



Phil R. Fahrlander

December 20, 1934 - January 15, 2020

Acclaimed music educator, artist, colleague and friend, Phil Fahrlander passed away from this earth January 15, 2020 at his home in Minden. Very much a modern day Renaissance man, he was an advocate and creator of the arts, passionate for everything from film to literature, not to mention his love for teaching music.

Born December 20, 1934 in Brule, Nebraska to Ray and Freda Fahrlander, Phil Fahrlander was one of five children and the only son. Graduating from Nebraska City High School in 1953, he went on to receive his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Peru State College and Kearney State College. Phil was united in marriage to Nadine Adcock on July 26, 1959 in Peru, Nebraska. After 38 years of public school teaching, he retired in 1997, where he spent his retirement with the three things he loved most in life, his wife, his art, and his antique cars.

A majority of his teaching career was spent in Minden, where he was responsible for building one of the outstanding band programs in the state at the time. He also taught music in Diller and North Loup Scotia before moving to Minden. Affectionately called “Mr. F” or even “Dad” by his students, Phil was a strong advocate for his students and was proud to be their band director. In addition to teaching Band, Phil Fahrlander also taught English, Humanities, Music Theory, and was in charge of the high school gifted program.

Phil Fahrlander’s family at the time of passing is his wife Nadine, sons Eric and Jeff, daughters-in-law Julie and Lisa, grandchildren Stephan, Rae, Emma, Jacob, Olivia, and Hannah, great grandchildren Henry, Stella, Clementine, and Adalynn. He is survived by his sister Rebecca and preceded in death by his parents Ray and Freda, and sisters Elinor, Marcy, and Judy.

Funeral services will be held at the United Methodist Church in Minden on Sunday, January 19, 2020, at 3pm. Memorial book signing will be from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 18, 2020 at the Craig Funeral Home at 336 N. Nebraska in Minden. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to establish a scholarship for

MHS students planning to major in music education. Interment of cremains will be at a later date.

Tributes of memory can be shared with the family at www.craigfunerals.com.

Events

JAN **Memorial Book Signing** 04:00PM - 06:00PM

18

Craig Funeral Home

336 N. Nebraska Ave, Minden, NE, US

JAN **Memorial Service** 03:00PM

19

Minden United Methodist Church

340 N Newell Ave, Minden, NE, US, 68959

Comments



“ Going to your house and getting the keys to open the band room for us to do our halftime show. Band camp senior year....dont let those girls run over you..your in charge

Lucius Brown - January 30, 2020 at 09:54 PM



“ Il read the notice of the death of Phil in Omaha paper and faintly remember Phil as a Peru student. My husband, Fred Clements and I both graduated from Peru State and Fred taught music (instrumental music) in Dunlap, IA after graduation from Peru. I taught elementary grades for a few years. Fred also developed an outstanding band program and received complimentary comments from music contest performances. He retired from teaching after 10 years and chose to be a partner in a music store in Denison, IA, being in charge of keyboard instruments and being a piano technician. All his knowledge gained at Peru College. I was Marilyn Hawxby and we were married in 1956. We moved to Omaha almost 10 years ago after retirement and Fred passed away Nov. 13, 2015, just months short of our 60th wedding anniversary. It was good to read about the successes of a fellow Peru College graduate.
With sympathy,
Marilyn Hawxby Clements

Marilyn Hawxby Clements - January 20, 2020 at 12:17 PM



“ The wonderful tributes to Phil Fahrlander as teacher and music director must be supplemented by a tribute to him as a husband. A member of their wedding party in the little Methodist Church in Peru in the summer of 1959, it has been my privilege to witness the mutual respect, appreciation, support, and love Phil and Nadine shared over all the years since. Together, they represent a life well-lived.

JoEllen McNergney Vinyard

JoEllen McNergney Vinyard - January 19, 2020 at 11:16 PM



“ We honor the life and spirit of who Phil Fahrlander was and will continue to be in our hearts.

