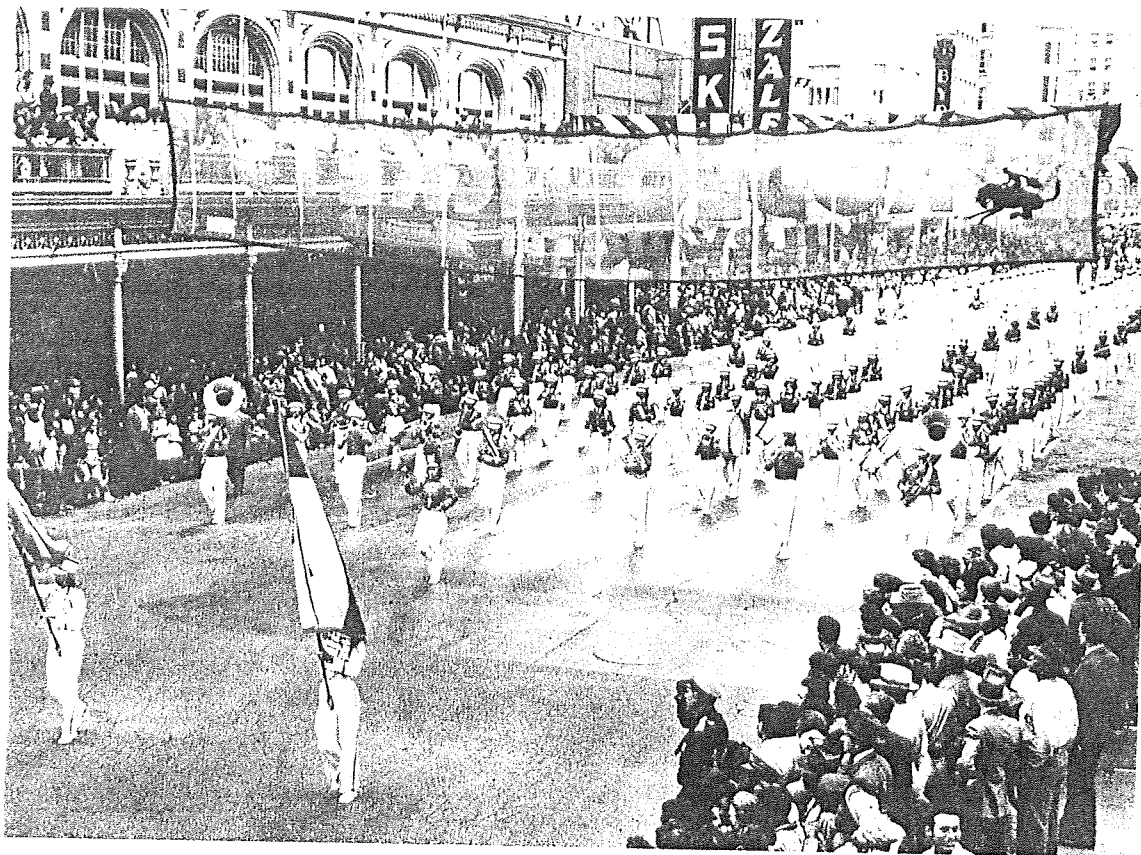
students, now adults, held a big reunion party in his honor at Melrose Park last September. They were former members of the Aldine High School Band, Pep Squad and Twirlers which he had directed for 18 years—from 1938 through 1955.

His Aldine bands were tops in the field. Unified and disciplined groups, they passed up popular songs for the military marches of Sousa. Their concerts had "very long hair." Embroidering each band was a squad of twirlers and marching pep squad. The twirling squad was unique at that time and the group was in

poem. Someone read it. Here's an excerpt:

"We were Major's kids, all tall and straight,
Pop songs, short skirts,
would have to wait.
At concerts we played from our chair,
Music with beautiful, straight, long hair.
Drum majors in trousers instead of a skirt,
And busted they were if they did flirt. . . ."

There were grins by former drum majors who apparently had gotten by with a bit of flirting. The major grinned, too. And with modest ear he listened to speakers touching on highlights of



The Aldine High Band, directed by Maj. Lightfoot, is shown as it led the Fat Stock Show parade past the Rice Hotel in 1946, above.

Memories crowd the 77-year-old man's mind as he stands in his studio near photos of ex-students, left.

