

Hello Martin,

Regarding the donation, it was donated by Janet Humann for her father, Richard Kolda. I put together a brief bio of my dad. If it is too long, feel free to cut wherever you want. Thanks.

Again it was such a pleasure to meet you and Chris and to see your wonderful museum.

Janet

Richard Kolda was born in 1920 in Cleveland, Ohio. His mother was Mayme Hruby, of the renowned Hruby Family of musicians, who were integral in developing music in Cleveland in the early 1900's and throughout the 1960's.

Richard received his Bachelor of Music from Ohio University, and a Master's Degree in Music from Western Reserve University. He played trumpet for the Charleston, WV, and Akron, OH Symphony Orchestras, the Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra and as an occasional extra trumpeter for the Cleveland Orchestra under George Szell.

He was hired to teach music in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights school system in the fall of 1949, where he taught for 30 years. During those years he taught at several schools and at all grades within the district.

While teaching at Wiley Junior High School, his students awarded him with a present of the Webcor Regent tape recorder. He recorded many sessions of the band and orchestra there, and the students loved the feedback of hearing themselves perform. Richard also recorded some concerts of the Cleveland Philharmonic, a volunteer orchestra of local musicians. All of the recordings were for personal use only.

After Richard moved to New Mexico to be near his daughter, he joined the Rio Rancho Symphonic Band at age 88. He had the honor of being the oldest member until he retired at 93 years of age. He currently lives in a senior community where he enjoys listening to music now.