

Mr. Louis Roney is a graduate of the Winter Park High School Class of 1938. His incredible life experience has taken place around the globe as a student, a member of the U.S. Navy, an entertainer of great renown, a professor, and a supportive community member.

As a Winter Park Wildcat, Mr. Roney was captain of the football team and an outstanding student. He fondly recalls having the opportunity to take a test in Tampa that resulted in him being awarded a scholarship to Harvard which is where he attended college. Upon a successful experience and graduation from Harvard, he joined the U.S. Navy serving as a gunnery officer in World War II. After his naval service, he then started a 40 year illustrious career as a world class leading tenor opera, concert, and movie star.

Entertaining people throughout the world, Mr. Roney brought delight to many through his amazing music. He performed in famous cities such as Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Hamburg, Amsterdam, Brussels, Munich, and Lisbon. He was a soloist with symphony orchestras in numerous cities of the likes of San Francisco, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Indianapolis, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Montreal, Amsterdam, Paris, Florence, and Vancouver. Mr. Roney starred in three movies and performed in a number of Europe's opera houses.

After his opera career, Mr. Roney returned home to Winter Park. He worked at the University of Central Florida for more than twenty years teaching many college opera singers. He is a Distinguished Professor of Music and Artist in Residence Emeritus at UCF. He also has been an active supporter of the arts and the community. He and his wife Joy established and led Orlando's *Festival of Orchestras* for 17 years. He continues to brilliantly write a terrific column in the Winter Park / Maitland Observer named *Play On!* His column is humorous, thought provoking, and enjoyable to read.

Mr. Roney has been recognized by local leaders and received accolades from the President of Harvard, two governors, four Secretaries of State, numerous U.S. Senators, and many more distinguished leaders. This Circle of Distinction member has a stellar list of accomplishments, awards, recognitions, and experiences. He has impressively added to Winter Park High School's Tradition of Excellence.

Mr. Louis Roney was voted into the Winter Park High School Circle of Distinction in 2012.