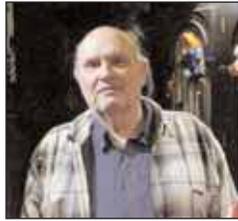


In memory of . . . Ben Holton

My Father, Ben Holton passed away unexpectedly on October 30. He was 69. Most of you will remember him as a regular attendee at Band organ rallies and from one of the Bumbling Bruder tours, however, what you might not know is that he was a fairly early collector of mechanical music. He and his father, Bob, developed an interest in this field in the very early 1960's and together built a very respectable collection. They started with pump organs and player reed organs and rapidly moved into band and dance organs. They also liked hand-cranked organs, music boxes and nickelodeons and had a number of these also. My Dad probably got his first exposure to band organs at a local amusement park here in Houston where he would sit for hours and just listen. He had no interest in the rides, only the music! He also had most of the available LPs of band organs, his favorite being those of *The Arab*. This fascination with mechanical music permeated our whole family and he and his parents made numerous trips to see Wallace Mc Peak and Red Whaley in Dallas. They always returned with something. Even when my Mother, Sandra, and he were engaged, they spent their free weekends hunting for music machines and antiques. Of the four children they had, my brother Allen and I seem to have inherited the mechanical music gene and as some of you might know, I have made arranging music for these instruments, my vocation. Ben's passing will be a great loss not only to our family but to the many musical friends he had.



Wayne Holton

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All classified ads (and payment) should be mailed to COAA Advertising Manager, Angelo Rulli, 4550 Evergreen Dr., St. Paul, MN 55127 before the first of December, March, June or September. Phone inquiries may be made to Angelo at 651-775-7575 or email at angelorulli@gmail.com. Ads may be paid by check, Money Order, or by PayPal (COAA@swbell.net) The members name must appear in the ad content as well as the price. The ads should be limited to organs, calliopes and/or other outdoor mechanical musical instruments or related products and/or services.

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