

CLOSING CHORD



Everard "Tote" Pratt

Everard "Tote" Pratt, 75, passed away April 12, at Eastgate Retirement Village in Cincinnati, Ohio, following ill health of several years duration.

He was director of restoration and development for the Ohio Valley chapter. This task started with the removal of the 3/19 Wurlitzer from the RKO Albee Theatre in Cincinnati, and the complete rebuilding of the organ and installation in the Emery Theatre over an eight year period.

"Tote" considered the opportunity of installing the Emery organ as one that came to few — to plan an installation all in your own way with few changes made by others. In the Ohio Valley chapter he served in numerous capacities and was a member of the chapter board at his death.

A number of articles addressing the technical side of the organ have appeared in THEATRE ORGAN through the years.

"Tote" was known to all by his nickname which was given him at age 12. Following a World War II stint as a Navy Commander "Tote" designed and sold organs for Wicks Organ Co. of Highland Park, Michigan. About 30 organs in the Cincinnati area are his installations.

After leaving Wicks, "Tote" became a project manager at the GE Jet Engine Facility in Cincinnati, retiring in 1979.

His ability as an organ soloist was very high, even though he didn't read music. While a student at Columbia University he played both the Radio City Music Hall and the Paramount Theatre organs in New York.

"Tote" is survived by his wife, Sue, daughter Sister Mary Christine Pratt, and two sons Carl and John.

Hubert S. Shearin

Donald Kai Andersen

Donald Andersen, a native of San Francisco and an internationally known musician, died quietly on April 6 after a long struggle with pneumocystis carini pneumonia. He was attended by his close friend, Alec Pauluck.

Donald was a prisoner of war during the Burma/China/India conflict in 1944. He played organ at Candlestick Park in San Francisco, and Great America Amusement Park. He presented many "Bouncing Ball Sing-Alongs," which he made famous at the Fox and Orpheum theatres in San Francisco in the early forties.

Through his lifetime of music, he brought pleasure to people from all over the world, having played on the Delta Cruise Ships, nightclubs and sports events. He was recently employed as organist at Daphne's Funeral Home and at Brentwood Lodge. He was a member of theatre organ societies in the U.S., a member of the Musicians' Union and B.P.O.E.

Clifford C. Lind

Clifford Lind, 83, a longtime employee of New England Telephone Company and a professional organist, died March 22 in a Portland, Maine, hospital.

During the 1920s he was featured regularly at the Granada Theatre in Malden, Massachusetts, playing for the weekly silent motion pictures.

In 1944 he finished a nine-year project of building his own pipe organ, which cost him \$37.34 in materials. The pipes and framework were made of medium soft pine, some of the wood coming from old orange crates. For part of the pedalboard, he used cushion springs from a 1915 Buick, the first car he ever drove. Mr. Lind told the *Maine Sunday Telegram* that he built the organ "just for the fun of it" and because he'd always wanted one for his home. He added that he disliked music and the drudgery of practice as a youngster, but he stuck with it, also learning to play the bass horn and saxophone.

He worked for New England Telephone Company, starting as an accounting manager in the Portland and Boston areas. Later he was the internal auditor, and finally he was a personnel supervisor in the Boston area.

Mr. Lind was a member of ATOS and the West Scarborough Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Adma, and three children. Memorial gifts to "Friends of The Kotchmar Organ," 30 Myrtle Street, Portland, ME 04101, will be gratefully received.



Ione Tedei

Ione Tedei, an eighteen-year ATOS member, died in her suburban Chicago home on May 4. She was 65 and had suffered from congestive heart problems. Born in Iowa, Ione had been a WAC during WWII and had worked for many companies, mostly as a bookkeeper.

Ione found CATOE through a news story about a social to be held at the Aragon Ballroom, a place she knew from radio broadcasts. Soon after joining the chapter, her organizational ability and energy came to the fore and she was elected treasurer. She also served as 1977 National Convention treasurer and banquet chairman. Both of these events still stand as the largest ever staged by ATOS. An outgoing person, she organized many bus trips for the chapter as well as arranging the ATOS charter flight which carried 177 Chicagoans to the 1975 Convention in San Francisco.

She had worked on the installation of the Maine North High School Wurlitzer, on the Oriental Theatre organ, and through many nights in her convention hotel room releathering pouches so George Wright could have the piano play for his fabled July 4, 1977, Chicago Theatre show.

Mrs. Tedei was also a founder, treasurer and board member of Chicago Theatre Trust, the citizen-based group organized to save the Chicago Theatre.

Ione was a founding member of the Windy City Organ Club and was for seven years that group's program chairman. Her friendship with organists around the world (more than one of whom referred to her as "Mother") allowed her to match the finest talents to the Van DerMolen, SanFilippo, and Krughoff residence organs for a total of more than 100 programs.

Barbara Sellers played for Ione's funeral on May 8. Interment followed at Mt. Emblem Cemetery. Ione Tedei is survived by her husband, Louie, three children, three grandchildren and a host of theatre organ friends, both players and listeners. She will be missed. She was generous with herself and her talents and helped to give uncounted hours of joy and pleasure to hundreds of people. *Richard Sklenar*