A charter member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Professor Ringel received a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, a master's from Columbia University and a doctorate in fine arts from Chicago Musical College. He was also given an honorary doctorate in music from the University of Missouri in Kansas City.

His successful teaching career spanned the period from 1927 until his death, but still another challenge filled his life and mind from the earliest days of NATS until his completion of The History of the National Association of Teachers of Singing for the national convention in Little Rock. That challenge was the call to build NATS into an effective professional organization through the publication of an official journal, The NATS Bulletin (Journal of Singing).

Harvey was its editor from 1955 until his resignation in 1980. During those years the publication grew in stature and doubled in size. It became and remains the world's most distinguished publication on vocal matters, and its growth and stature must be directly attributed to Harvey's dedication, vision, and creative work in all aspects of its publication.

Every professional organization needs the benefit of insightful creative minds to guide its steps and to seek out its best future. This was another of Harvey's gifts to NATS. His position as Editor gave his entree to meetings and correspondence, and his response to those materials was always questioning, seeking new, innovative, and better ways for NATS to serve its members. Over a cup of coffee or a cocktail he would mention those new ideas, steps, ways to those of us who shared NATS leadership.” – Bruce Lunkley

Professor Ringel was a founding member of the NATS Foundation and served as its Vice President from 1976 to 1990.

“He did not teach just the cream of the crop," said his wife, Lucile. "He also taught people who were not the greatest and helped them improve. He was the consummate teacher. People liked him and his students remembered him. He enjoyed what he was doing."
He began his teaching career at Mercersburg Academy in Mercersburg, Pa. He then taught at Wesley College of the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, where he was the director of the conservatory.

In 1935, he moved to Chicago, where he became a private music teacher. In 1946, he joined the faculty at Chicago Musical College, becoming a full professor in 1968. He was made professor emeritus in 1977. He subsequently taught at the American Conservatory of Music.

Professor Ringel was a member of the American Academy of Teachers of Singing and also served as president of the Society of American Musicians and of the Chicago Singing Teachers Guild.

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