



John A. (Jack) Kelly

Born in Lincoln NE, John A. Kelly was a 1961 graduate of Kokomo High School. Mr. Kelly was a member of the band staff of the Valparaiso Community Schools from 1965 until his untimely death in 1988. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree (1965) and Masters of Arts Degree (1967) from Ball State University. He was Band Director at Thomas Jefferson Middle School while also assisting with the bands at Benjamin Franklin Middle School.

Mr. Kelly's bands have performed at the Mid-West International Band Clinic, the American School Band Directors National Convention, the Music Educators National Conference's North Central Division Convention, and the Indiana Music Educators Association State Conference. His bands consistently received Superior ratings in the ISSMA band contests.

His professional awards include: Legion of Honor from the John Phillip Sousa Foundation (1993); Outstanding Middle School Music Educator from IMEA (1994); Outstanding Bandmaster from Phi Beta Mu (1989); "They Are Making American Musical" from THE SCHOOL MUSICIAN magazine (1986); Distinguished Alumnus Award from Ball State (1985); the Ball State Citation for Achievement Award (1980), Outstanding Young Educator from the Indiana State Jaycees (1975), and the Valparaiso Jaycees Outstanding Educator Award (1970).

Mr. Kelly's service to music education includes two years as President of the Indiana Music Educators Association (1985-86) and two years as the State Convention Chairman (1983-84). He was the chairman of the first IMEA High School Honor Bands (1992-93) and was a member of the Indiana State School Music Association Board (1990-92). Mr. Kelly was Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Great Lake Music Camps. He was also a highly respected adjudicator for concert band contests.

Mr. Kelly was a member of Phi Beta Mu, American School Band Directors Association, National Band Association, Indiana Bandmasters Association, Music Educators National Conference, Indiana Music Educators Association, and the American Federation of Musicians.