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WILLIAM JAY NICHOLAS (1911-2001) SCRAPBOOK

The scrapbook (1940-1996) kept by William Jay Nicholas includes correspondence and clippings of his career in Lynchburg as executive secretary of the Lynchburg Retail Merchants Association.

WILLIAM JAY “NICK” NICHOLAS (1911-2001)

William Jay “Nick” Nicholas, son of James and Amelia Nicholas, was born September 11, 1911, in Kingston, Pennsylvania. He attended Brown University and graduated from the Ithaca Conservatory of Music. He also did graduate work at Pennsylvania State College, Lynchburg College, and the College of William and Mary.

William J. Nicholas taught music in the Patton (Pa.) High School from 1937 until 1939. In 1939, he moved to Lynchburg where he continued his education and taught in the Lynchburg school system. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy (1943-1945). He was director of music at E.C. Glass High School from 1945 until 1947 and was president of the Band and Directors’ Association of Virginia during that time. In 1947, he was employed by Guggenheimer’s Department Store in Lynchburg as personnel manager and sales promotion manager.

On October 12, 1939, William Jay Nicholas married Cornelia Key.

On May 1, 1954, Nicholas became the executive secretary of the Lynchburg Retail Merchants Association and served in that position until his retirement in 1979. He also served as president of the Credit Bureau of Virginia.

Mr. Nicholas was an accomplished musician and directed music at Centenary United Methodist Church and Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church. He died February 11, 2001 in Lynchburg, Virginia.

[William Jay Nicholas Scrapbook, MS1230, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, Va.; Obituary, *News and Daily Advance* (Lynchburg, Va.), 14 February 2001, Sect. C, p. 2 col. 4.]