# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of TEACHERS of SINGING



## **IRVIN BUSHMAN**

## THE IRVIN BUSHMAN ENDOWMENT

### PROVIDES FUNDING FOR THE NATS ARTIST AWARDS

"Irvin's hearty resonant laugh, quick smile, and twinkling eyes will be remembered by all of us who so enjoyed his friendship and company. The penetrating vision, good counsel, and wisdom that he brought to his NATS Presidency helped move the organization into a new era of professionalism and service to the vocal world." – Bruce Lunkley

Irvin Bushman was President of NATS from 1979 to 1982. Irvin taught at the Cleveland Institute of Music from 1946 until 1991 and continued teaching until full retirement and a Distinguished Teaching Award in 1993. He was admired and loved by his students and his colleagues. His work in NATS touched all facets of the organization's work and at all levels of activity. In 1993 he participated as one of the Master Teachers in the Intern Program held at Ohio State and waxed eloquent about both the program and the young teachers who were the interns that summer. There were very few workshops, conventions, or international gatherings of voice teachers that he missed. He and wife Pat were always there, side by side.

In 1947 the Temple Emanu El was established in University Heights, Cleveland, and Irvin became its cantor. For 36 years he served that congregation, touching the lives of all, young and old . . . be it choir members, young men preparing for Bar Mitzvah, Temple school teaching, singing for ceremonies, life of the congregation. In addition to his considerable singing at the temple, Irvin presented annual recitals at the Cleveland Institute and was very proud that some of them involved Victor Babin as accompanist. It was a special delight for him to have sung the leading role in Verdi's Falstaff in the Cleveland Institute production conducted by James Levine. He also sang the lead in a local production of Loesser's Most Happy Kappa Lambda, in addition to many other awards and evidence of the respect and affection in which he was held by so many.

NATS colleagues enjoyed his sudden burst of hearty laughter and his ear-to-ear smile that greeted them as he arrived at the meeting or entered the hail. Few people can claim to have touched so many lives so significantly.

#### **GIVING to NATS**

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Page 2 of 2