

Dave Maser

Retired Army Sgt. Major Davis S. Maser, 57, who had been enlisted bandleader and trombone soloist with the U.S. Army Band, which was known also as Pershing's Own, died of cancer Monday at Fairfax Hospital. He lived in Falls Church.

He joined the Army Band in 1948 while attending Bolles Military School in Fort Pierce, Fla. He retired in August, 1975. He was enlisted bandleader for several years.

Throughout his years of Army service, Sgt. Maj. Maser had been involved with high school and junior high school music programs as a clinician and adjudicator.

He was presented the legion of merit. The citation accompanying it noted in part:

"He had a mastery of style and technique unmatched in the entire military service. His performance before the most important audiences have evoked unfailing praise of his high degree of professionalism from such persons as Bob Hope, Ed Sullivan and General Westmoreland . . ."

Sgt. Maj. Maser was born in Kansas City.

He played first trombone with the Kansas City Philharmonic and the North Carolina Symphony Orchestras and was associated with the Gene Donati, Howard Devron, Dean Hudson, Jan Savitt, Tony Pastor and Ray McKinley bands. He had played at the Kennedy Center and Wolf Trap.

He is survived by his wife, Christine G., and a son, Michael D., both of Falls Church, and a brother, Louis L., of Fort Pierce.