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Gemini 15 Memories

Pam Thurman

Gemini 15

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Memories shared by Pam (Livingston) Thurman

Hometown: Bowling Green, Kentucky

Why I chose WKU: To study composition and arranging with my father, Dr. David Livingston.

My major: Music Education (oboe)

My class: 1976

Gemini Bands: I was only in one semester, fall 1973, and was a transfer after two years at University of Kentucky. I left in January to study oboe in Vienna, Austria.

Instruments: I played alto sax in the group.

Tours: I only was able to do one gig, I think it was in the ballroom in Garrett.

Friends: Well since I was a transfer from University of Kentucky I didn’t know many people. But I did know some of the ones from my past, like Nancy Cron, Larnelle Harris and Jane Drennan. When I was in high school my family was involved as my dad picked out talented girls and guys. One was Jackie Franz who we watched on TV, the Ted Mack Amateur Hour. She was in high school and played a difficult trumpet solo. They announced where she was from and my dad
called the operator and asked for all the names of Franz. He got her on the second call. She came to WKU and I was thrilled to see how it all worked out. I went with them on gigs when I could. I wanted to be a part of it!

Memories: I guess I answered all of this above.

Benefits: I saw how hard my dad had to work to make it happen, by writing almost [all] of the arrangements and rehearsing and organizing all the gigs and tours. But he was the happiest person doing it! This was where he enjoyed music the most: playing jazz and teaching young people how to perform.