

Clifford E. Ridgely

New York City

- 1872 Clifford Eugene Ridgely born in Jeromsville, OH (census).
- 1894 Ridgely marries Malinda (Linna) in Ashland, OH.
- 1897 Daughter Helen is born in Indianapolis, IN. Wife dies the same year so probably complications from birth. He is not listed in the Indianapolis city directories at this time so perhaps was just visiting.
- 1900 Daughter Helen with grandparents in Ashland (census).
- 1910 Clifford at #174 E. 75th St. in Manhattan; theater musician; married to Minnie (from Ireland) in 1899 (census).
- 1911 CER buys out R. A. Kaempf & Sons, #336 E. 86th St (dir).
- 1913 CER, musical instrument manuf., #1503 3rd St, NYC (dir).
- 1915 CER, musical inst., #1503 3rd St, h. #171 E. 75th St (dir).
- 1918 Lieut. CER, musical director & inst. manufacturer, #1503 3rd Ave., home at #167 E. 83rd St. He is the bandmaster for the 69th Regiment Band, NY Guard, and is running ads for equipping local bands with instruments. He is a WWI veteran with the 69th Regiment (photo 1).
- 1920 #1503 3rd St; Ridgely Columbia model trumpet = \$100
- 1921 Lieut. CER, bandmaster of the 69th Reg.
- 1925-1931 Listed as Prof. CE Ridgely of the 69th Regiment Band.
- 1927 The 69th does two Victor record recordings.
- 1928 Member of the Association of Musical Instrument Dealers.
- 1929 Ridgely leases a store & 2nd floor at #1247 Lexington Ave for use as a music store (*Music Trade Review*).
- 1930 Now living at #167 83rd St, Manhattan (census).
- 1932 Still bandmaster of the 69th in October.
- 1940 #120 E. 83rd St., Bandmaster of NY Post Office (census).
- 1944 Clifford dies and is buried in Ashland, Ohio.

The trumpet pictured here is only one of two instruments I have found so far with his label "C E Ridgely New York". It has a hand inscribed "28344" on the bell and "P 12803" on the 2nd valve which is a Pan American serial number dating this to 1920 (auction photos).

Bottom photo is Ridgely cornet (Horn-u-copia.net).

