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KING

Pete King, 68, a native of Greenfield who orchestrated the music for "South Pacific," "Camelot" and other movies, died Sept. 20 in a Newport Beach, Calif. hospital.

Pete, a nickname he used throughout his professional career, was born Charles Dudley King Jr., on Aug. 8, 1914, the son of Charles Dudley and Louise Mains King. He was born at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mains, 306 S. Washington St., Greenfield.

He was educated at St. George's Preparatory School, Newport, R. I., the University of Michigan, and received his degree from the Conservatory of Music, Cincinnati.

Mr. Mains worked for a decade as a conductor and arranger on the "Fred Allen Radio Show" in New York, and in 1952 he moved to Los Angeles, Calif., where he recorded more than 25 albums with the Pete King Chorale and the Pete King Orchestra.

Among the movies he orchestrated were "State Fair," "Flower Drum Song," "Bells are Ringing," "Affair to Remember" and "Dr. Doolittle."

As a conductor and arranger, he worked with such artists as Fred Astaire, Pat Boone, Bing Crosby, Doris Day, Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin.

Mr. King, who was a former president of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, was the winner of five Academy nominations.

Probably his most notable composition as a songwriter was "The Mood I'm In." Among his most recent television scores was the theme for "Happy Days."

Mr. King is survived by his wife, Marylla; two children, Louise Mains King and Charles Dudley King III; one brother, Thomas Johnson King; and one grandchild.

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