

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 41, NO. 01
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<http://vipclubmn.org>



75 Years! On January 8, 1946, ERA opened their doors for business at 1902 W. Minnehaha Avenue, St. Paul, MN. We recognize that event as the beginning of our information technology legacy. More of the story can be found in *Anthologies Tell the Story*, the 175th monthly article since the legacy project's first meeting at the Charles Babbage Institute on January 12, 2006 (<http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/Anthologies2Go.pdf>). THANK YOU to all the contributors to our written and video legacy!

New e-mail

The VIP Club newsletter e-mail has changed. To submit your story, comment on a Legacy article, ask a question or contact the newsletter editor, submit your e-mail to clubnewsltr@vipclubmn.org.

MEMBERSHIP DUES TIME-OUT

All VIP members have received ONE additional year of membership free as compensation for canceled 2020 VIP Club social events due to COVID-19.

VIP Club newsletters delivered to members via e-mail show the expiration year in the subject line: e.g., *Jan/Feb VIP Club Newsletter for Membership List 2021*. VIP newsletters delivered via U.S. mail show the expiration year after the recipient's name: e.g., *Paul Bunyan 2021*. VIP memberships expire on December 31st of the year shown. With the additional free year, current VIP membership expirations range from 2021 through 2027. Those of you who just renewed with a check received an extra year.

We also encourage you to help us spread the word that new members and inactive members can register for one year of free membership by completing the online form at <http://vipclubmn.org/Membership.html> or by sending an e-mail with the required information to membership@vipclubmn.org. The mail-in application form can be downloaded from http://vipclubmn.org/Documents/MEMBERSHIP_FORM.pdf.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Louis & Ellen Bond, Woodstock, GA
- Barbara & Rex Harris, Eagan, MN
- Nancy Huber, Florence, CO
- Michael & Dorene Kelly, Hastings, MN
- Richard & Cleo Mullins, Woodbury, MN
- Jack & Jane Pittenger, Nipomo, CA
- Rick & Liz Schmidt, Lindstrom, MN

VIP Club 2021 scheduled Board Meetings: February 3, April 7, June 2 and August 4. The board meets virtually via Zoom due to COVID-19. Meetings will resume at Unisys, Eagan TBD. Club members may

join if curious about club business. Contact the President 2 days prior for access.

2021 ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NOTE:

All VIP Club social activities are being temporarily scheduled as follows, if the pandemic abates:

- **Roseville Good Old Days** Tentatively scheduled for **May 7th** at the Mermaid. Watch the website and your e-mail/evites for updates from coordinator paul.dickson@comcast.net.

- **Syttende Mai** Tentatively scheduled for **May 14th** at Casper's in Eagan. Watch the website and e-mail/evites for future updates from the committee: Dale Torgerson, Dale Phelps, Dave Carter and Dick Lundgren.

- **Annual Reunion Picnic** Tentatively planning for **June or July time frame**. Watch the website and your e-mail/evites for updates.
- **VIP Club 40th (41st?) Anniversary Dinner Party** at the Royal Cliff, Eagan **RESCHEDULED to September 14th**. Watch the website and your e-mail/evites for updates. Coordinators are VIP Club board members Keith Behnke and Harvey Taipale.

- **VIP Club Board Elections, and Unihogs & Technologists and Old Timers' Reunions** TBD in November and December.



THE VIP CLUB IS FOR RETIREES AND FORMER EMPLOYEES OF OUR GREAT HERITAGE COMPANIES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First some housekeeping. As you might imagine, when we don't get to sit together and we let the auto Zoom mediator decide who gets to talk, we don't do as good of a job communicating as we would like. It appears we confused some folks about free membership, so see our newsletter article on page 1 clarifying some of the questions that came up. Bottom line, everybody gets a free year as follows:



- If you're a member, do nothing, your free year has been automatically added.
- If you're not a member yet, you need to register.

Next, it now looks like there is some real hope regarding COVID. By the time you read this, vaccines are beginning, and most of us will probably be in the third wave of the rationing process. Assuming a lot of things, the VIP Club is tentatively planning for some resumption of traditional events later in 2021. We ARE planning to have a picnic. Depending on deployment of the vaccine, we hope our picnic happens at our traditional time of June, or, as fallbacks, July or August. And the optimistic Norwegian contingent, maybe trying to propagate the notion of Norwegian invincibility, is proceeding to plan for Syttende Mai in May. We'll see... but I hope it happens. We will revisit the schedule at our February Board meeting.

In the meantime, there are some things that might interest our members.

First, there is the 75th anniversary of ERA's founding. Check out Lowell Benson's article surveying our history (see *Legacy Tidbits* reference to *Anthologies Tell the Story*); it all began in January of 1946 when ERA opened its doors. The progress of computer technology is truly amazing, but like any good house, it could not have been built upward without a good foundation, of which most of you were a part.