Leslie and I send our best wishes and prayers to Phil, Nadine, Eric, and Jeff, as well as the extended family and grandchildren. Phil was a great man. I could not have been more fortunate as the new middle school music teacher to have Phil as my mentor and friend. I remember flying to Nebraska to interview for the middle school music position in the spring of 1979. I became friends with Phil within a few short minutes and soon found that to be a common phenomenon. Phil had a quiet, humorous and caring personality that enriched the lives of students, faculty, and administration.

The Fahrlander family became my second family and could not have been more kind and fun to be around. The time that I spent in Minden were some of the best of my life in large part because of my colleague and friend. I took the lessons learned from Phil with me forever. I know that many of Phil's students and colleagues feel that way as well. Phil was the consummate champion for doing what is best for the students throughout the school district.

My first memory of the High School band was the parade band. The Minden High School Marching Band looked sharp, sounded great, and when they came down the street at the Harvest of Harmony Parade they commanded everyone's attention because they were so impressive. The band members reflected an inherent pride and attention to detail that was second to none. This was what Phil instilled in the band. The High School Band represented the Minden community with pride and honor. Nadine was always the consummate band mom and solid support system for Phil.

Leslie and I were fortunate to take a trip to Minden, Nebraska this past October where we were able to see son Eric's band in the Harvest of Harmony Parade, as well as grandson Jacob as an assistant to a Lincoln High School program. Nadine, Phil, Leslie and I enjoyed talking and sharing old memories. That weekend has become even more special as we look back. We will not be able to attend the service but are certainly with you all in spirit as we celebrate the life of Phil Fahrlander.

Sincerely,
Wayne and Leslie Iiams

Wayne Iiams - January 19, 2020 at 04:13 PM



“ Teachers do make a difference in the lives of the students and the community they touch. Phil Fahrlander was a model for making a difference for all, perhaps especially for those students who in their own time became professional educators. Such was his influence on me, North Loup-Scotia class of 1965--and third-grade teacher in Minden, 1975-1977. Lyle White

L White - January 19, 2020 at 02:32 PM



“ We celebrate the life of Phil Fahrlander a great and wonderful man. A colleague to some, a teacher to many, and a friend to all. As a colleague of ours while on staff at Minden Public Schools, Phil's influence and support was widespread. Witnessing his rapport with his students was impressive and inspiring. As ESU#11 Director of Gifted Education I had the privilege to continue to collaborate with Phil on numerous gifted programs such as Quiz Bowl, Future Problem Solving, Invention Convention, Summer Honors, etc. After Phil's retirement he continued to support programs for students as an ESU#11 Board Member.

As a close friend over the years, the memories are too numerous to mention. We particularly enjoyed performing in the Praise Band together. Knowing Phil has greatly impacted our lives. Thanks Phil for the memories. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Tim and Tammy Burke

Tim Burke - January 19, 2020 at 10:43 AM



“ Phil continues to be my favorite and the most lasting memory of my years in school. From sixth grade to graduation, pep band, halftime shows, parades and a trip to the Portland Rose Festival. He prepared us for Southwest Conference competitions and State contest. I went on to a musical instrument repair business for many years because of the success in music that he fostered in me. I am sure that hundreds and hundreds more owe a debt to Mr. Farlander. His office was a favorite meeting place for many of us. He will live in my heart forever! I am sorry for the loss to Nadine and family.

Our prayers are with you,
Doug Olson

Doug Olson - January 18, 2020 at 10:33 AM



“ Mr. Fahrlander was one of the best teachers/instructors and talents I had the privilege of knowing in school. He prepared us for music events and concerts all the while making us want to achieve beyond what we thought was possible. Not sure if anybody remembers his love for swingland music. He used to play the trombone and would get a trumpet player a tuba player and a baritone player (me) to follow along with his work. We were average and he was great but you have not lived until you have seen his grin while playing the trombone. Sir you were an inspiration to all you touched. Our condolences to your family. Let the band in heaven welcome a great talent.

