



#93 Preston Love
October 2003

Jazz musician Preston Love was too ill to appear at his event in person, although he did respond by audio hookup. Members of the Preston Love Band appeared with other local jazz notables. A donation was suggested for those attending, and all proceeds went to support a music scholarship in Love's name at Creighton University, where he received an honorary doctorate of music. Love has been called one of the most respected alto saxophonists of his time. He was a member of the Count Basie Band during the 1940s. As a top bandleader for Motown, Love recorded with top blues, jazz and R&B stars, including Gladys Knight, The Temptations, Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder, The Supremes and Aretha Franklin. His autobiography, "A Thousand Honey Creeks later" refers to the start of his musical career at age 15 in Honey Creek, Iowa. Love spent part of his career in Los Angeles, before returning to Omaha. He wrote a jazz column for the *Omaha World Herald* and once served as advertising director for *The Omaha Star* newspaper. He has since passed away.