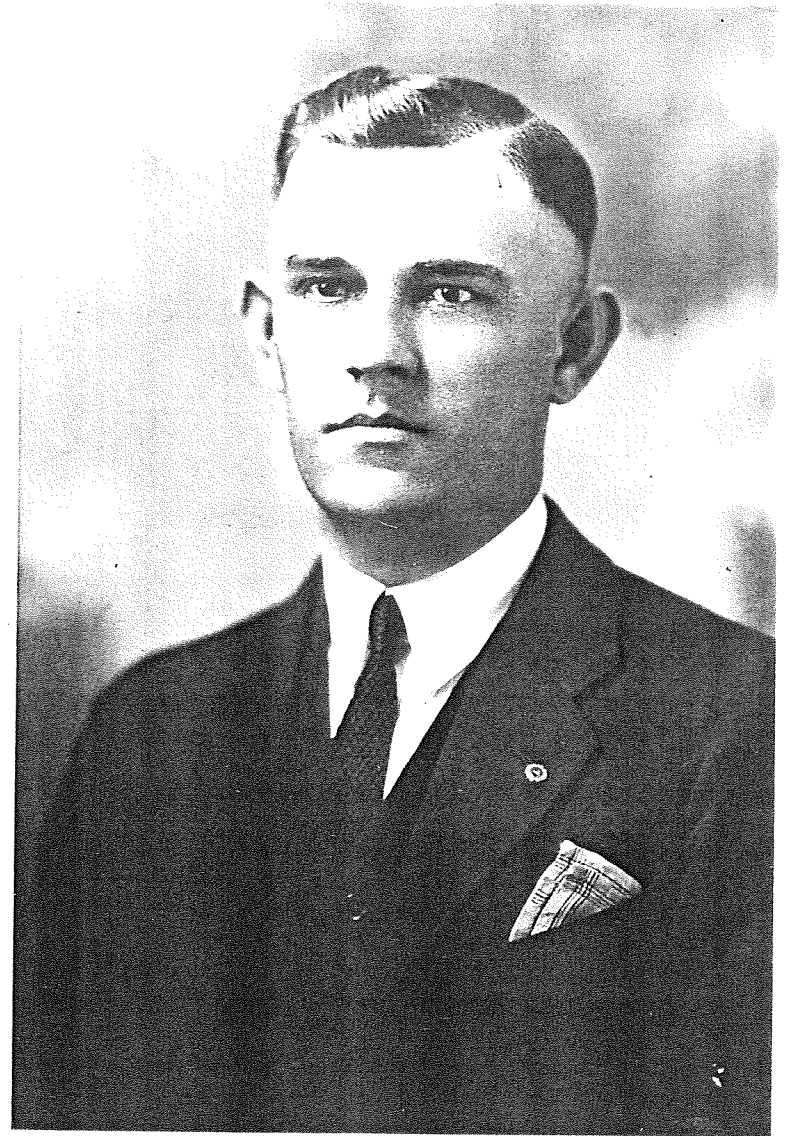
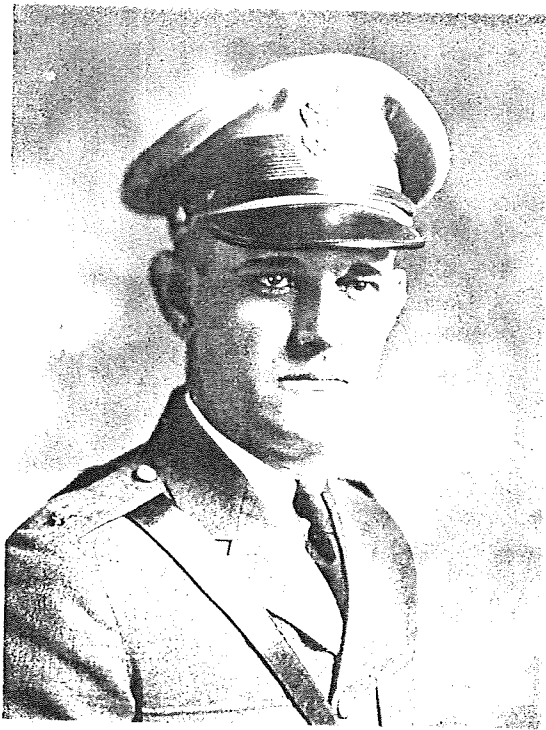
He admires the form of Barbara Archer, right, now a baton twirling instructor in Houston. She was a twirler with the Aldine band, which he directed for 18 years.

Corps and as Government Musician he trained hundreds of musicians for the Army's marching regiment bands.

He helped organize municipal bands all over Texas. In 1924 he founded and was elected first president of the Texas Band Teachers Assn. The next year he was instrumental in the passing of legislation which allowed cities to levy a tax to pay for the organization and direction of a municipal band. This helped keep music alive in Texas. Musicians didn't have to look for other jobs to keep from starving.