The Baritone/Base Drummer

Terry Keown - January 18, 2020 at 08:38 AM



“ My feelings about the passing of Phil just sets me back. I wasn't a student of his, but became a real friend and I admired all he was blessed with. He was always reaching for more. A Dreamer with vision. He didn't have to prove anything, He was a natural. My tears seem to join my smile. My tears for everyone's loss and a smile because I really am grateful for knowing him. He was so proud of his family. Michael Knispel

Michael Knispel - January 17, 2020 at 10:48 PM



“ Mr. Fahrlander---what a great band director and great guy. I remember that 1812 Overture too. I'm sitting in the back of the bus as the band is on the Interstate on its way to Lincoln; Mr. Fahrlander was driving his car right behind the bus. He's chomping on a cigar---- I'm nervous---- I think he's nervous too! He had a great way about him, laid back and friendly. Our youngest daughter Ellen has been lucky to become fast friends with his granddaughter Hannah in Omaha. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Fahrlander family. Sharon Raun Kresha, Class of 1971

Sharon Kresha - January 17, 2020 at 08:33 PM



“ I was a student in Cozad and we were in the same SWC as Minden. I was always so very impressed by the Minden music program. What a legacy! My thoughts and prayers are with Phil's family.

Steph A - January 17, 2020 at 07:14 PM



“ I had the great privilege of being a part of Phil's band and march to the highest honors that people could give a band. I was able to watch a genius at work with halftime shows and mold the young minds into perfection in performing. I got to play his trombone and lead the band as drum major .. as with everyone he left an imprint on my life that will last forever .. Good Job Mr Fahrlander! .. Craig Knispel Class of 74

Craig Knispel - January 17, 2020 at 05:52 PM



“ Phil was a board member for ESU #11 when I served as director. In retirement he was still a strong advocate for students and insisted that we do everything possible to meet their needs. Phil was one of the finest individuals that I ever had the privilege of working with. He will be missed. In reading the many tributes, his work ethic, his positive attitude, and his love of people are continuing on through his students.

Ron and Sheri Karr
Holdrege

Ron Karr - January 17, 2020 at 04:27 PM



“ Joyce Will lit a candle in memory of Phil R. Fahrlander



Joyce Will - January 17, 2020 at 04:07 PM



“ Mr. Fahrlander was one of the best music teachers at North Loup-Scotia High School. . He had a passion for marching band and field competition. We performed at many competitions and were able to bring back superior ratings in several. He spent lots of hours preparing us for each presentation. He instilled in each of us the pride of putting on a good show and love of the music. My sympathy to his family in his passing!

Phyllis (Babcock) Hanson
North Loup-Scotia Class of 1971

Phyllis Hanson - January 17, 2020 at 03:51 PM



“ Mr. Fahrlander was an outstanding and dedicated music teacher. He instilled confidence in us and shared his passion for music. In his teaching he set an example for those of us who chose teaching for our life's work. His legacy lives on in the many students he taught.

Beverly (White) Otto
North Loup-Scotia Class of 1967

Beverly White Otto - January 19, 2020 at 05:36 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phil R. Fahrlander.



January 17, 2020 at 03:29 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Phil R. Fahrlander.



January 17, 2020 at 02:56 PM



“ I only met and talked with Phil a few times after I left Minden and am so sorry to hear of his passing, my thoughts and prayers are with his family. I was so grateful to her able o return to Minden and list with Phil in the High School Band Room where I worked for 10 years. He continued and created traditions of fine bands for many years for the Minden Whippets! I so enjoyed his "Views from the Fahr Side" published in the Nebraska Music Eductors Journal.

I'm sure Phil will forever be own charge of t her Eternal Marching Band.

