



LOREN D. DONLEY

TEACHER – SUPERVISOR

Loren Donley was in the Army, stationed at Fort Dix, when he received a telephone call from Dr. Lawrence DeBellis, the Superintendent of the Point Pleasant School District. This call brought Loren to the old Ocean Road School and he was employed as an Elementary Music Teacher. January 1, 1959 was the beginning of Loren's tenure as Teacher-Supervisor, a career that lasted 38 ½ years. He retired in June of 1997.

Loren was born in Ohio graduating from Mount Pleasant High School. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Kent State University and his Masters degree in Church and Choral Music from Ohio State University. He also attended Westminster Choir College, Rutgers University, Trenton State College and received his Supervisors Certificate from Jersey City State College.

Coming from a musical family, Loren always knew he would become a Music Teacher. His brother Dale and sisters, Glenna Fisher and Carol Blake, all have degrees in Music and have taught Music. His grandparents, mother and father (Daisy and Millard) were all music enthusiasts. Nineteen of the "Donley Clan" are, or were, educators, six of them being Music teachers! During the early summer reunion the family joins together and becomes the choir in the church service at Coshocton, Ohio.



During his years at Point Pleasant, Loren taught General Music, Instrumental Music and High School Choral Music. His classrooms consisted of closets, the attic, the auditorium, the boys' locker room and the cafeteria in Ocean Road School as well as both fire halls and Harvey Memorial Church. The High School opened in 1963 and Loren became the Choral Director as well as Music Supervisor. The Performing Arts wing was built in 1972 and he finally had a true Music Room! He later became Performing and Fine Arts Supervisor.

Loren's students have been members of the All State Chorus, All Eastern Chorus and All Shore Chorus. Many of his former students are currently Music Teachers and two of them have conducted the All Shore Chorus. The performing groups that he organized were: Mixed Chorus, Treble Chorus, Madrigals, Treblettes, Boys Ensemble, and Show Choir. During his years of teaching, the school produced more than 30 musical productions both during the school year and during the summers.

Since retiring, Loren serves as an adjudicator for a local music festival, sings in the choir of the Orchestra of Saint Peter's by the Sea directed by Father Alfonse Stephenson, sings in the Point Pleasant Presbyterian Church Choir and is a volunteer with the Coastal Care Givers. His Show Choir participated in many of the "America Sings!" festivals and because of this, he is now a volunteer for this organization which raises funds for homeless children.

Loren lives in Point Pleasant with his wife and best friend, Lynn. He has two stepdaughters, Shalon and Jacque, a daughter Cheryl, and three sons Mark, Kevin and Dana. All graduated from Point Pleasant High School, along with his daughter-in-law Cheryl Lynn. They all received a well-rounded education and he is proud of them all. He is also the proud grandfather of seven grandsons with another on the way (hopefully a granddaughter!).