

Miracles and Excitements in Rediscovering “Fond” Memories in Your Family History

Life's memories are made from photos and events. And this one occurred at St. Louis' Lambert Airport on Sunday evening on November 26, 1972 which was published in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat newspaper that has been missing for nearly 48 years. Thank goodness for the St. Louis Mercantile Library at USML in providing me with this precious memory. I wish you could view the happy faces of my students as they performed their music in the photo cited below in the parking lot of the airport as a surprise welcome with a surprise welcome pep band concert from Thanksgiving vacation! Read on for "The Rest of the Story!"



What did I have to do to find this missing photo of nearly 48 years ago? It took a lot of desire to find this picture in hopes of getting my life story together not only for myself and family but to share with my students on my personal Facebook group who are still very much connected with me over these years. I attempted to find the photograph from the St. Louis Post Dispatch newspaper and couldn't find the photo. I was able to get a free subscription to three prime newspaper archives.com for 7 days in an attempt to find the article with photo. And best I could come up with was a news clip in the Brookfield Daily News for November 28th which pinpointed the exact days of this impromptu airport concert to November 26, 1972.



Brookfield Daily News Bulletin

28 Nov 1972, Brookfield, Missouri, United States Of America

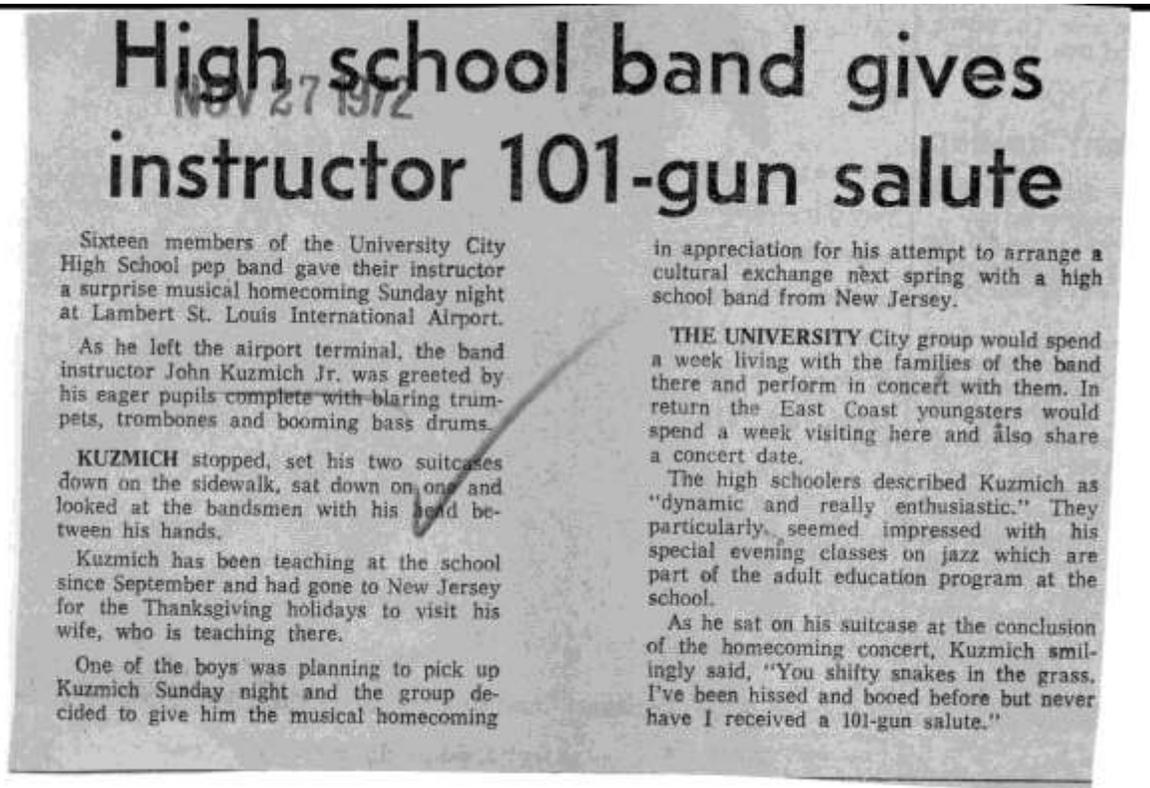
St. Louis, werÄ© also dinner guests in the Connon home. Thanksgiving dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Noa...**St. LOUIS**, (AP) -It was almost like the proverbial 101-gun salute when band director, **John Kuzmich Jr.** was gre...**St. Louis** International Airport. Kizmich, who was returning from the Thanksgiving holiday in New Jersey, was...

