

Brasswinds Inc.

Naperville & Chicago, Illinois

- 1944 Ronald Keith Collier was born in Fayette, Alabama on March 13 (US Social Security).
- 1963 Ron joined the US Army (*Chicago Tribune* obit. 1999).
- 1966 Ron started as a record keeper for the Illinois Central Railroad (obit.).
- 1980 The TM Koeder shop in Naperville, Illinois was sold to Ron Collier, who had worked ten years for Schilke, to start Brasswinds, Inc. making baroque-style brass trumpets & trombones (SKB).
- 1983 Leonard Koeder died. He was a professional trumpet player, a 50 year member of the Naperville Municipal band, and owner of Koeder Music from 1924-1979 with his father (obit.).
- 1984 Collier was still working at the shop (photos 1 & 2 from *Chicago Sun-Times* article, 3/6/84). He built baroque-style brass distributed by Richard Cook of Boston, a former baroque trumpet player for the New York Pro Musica Ensemble. They were sold in the US and Europe.
- 198? Collier built a group of natural trumpets in D for The Old Guard Fife & Drum Corps of the US Army (below). These were listed on Ebay in 2026, were said to have been used briefly in the 1980s, and included a hole for F and A.
- 1987 Collier moved to Chicago to do repairs for Quinlan & Fabish Music Co along with making instruments at home (obit.).
- 1997 Ron taught music and built instruments for the World Folk Music Co in Chicago (obit.).
- 1999 Ron passed away on March 29 due to pneumonia related to ongoing battles with a heart condition and cancer (*Chicago Tribune*, 4/2/99 obit.).
- (SKB) = History provided by TM's granddaughter Sheila Koeder Bornmeier in 2017.

