

# Al Letzler

**BY FAITH PENNICK**

The Cincinnati Enquirer

Al Letzler of Kenwood, former musician, teacher and band leader, was remembered by a friend for his talent.

"Everybody respected his ability as a musician," said Verne Wahle of Springfield Township. Wahle played with Mr. Letzler in a band Wahle's brother founded, the Ches Wahle Orchestra.

Mr. Letzler died Sunday at University Hospital of lung cancer. He was 75.

He graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1943. During the 1934-35 school year, he began teaching music at Beechwood High School in Fort Mitchell. He then taught in the Wyoming school system, before he was called to serve as a U.S. Navy Reserve officer.

From 1946 to 1972, Mr. Letzler was a band director and music teacher at St. Bernard High School.

He also owned and operated the Blue Note Music



Al Letzler

Store with his wife, Catherine, and operated a U.S. Postal Service substation in Dillonvale.

In recent years, Mr. Letzler played in the St. Petersburg, Fla., Community Band and the Tampa Bay, Fla., Big Band. He also played in the Post 530 American Legion Band after his retirement. Mr. Letzler was a member of Cincinnati and St.

Petersburg Musicians Unions.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons, Thomas Letzler of Cincinnati, and Barry and Dennis Letzler, both of Los Angeles, and two grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Vorhis Funeral Home, 5501 Montgomery Road, Norwood. Funeral will be there at 1 p.m. Thursday. Burial will be in Rest Haven Memorial Park in Blue Ash.

Memorials can be made to the Port Union Bible Chapel, 4756 Port Union Road, Hamilton 45011.