

## **BAXTER SEMINARY ALUMNUS TO BE HONORED IN PARADE**

The late UT band director W.J. Julian's son will be the grand marshal of the Baxter Christmas parade Friday evening.

Posted Thursday, November 30, 2017

By Laura Militania

Friday's Christmas parade in Baxter will feature a little bit of Rocky Top as the son of a Baxter Seminary graduate will take the helm as grand marshal.



Jeff Julian, son of the late W.J. Julian, will be part of the parade festivities. **W.J. Julian was a graduate of Baxter Seminary**, Tennessee Tech and Northwestern University who also was the director of the University of Tennessee's marching band for 33 years.

(Pictured: Jeff Julian)

"He was the band director for Tech for 10 years before joining UT," Jeff said. "He joined UT in 1960 and was director until he retired in 1993."

He also served in the Navy during World War II.

W.J. passed away more than two years ago at the age of 92, but his legacy remains.

In 1972, he introduced Rocky Top to the Neyland Stadium fans, which quickly became UT's unofficial fight song. He also introduced a number of traditions, including the opening of the "T" for the football team at every pre-game ceremony.

The band has also played in 14 presidential inaugurations, along with numerous bowl games and the St. Patrick's Day parade in Dublin, Ireland.

Jeff said that for many years, his father would often travel to Ireland to judge those parades.

"He's known throughout the world," Jeff said. "He loved Silver Point, cooking and travel."

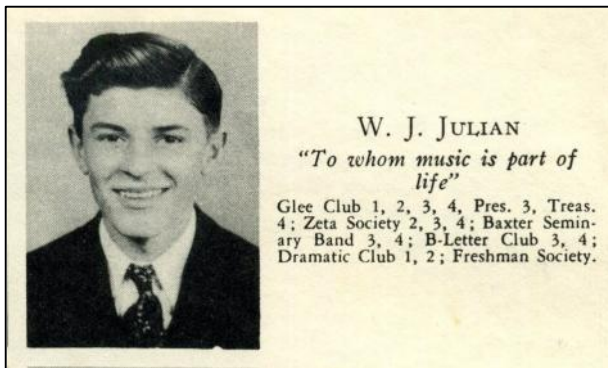
The Baxter Christmas parade is Friday evening at 7.

### Dr. W. J. "Doc" Julian

b. 22 October 1922, Silver Point, Putnam Co., TN – d. 26 May 2015, Knoxville, Knox Co., TN, (Navy WWII), md on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 1960, Maury Co., TN to **Faye Derryberry Julian**. Dr. W. J. "Doc" Julian, s/o **William Jefferson Julian** (1878-1964) & **Virginia "Jennie" Cantrell** (1897-1990), both buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

(Source: Tennessee State Marriage record, Maury Co., TN, pg. 134 – W. J. Julian married 12 August 1960, Maury Co., TN, age 35, Cookeville, TN to Faye Derryberry, age 23, address: Cookeville, TN).

Dr. W. J. Julian, age 92, of Knoxville, Tennessee, departed this life on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 surrounded by his family. Dr. Julian, or "Doc" as he was known to hundreds of University of Tennessee students, led the UT Band from 1961-1993. He created some of



the University's most loved traditions such as the opening of the "T" for the football team at every pre-game show and the innovative circle drill. In 1972, he introduced fans at Neyland Stadium to "Rocky Top" which became one of UT's unofficial fight songs. At the time of his death, Dr. Julian was UT's Director of Bands Emeritus. Dr. Julian was born Oct. 22, 1922 in Silver Point, TN. He initially graduated from what is

now known as Tennessee Technological University.

(Pictured: W. J. "Doc" Julian, Class of 1940, Baxter Seminary, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN. "*To whom music is part of life*").

A Navy veteran, he served three years in the Pacific Theater during World War II. His ship was sunk by a kamikaze plane in the Philippines on December 7, 1944. After the war, he earned bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees in music from Northwestern University. Dr. Julian founded the Tennessee Bandmasters Association and was president of the American Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, College Band Directors Association and Tennessee Music Educators Conference. Dr. Julian's enjoyment of life was unmatched. He loved music, his students, the University of Tennessee, and most of all, his family.

Dr. Julian is survived by his wife Faye; daughter, Jennifer Nelson (Michael) of Cary, North Carolina; son, Jeff (Brandie) of Knoxville and his precious grandchildren, Claire Hollingsworth Nelson, Julian Robert Nelson and Audrey Lynne Julian.

A memorial service will be held at the Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan, 425 North Cedar Bluff Road, Knoxville, on Saturday, May 30, 2015 at 11:00a.m. The family will receive friends at a reception following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family

requests donations to the University of Tennessee Band Scholarship Fund or the W J Julian Endowment Fund at the University of Tennessee, 1741 Volunteer Boulevard, 2277 Natalie Haslam Music Center, Knoxville, TN 37996. Arrangements by Cremation Options, Inc. (865)6WE-CARE (693-2273) [www.cremationoptionsinc.com](http://www.cremationoptionsinc.com)

\*See more about the people of Putnam Co., TN & surrounding areas at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>