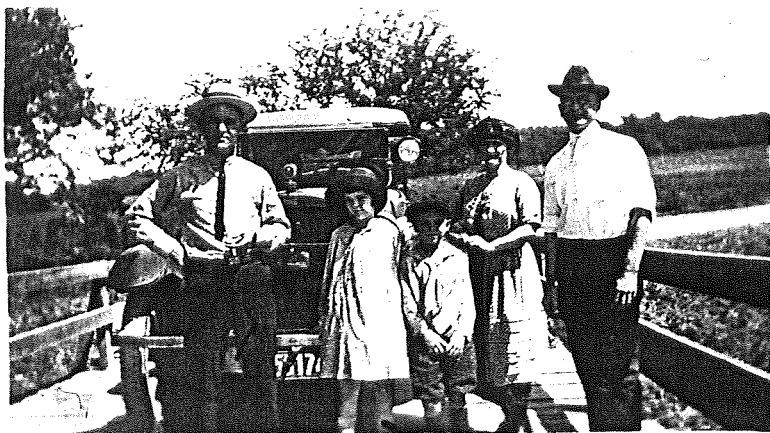
Before taking over at Aldine in 1938, Lightfoot di-





Major

Friends

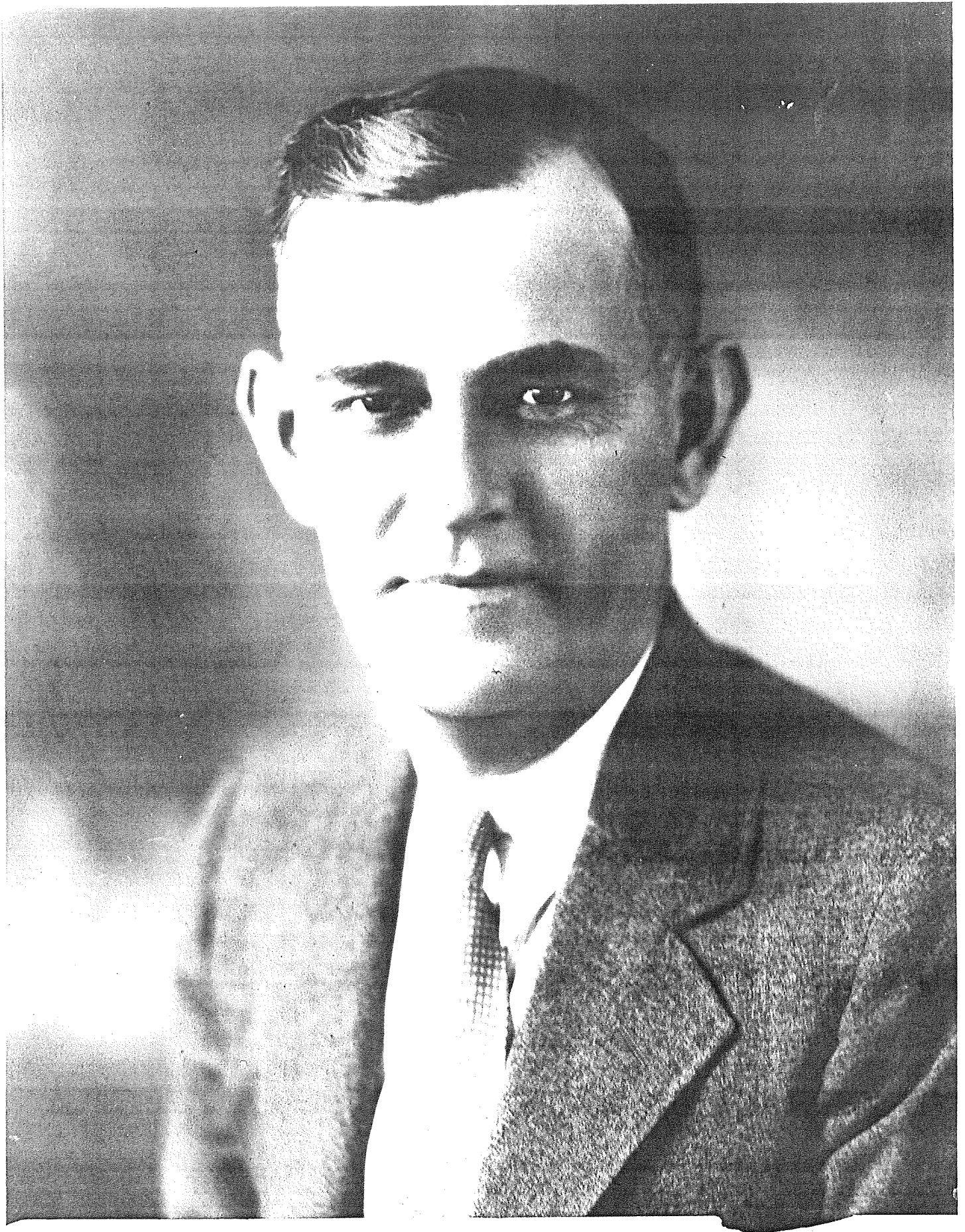


Children
Ann & Jarrett

- Major
- Elizabeth
(Wife)