+ Treasure Box

⊘ Don't Show Again

But in order to find the original publication in St. Louis, I called up a prominent newspaper distributor dealer in nearby Clayton, Missouri. The owner told me on the phone that the only other newspaper that would have local news in addition to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch would be the St. Louis Globe-Democrat which I had not researched. But finding the picture and the accompanying article was still a mystery so today, I fully exercised my ward church calling as the leader for family history by using the telephone. Here's what I did which required many phone calls and much patience in speaking with people who could not directly help me except for the very last person who made a world-of-difference for me.

- First calling the Brookfield Daily Newspaper more than 100 miles from St. Louis as a secondary source for the St. Louis newspaper that originally published the missing news release article.
- Then I was referred to calling their Columbia office since nobody there was working in 1972.
- Then I called that office and was told to call the local historical society, Boone County Historical Society,
- The librarian there said it was too much work to go through the library's archives because they weren't indexed fully.
- But she gave me the name of a genealogist who helps out at the historical society.
- I called the lady with a "cold call." And she answered the phone and actually was willing to speak with me about "*finding the proverbial needle in the haystack!*"
- To most pleasant surprise, she tracked down the article within hours which was at the University of Missouri Mercantile Library in St. Louis with all the information.
- I called the library and they sent me the copies within minutes and quickly ended three months of frustration immediately. And there are no charges for their V.I.P. services and the digital copies.



Closing Comments

In summary, don't give up and let the "Spirit of Elijah" drive you to pursue other avenues when you stonewalled. I was patient with everyone who I spoke with and I did my best to explain that I needed it for family history and in every case people were very polite to me. It makes me almost want to move to the state of Missouri where rural people can be genuine people because in our cosmopolitan lifestyles in big cities, people are not very personal most of the time. But without the above first newspaper clipping, the

Missouri genealogist could not have found my missing article because the original press clipping had enough information to come up with the tentative title of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat press release and that's all this lady needed and she moved faster than lightning and believed in my story that there was indeed a missing article of nearly 48 years. Here's the blue-print documentation that she sent me to verify that she is both a professional genealogist and a compassionate person when dealing with a total stranger.

"Here is a link to an article on the Globe-Democrat index and instructions on how to get copies.

https://www.umsl.edu/mercantile/collections/mercantile-library-special-collections/special_collections/slma-112.html

Subseries	Box/Item Number	Title	Date	Note	Envelope
Names	445/2	KUZMICH, JOHN - U. CITY BAND LEADER	11/27/72	HIGH SCHOOL BAND GIVES INSTRUCTOR 101 - GUN SALUTE	

Let me know what you find out.

Nancy" (Association of Professional Genealogists.for 25 or more years)

I'm sure all of us have experienced research challenges for finding missing information about our ancestors. Exercise your faith with effort and don't be afraid to fail. Numerous times I could have ended today's the myriad of required phone calls after so many referrals. But every time I failed, I just hung in there by being optimistic almost like Thomas Edison when he discovered the right combination of filaments in the light bulb after 7,000+ well documented failures. Carry on your family history pursuit with a labor of love attitude for your ancestors and those labors will not be considered as tedious work when you are fully engaged with long-term goals for family history connections. Amen to myself for not giving up when I was literally powerless to find what I had seen almost 48 years prior.

Need Volunteers for the Foothills Ward Leadership Training Meeting

On Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 7 pm to 9 pm MST, the Foothills Ward Temple & Family History Consultants will have family history leadership training session via Zoom. If you are interested in having us assist you with your family history challenges, please volunteer for our services ASAP. No charge and free of the coronavirus pandemic on Zoom but it would be very helpful to notify me sooner than later so I can better plan the meeting's agenda. **Presently, I have NO VOLUNTEERS for my consultants to benefit from by assisting from my ward with 433 households. So, I am willing to take volunteers from any of 101 Facebook group followers world-wide!!!**

Thank you and feel free to read and/or share this email in a Word document, click on the link below.

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