

Martin D. (Marty) Rosen was Born January 25, 1915 Chicago, Illinois, Raised in Pueblo, Colorado, during the depression. In 1932, at age 18, he left home to be able to send money home by playing and touring with bands that were performing at the leading hotels and theaters in the cities of Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, Dallas, Ft Worth, and New Orleans. After WWII Marty settled in North Little Rock, Ar., his wife's home.

In 1955 Rosen was approached by Gil Colaianni who had the Baldwin Piano Store on the corner of 8th and Main regarding opening a music store in a space at 716 Main, mid-blocks from Colaianni's store at 8th and main. Rosen agreed and what started as Colaianni and Rosen Music quickly became Rosen Music Company. From then Mr. Rosen worked tirelessly developing and expanding his enterprise while always seeking to introduce people, young and in many cases less young, to playing an instrument. He was always available to encourage and help the public school band programs as needed statewide.

One incident I recall is when Sister Francis and Sister John Baptist, of the Sisters of Mercy, the Order at Mt. Saint Mary's Academy, came to the store and told my father " We are going to start a band, at the Mount and you are going to help us!" He answered with the question, what about Father Tribou? and their straightforward answer was, "he'll adjust" and off they went, with my dad in tow to start the band program at Mount St, Mary's Academy and they did! Since then, the program at Catholic High School was developed and the St. Mary's program is ongoing as well.



Since the opening in 1955, Rosen Music Co. was the place performers at all levels could always rely on receiving good products, service and support. As the slogan says, "Making the World Sound Better Since 1955".

Marty Rosen was a businessman, concerned and active member of the business community as well as a professional percussionist, band leader and teacher.