Bill Larson
MHS Band Director
1957 - 1967

Bill Larson - January 17, 2020 at 12:52 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Mike Exstrom - January 17, 2020 at 12:14 PM



“ Thanks Mike for sharing this .. I do believe that is Terry Nelson? and Vicki Worden? leading with Lynn I forgot her last name shame on me

Craig Knispel - January 17, 2020 at 05:59 PM



“ Lynn Mills .. how could I forget

Craig Knispel - January 17, 2020 at 07:46 PM



“ He was my teacher at North Loup Scotia What a special man and our band was very good Prayers to his family

susan Hudson - January 17, 2020 at 12:00 PM



“ Because of Mr. Fahrlander, Minden's band took many first place trophies. He was a great teacher.
Class of 1973

Rose Marie Brown - January 17, 2020 at 11:01 AM



“ Mr. Fahrlander was a class act. I had him in elementary and junior high at North Loup Scotia. We had great musical programs, especially for Christmas and I still remember learning about Broadway musicals and other kinds of music in his class. Also remember most of the class (myself included) having to write "I will not talk in music class without permission." 1000 times. He expected classroom decorum. We were sorry to have him leave, and saddened to hear of his passing.

Jim Goodrich - January 17, 2020 at 10:02 AM



“ How do I thank a man who was not only a fine mentor and great friend, but someone who had such an important role in shaping my future? What I learned from Mr. Fahrlander not only prepared me for eight wonderful years in the Cornhusker Marching Band, but gave me a unique perspective on life and how to live it. I will miss his wisdom, kindness and humor but find comfort in knowing that he is so much a part of who I am today.

Matthew Finkner, Class of 1976

Matthew J Finkner - January 17, 2020 at 09:30 AM



“ Maggie Osgood Nicholls lit a candle in memory of Phil R. Fahrlander



Maggie Osgood Nicholls - January 17, 2020 at 07:36 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers extended out to the Fahrlander family in this time of sadness.

Mr. Fahrlander was my band director in high school, he helped me grow as a young man in my love of music, and he helped me build confidence in my self. He was a very important role model for me as well as many others. I thank God for placing him in my life.

God Bless!!

Jesse Torres - January 17, 2020 at 06:34 AM



“ Sarah Talbert lit a candle in memory of Phil R. Fahrlander



Sarah Talbert - January 16, 2020 at 11:01 PM



“ He was my band teacher back in 1983 to 1986, was a very dear man . My condolences to his family.

Sarah Talbert - January 16, 2020 at 11:04 PM



“ I was very sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Fahrlander. He was a wonderful teacher and my favorite teacher of all when I was a student at North Loup-Scotia. He was a task master but we all devoted to his visionh and with his drive and our hard practice we excelled at State marching band contests and in vocal music as well. He was also my first art teacher and I learned so much from him. He was a genuine person that all the students respected and loved. I am keeping the family in my prayers. Heaven has a new angel.



Martha Honke - January 16, 2020 at 10:57 PM



“ Mr. Fahrlander was simply one of the coolest teachers I could have ever hoped for....and he taught BAND!!! From 6th grade thru 12th, his classes were my primary reason for going to school in the morning. His incredible musical knowledge, broad tastes in music, and laid back style made going to class the best. He was also an incredible human with a giant heart that held all his students close. I was so proud to get those awards for our classroom. What a wonderful man. Off you go to that big band out in the universe.....

Marcia Alonso - January 16, 2020 at 09:54 PM



“ I saw Phil last September in the Dollar Tree where we talked about 30 minutes-laughing about our first Pershing Competition using the “1812 Overture” and how we stunned the audience into shocked silence...so many good memories being in band the first years he was in Minden. I was able to thank him for the impact he had on me personally, becoming a Music Teacher after advice from Mr. Vybiral and Phil. What an incredible legacy of impacting so many lives! I can imagine he has heard those words from the Lord, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Diane Jensen Bettge - January 17, 2020 at 01:23 AM



“ Our condolences to the Fahrlander family! He offered so much more to the Minden High School students than any of us could ever give back! Helping everyone, starting the day with a smile and tolerance... and patience with everyone... especially a lousy baritone horn player in the second row!

John Prince - January 16, 2020 at 09:22 PM



“ I have such fond memories of Mr Fahrlander. As a band member through all four years of high school, band was always a favorite class, and he was one a favorite teacher as well. He was always kind, considerate, and always, always fair. My deepest condolences for your loss. Wendy Latter Kenton

Wendy Kenton - January 16, 2020 at 06:39 PM