

William Mahlon Brandes Biography



William Mahlon Brandes, - Class of 1932 - b. October 10, 1914 - d. April 10, 1994 From the EHS Yearbook, The Maroon: "*Bill*" Industrial Studies; Rifle Club; Intramural Sports; Geography Club 2; Class Will and Prophecy Committee.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Brandes".

William M. Brandes, who started working for the watch factory as a setup man in the plate department Nov. 26, 1934, has been appointed director of manufacturing for Elgin National Watch Co., effective today, it is announced by James G. Shennan, president.

Mr. Brandes, 34 years old, has been manager of the Elgin plant at Lincoln, Neb., since march 17, 1947. In his new position he will have direct supervision over all manufacturing activities, except research and watch design departments as Elgin, in all four company plants, two of which are located in Elgin, one at Aurora and one in Lincoln.

Mr. Brandes was born in Nevada, Mo., Oct. 10, 1914, and was brought to Elgin by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brandes, in March of 1919. The family home is at 527 Enterprise St. His father died in October of 1946; his mother is living at the family home.

Mr. Brandes attended Columbia grade school and was graduated from Elgin High school in 1932. He operated a neighborhood garage in Elgin before starting to work at the watch factory in 1934.

On Aug. 29, 1940 Brandes was appointed general job master of the plate department and five month later was advanced to plate department foreman. July 13, 1944, he was placed in charge of the gilding department and March 14, 1945, he was named screw department foreman. On Oct. 24, 1945, Brandes was appointed assembling department foreman.

He is listed in Who's Who in America, 1960-61