

Jazz Insights: Al DeAndrade

Rhode Island veteran trumpet player Al DeAndrade was born and raised in Pawtucket. His father, known as "Jim Daddy," had a local orchestra and played alto saxophone and clarinet. Young Al began performing with his dad at age 9 on his horn. His brothers, Richard and Vincent, played saxophones with the orchestra, as well. Al was taught trumpet by veteran instructor, Howie Wintergrad.

After high school, Al went on to Rhode Island College and became a teacher. He taught elementary students in Central Falls. Al joined the Musicians Union and played for The Ralph Stuart Organization for many years, performing with them all along the Eastern Seaboard. On occasion he played with the famous Lester Lannin and Myer Davis high-society orchestras. His love for the big band and jazz arrangements became his lifetime passion.

Al continues to serve as Vice President of the Providence's Musicians Union, since 1995. He is well known for Chairing, the Musicians Union's on-going Cavalcade of Bands, which is regularly held at Rhodes-On-The-Pawtuxet. Now in his 80s, he continues to play his sweet-sounding trumpet, performing with sundry groups throughout Rhode Island.

Al DeAndre is truly listed among the many great musicians hailing from our special state.