



## James C. Patton

James C. Patton retired in 1992 after teaching music education in Indiana for 32 years. His teaching experience has been at Southmont Jr.-Sr. High School in Crawfordsville (1979-1992), Madison Heights High School, Anderson (1967-1979); Seymour Community Schools (1963-67), and Thornton Schools (now Western Boone H.S. in 1960-62). He was also the Assistant Director of Bands at Ball State University under F. Earl Dunn while studying for his Master of Arts Degree in 1962-63. He earned his B.S. in Music Education degree from Indiana University in 1960. His musical career started while a student at Crawfordsville High School under the baton of his band director, the late Vernon Spalding.

During his career, Mr. Patton has been a clinician, festival conductor, and adjudicator throughout Indiana. He has served as President and Vice-President of the Indiana Bandmasters Association and as President and Secretary-Treasurer of Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Mu. Among the many fine bands directed by Mr. Patton, his Southmont Marching Band won their class at the Indiana State Fair Band Day in both 1985 and 1986.

Bands he has directed have been very competitive in all areas of instrumental education; symphonic bands, marching bands in field and track shows and jazz ensembles. In 1985, Mr. Patton encouraged Southmont to place in the "top five" at the Indiana State Fair Competition telling the band he'd walk back to the school after the competition. Southmont placed 5th, he walked. Walking all night, with summer staff, he arrived at the school early the next afternoon to a huge crowd. He received county, state, and international recognition as the "Walking Band Director" for his promise.

Mr. Patton honors include receiving the Citation of Excellence from the Ball State University School of Music Alumni Association, the Outstanding Bandmaster Award and the Hall of Fame Award from Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Mu, and the Indiana State Fair Lifetime Achievement Award.

Born on August 3, 1937 at 316 Kennedy Place, Crawfordsville, IN - Mr. Patton lives in that very house today Crawfordsville with Marilyn, his wife of 51 years. He is a member of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) where he has served as an elder.