Children
Ann & Jarrett



Lightfoot Dies Tuesday; Was Aldine Band Director

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday in Memorial Baptist Church, 9101 Airline, for E. A. Lightfoot, 83, band director at Aldine High School from 1938 to 1955.

Lightfoot, of 419 West Saulnier, died Saturday. Before joining the Aldine faculty, Lightfoot directed the Allen Academy Military Band for 11 years and was a member of the Students' Army Training Corps and the Dallas and Fort Worth Municipal Band.

Following his retirement, Lightfoot gave private music instruction on a part-time basis in his home.

In 1924, he founded and was elected first president of the Texas Band Teachers Assn., and he helped organize several municipal bands in Texas.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Lillie Lightfoot; son, A. J. Lightfoot of Houston; daughters, Mrs. Francys A.

Moss of Houston and Mrs. William A. Staton of San Angelo; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Burial will be in the Brookside Memorial Park, with arrangements by Earthman Funerals, 5100 North Freeway.

passed away - 1-2-57

Mrs. Staton Dies at San Angelo

Graveside services were conducted for Mrs. Elizabeth (Lightfoot) Staton, 61, May 18, in Pittsburg with Rev. W. R. Swain of Longview officiating. Mrs. Staton died in San Angelo Tuesday, May 15.

Mrs. Staton, was before her marriage to Mr. Staton, Elizabeth Lightfoot, daughter of Ashburn and Elizabeth Jarrell Lightfoot.

She is survived by her husband, W. A. Staton of San Angelo, one daughter, Mrs. Emil Orth of Collierville, Tennessee, 4 grandchildren, one sister, Frances Moss, Houston; one brother, Jarrett Lightfoot, Houston, three aunts, Mrs. Daryl Cole and Mrs. W. C. Goodjohn of Longview and Mrs. John Van Amburgh of Dallas.

Interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery with Erman Smith Funeral Home in charge.

1-4-71 (P. 1-2)
LIGHTFOOT—E. A. Lightfoot, 83, of 419 West Saulnier, died Saturday. Retired bandmaster, Aldine High School. Survived by wife, Mrs. Lillie Lightfoot; son, A. J. Lightfoot; daughters, Mrs. Francys A. Moss, all of Houston; Mrs. William A. Staton, San Angelo; grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Funeral services 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Memorial Baptist Church, 9101 Airline Drive. Rev. E. Sloan and Rev. William Alter, Rose officiating. Burial Brookside Cemetery. Pallbearers: Ronald J. Lightfoot, Lightfoot, Gene Charles Ditt, Dr. Rutledge Pittman, Marvin Williams, Honorary Ushers: All deacons of Memorial Baptist Church. In lieu of usual remembrances contributions may be made to Organ Fund of the Memorial Baptist Church. Earthman Funerals, 100 North Freeway, First Tidel Exit, 695-6881.

March 2002

To the Descendents of Major E. A. Lightfoot:

It is with great pleasure that we notify you officially of the selection of Major Lightfoot (deceased) for entry into the Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. Please advise surviving family members of the following information. Induction ceremonies will be held during the Texas Bandmasters annual convention in San Antonio on Monday, 29 July 2002, at 3:30 PM, in the Mezzanine Salons of the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel.

While family members and friends are most welcome, only two places of honor in the front row will be provided for designated family members. All other attendees are requested to sit in the audience. All family members may come to the podium for the presentation.

Immediately, or as soon as possible, we must have an 8x10 bust/head photograph in color or black and white (color preferred). Phi Beta Mu will frame the photograph and attach an engraved name inscription to the frame for permanent display in the Hall of Fame, which is currently housed in the office headquarters of Texas Music Educators Association in Austin. The photograph will also be displayed during the induction ceremony.

Please arrange for someone to begin assembling personal memorabilia, which will be placed in a permanent file in the Hall of Fame. Items which they should include are programs, newspaper clippings, awards, honors, personal letters, papers, compositions, articles Major Lightfoot may have written, contest records, photographs of his bands and their activities, etc. If there are original items, which family members wish to retain, please photocopy for Hall of Fame files. In addition, they should prepare a cassette recording of at least three of Major Lightfoot's favorite band compositions as they were performed by his groups during his teaching career (if such is still available). Please bring all memorabilia to the Induction Ceremony. Large scrapbooks are not acceptable. All memorabilia should be contained in a school size notebook or similar folder no larger than 10" x 12".

