



James B. Calvert

James Calvert was born in Princeton, IN in 1925 and moved to Indianapolis in 1938. He graduated from Shortridge High School and served in the United States Navy Band on the USS Colorado during World War II. Mr. Calvert received degrees from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, University of Illinois, and Butler University. He was the Band Director at Shortridge High School from 1950-1963 and at Northview Junior High School (an Indianapolis North Central High School feeder) from 1963-1987. He was also Band Director at Indiana Central College (now the University of Indianapolis) from 1973-1978.

Mr. Calvert was clarinet instructor at the International Music Camp each summer from 1961-1978 and also directed the Allison Motors Military Band and the Indianapolis Concert Band. Following retirement he worked part time for Fritz Automotive and later for Paige's Music Company. He was a 33rd degree Mason, a member of the Mystic Tie Lodge, the Indianapolis Shrine Music Men, and the Scottish Rite where he played in and directed the orchestra. He was a member of Phi Beta Mu, the Indianapolis Musician's Union, the Indianapolis Symphonic Band, the Kokomo Parks Band, and a founding member of the Indiana Wind Symphony.

Mr. Calvert was later an instructor and assisted Sam Rhinesmith with the New Horizon Band. Calvert was a member of the Northview Church of the Brethren where he participated in the choir program as a singer and director. As a testament to the esteem Calvert had earned, in 2003 the Indiana Wind Symphony began the "James B. Calvert Outstanding Music Educator Award," which is presented as a lifetime achievement award for Hoosier music educators at all levels. William Adam, legendary Trumpet Professor at IU, was the first recipient.

James. B Calvert was named Outstanding Bandmaster by Phi Beta Mu in 1982 and inducted into the Gamma Chapter, Phi Beta Mu, Hall of Fame in 1990. James B. Calvert passed away on April 18, 2006. Both of his daughters, Ann Conrad and Carolyn Burkholder, are music educators.