**Wesley Stewart**

Wesley D. Stewart was born on July 2, 1901 in Springfield, Ohio to James and Mary Stewart. He was a graduate of Springfield High School and then helped organize and performed in McKinney’s Cotton Pickers, and the Senco Band, notable musical groups. He also played violin with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra from 1942 to 1951. He studied music at Oberlin College and Wittenberg University, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from central State University, and a master’s degree in instrumental music from Vanderbilt College of Music in Chicago. He studied for his doctorate in music at Ohio State University and taught music in the Catholic school system in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and at Jackson State College in Mississippi and at Mississippi Valley State College. Returning to Ohio, he taught music at the former Ohio Soldiers’ and Sailors Orphans Home in Xenia where he also was assistant band director. He played the violin.

He was a member of St. Brigid Catholic Church, Xenia; Wilberforce-Xenia Optimists Club, the Senior Citizens of Yellow Springs and a charter member of the National Senior Sports Association. He died in January of 1988. He was survived by his wife Allyne Steward son and daughter-n-=law Lamont L and Narva Stewart of Huntsville, Ala; step-sons and step- daughter Christopher and Angie Perry of Xenia and Orange and Lillian Parson of Long Island, N.Y.

Source: Adapted from *Xenia Daily Gazette* Obituary