For the public reading of Major Lightfoot's history and accomplishments, a biographical sketch should be prepared by the sponsor(s), however, it could be lacking in vital information. We suggest that a family member or former colleague assist in preparing a brief, succinct autobiography of pertinent, interesting and even amusing facts. This should not exceed two typewritten pages, double-spaced. Please forward a copy of this information to me at the earliest possible date.

If you should have questions or concerns, please contact me. Should family members require housing in San Antonio during the convention, it will be necessary for them to contact Al Sturchio, Executive Secretary of TBA, at 210-492-8878, and request a hotel registration form.

At the earliest possible date, please advise the Hall of Fame Committee of family members who will be present to accept this honor for Major Lightfoot. We appreciate your assistance, interest and dedication in securing this award to the memory of Major E. A. Lightfoot, and we hope to see you in San Antonio on July 29th.

Warm regards

Ben Gollehon, Chairman
Hall of Fame Committee
3922 Forest Bluff
Kingwood, TX 77339
281-312-0256

0259 fax
email gollehon@flash.net

MAJOR E.A. LIGHTFOOT 164

Elijah Ashburn Lightfoot, my grandfather, otherwise known to at least ^{four} three of his grandchildren as "Big Daddy," was born on September 19, 1881, in Pittsburgh, Texas to Elijah and Lucy Reynolds Lightfoot. He was one of thirteen children, five of whom died in infancy. His father was a dentist and encouraged his son toward the profession. After working with his father for two years, the sight of pulling teeth, and other stomach turning issues, had no appeal to young Elijah. "I would run out of the room every time my father put the forceps into action." He began to study music at age 11.

On June 11, 1911, he married Elizabeth ^{Mary} Jarrett and had three children, Ann, Jarrett, and Francis. It is told that he loved to play with the children, and was especially fond of teasing them. "He would pinch our checks in a playful fashion," according to the grandchildren. The family lived in the Sherman, Greenville and Paris areas of Texas. In 1922 the family moved to Bryan, Texas where he was musical instructor and band director for Allen Academy. While there he raised 400 mallard ducks, which he loved dearly. This, however, did not interfere with his passion for hunting with his son, Jarrett, in the Navasota River bottoms. He also searched for oil in the Texas and Oklahoma fields at one time.

Major would commute from his home in Dennison to instruct bands in Paris, Sherman, and College Station. At the same time, he was training with the Army Band. During his career, he taught 4000 students, and all of his bands were tops in their fields. During World War I, he was active in the work of the Student's Army Band Training Corp, and as a government musician, he trained hundreds of musicians for the Army's regiment bands. He helped organize bands all over Texas, and in 1924 founded and was elected first president of the Texas Band Teachers Association. The next year, he was instrumental in passing the legislation allowing cities to levy a tax to pay for the organization and direction of a municipal band. This helped keep music alive in Texas.

His first work was in Summerville, Texas where he directed a band for the Santa Fe Railroad, and for five years he developed this splendid organization. He was also Governing Musician for Burleson College. Music was his love. Prior to joining Aldine High School in 1938, he directed the Allen Academy Military Band for eleven years. The band won state contests for seven consecutive years, and its boom could be heard "round the world" when it took 1st place at the 1928 International Music Festival in Miami.

He is listed in the Texas Encyclopedia "Men of Texas." He personified excellence, dedication and a love for music. In 1965 former students of Aldine High School held a reunion in his honor. One composed a poem: (an excerpt)

“We were Major’s kids, all tall and straight,
Pop songs, short shirts would have to wait,
As concerts were played from our chairs,
Music with beautiful straight long hair,
Drum majors in trousers instead of a skirt,
And busted they were if they did flirt.”

2001 Major wrote and produced original scores, one being the “Aldine High School” song. The family presented the original score to Aldine High School in 1992. His Aldine High School bands were tops in their field. Unified and disciplined groups, they performed military marches instead of current popular songs. Each band had a squad of twirlers and a marching pep squad. The group was unique for that time, and was in demand for parades, notably at Rice Stadium and the Cotton Bowl.

He mastered many instruments. Not only was he a talented musician of the highest degree, possessing a keen knowledge of music and great interpretive talent, he had that further requirement of the successful—the talent of keeping an assemblage of musicians in the proper mood for the best work. Major Lightfoot was a true credit to music. He died January 1, 1970.