

Getzen

Elkhorn, WI

- 1894 Anthony J. Gietzen is born in Grand Rapids to German immigrant parents Peter & Martha. (birth record)
- 1900 The Gietzen family is living in Grand Rapids. (census)
- 1910 The family is still in Grand Rapids. (census)
- 1917 Anthony is living in Chicago with brother Phillip (b.1886) and working as brass inst. maker for Lyon & Healy. (draft)
- 1920 Anthony is in Chicago; musical inst. assembler. Brother Phillip is foreman for instrument factory. (census)
- 1922 Getzen moves to Elkhorn to work for Holton. (Getzen)
- 1926 #429 E. Park St., Elkhorn, instrument maker (military)
- 1930 #429 E. Park St., band factory super. (census)
- 1939 Getzen leaves Holton and starts his own instrument repair shop in a barn behind his house; 329 E. Geneva. (photo 1)
- 1940 Band instrument repair shop owner. (census)
- 1942 Getzen, #439 E. Geneva St., self-employed (draft)
- 1946 Getzen starts making student-grade trombones by summer and produces about 1,000 the first year. (G)
- 1947 Getzen starts making trumpets and cornets. (G)
- 1949 Start of making piston bugles; son James Robert Getzen (1926-2003) is the new plant super after 10 years working
- 1958 Getzen now up to 80 workers. (G)
- 1959 Robert (Bob) moves the repair business and separates from Getzen as Allied Music Co., #530 South Hwy H.
- 1960 Getzen is sold to Harold Knowlton who moves the business to #211 W. Centralia St. (G)
- 1962 Getzen introduces a complete professional line of brass.
- 1963 The factory is destroyed by a fire in August (G). The Doc Severinsen trumpets are started.
- 1964 The rebuilt factory is running by January. (G)
- 1965 Son Donald E. Getzen (1928-2017) resigns as executive vp to start DEG Music Products in Lake Geneva. (G)
- 1967 Allied Supply is started to supply the repair industry.



- 1969 Getzen offers the 300 series student level brass, Capri middle level, and Eterna professional level.
- 1972 Allied Music begins production of trumpets, cornets, trombones, and marching brass for DEG. (G)
- 1973 Getzen is still owned by Knowlton and is selling the Eterna, Severinsen, Capri, Tone Choir, & Elkhorn models.
- 1974 Allied Supply is sold to Bob's sons Thomas & Edward. (G)
- 1978 The Severinsen collaboration ends.
- 1985 Knowlton sells Getzen to Charles Andrews. The Eterna II trumpet is introduced. (G)
- 1988 Allied Music is sold to Tom & Ed Getzen. (G)
- 1989 Ed starts Edwards Band Inst. Co. to make trombones. (G)
- 1990 Allied starts making the Canadian Brass instruments. (G)
- 1991 Getzen is sold in bankruptcy to Allied Music and production is moved to Allied's location. (G)
- 1995 Allied Music ends and is brought under Getzen.
- 1999 Tom becomes the sole owner of Getzen.
- 2001 Doc Severinsen rejoins Getzen until 2003.
- 2017 Getzen is still located at #530 South Hwy H.



Photos from Horn-u-copia.net and auction sales