Second, there is an upcoming event in Philadelphia commemorating the 75th anniversary of ENIAC. February 15 has been proclaimed ENIAC Day in Philadelphia, home of the University of Pennsylvania, where ENIAC was invented (see <https://eniaday.org>.) The Minnesota operations had nothing to do with ENIAC, but it is part of our corporate genealogy.

ENIAC was manually programmed (a process that took weeks) by plugboards and switches, and was initially used to calculate ballistic tables for the U.S. Army. As a reference point, the National Bureau of Standards' Standards Eastern Automatic Computer (SEAC) is generally recognized as the first stored program digital computer, and was first demonstrated in April of 1950. The precise early operating schedule of

the now unclassified ERA ATLAS is unclear, but it was installed and operational at the Navy's Nebraska Avenue site in December of 1950 (<http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/HistoryReview.pdf>).

Third, we all know that the Lockheed Martin contingent in Minnesota has been dispersed, but one of the places where some of our fellow employees ended up was at Marinette Wisconsin. Lockheed Martin is the prime contractor for one version of the U.S. Navy's Littoral Combat Ship (LCS), and Fincantieri Marinette Marine is Lockheed Martin's subcontractor shipbuilder. LCS 21 is named Minneapolis St. Paul, and is on track to be commissioned in Spring 2021. Commissioning is usually a big deal and the Minnesota chapter of the Navy League is in charge of commissioning events, but, of course, COVID is impacting their plans. Check out <https://navyleaguemn.org/lcs-21> for the latest. Last report was that the ceremony would be in Duluth, and if it's open to the public, consider attending.

Finally, last issue's *Your Story* articles regarding COVID in Germany and Greece piqued my curiosity about Japan, where I visited several times to license the Q-70 for use in the Japanese Navy. I have lost contact with the people I knew (my last visit was 14 years ago), so I hit Google and was flabbergasted. Japan, with a population of 125 million, has had about half the total number of COVID cases we have had in *Minnesota* (population 5.6 million) and far fewer deaths. No lockdowns, just advocating avoidance of the three Cs: Closed spaces, Crowded places and Close-contact settings. Japan has always had a mask-wearing ethic, along with a cultural sense of obedience to authority and great consideration for not impinging on someone else's space. I suspect those factors are responsible for their success so far, although their current infection rate is on an upswing, just like most of the rest of the world.

Stay safe and hang in there—only a few more months to go.

Harvey Taipale, VIP Club President.

LEGACY TIDBITS

75 Years!

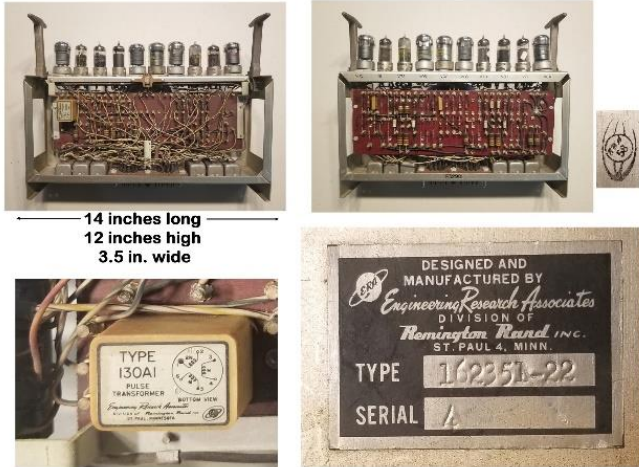
On January 8, 1946, ERA opened their doors for business at 1902 W. Minnehaha Avenue, St. Paul, MN. We recognize that event as the beginning of our information technology legacy. Some of the story can be found at <http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/Anthologies2Go.pdf>, *Anthologies Tell the Story*. This is the 175th monthly article since the legacy project's first meeting at the Charles Babbage Institute on January 12, 2006. Thanks to all the contributors to our written and video legacy.

<http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/Standardization.pdf> is the 174th article posted for December. Instruction Set

Architecture and computer technology reuse saved the government uncalculated millions of dollars. Prologue by Charles Alcon (LCDR U.S. Navy ret.).

http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/World_Wide.pdf is the November story, an anthology of places and people working outside of the United States, all connected with St. Paul operations.

Query Letter: Hi Lowell, I am reaching out to a few of my very savvy computer friends and experts, to see if anyone can help me identify this fascinating computer tube board.



I have been researching it for weeks; what I know so far: Board says, “Designed and Manufactured by Engineering Research Associates division of Remington Rand Inc.” Since this nameplate was probably only used between late 1952 and early 1955, that gives a suggested time frame. However, it also states, “Serial Number 4,” which makes me think it is late 1952 or early 1953. Could this be from the ERA 1102 or 1103 systems? The time frame seems right. There is also a tiny stamp that says, “ERA 58,” but I do not know if that is a date stamp or something else.

The board has five Octal base tubes and five “9-pin” tubes (ten tubes total). (My tubes fit but are not original.) Unit weighs 4.7 pounds and is 14 inches long.

{{**Note:** August 19, 1952, is the last recorded board meeting of ERA before it was officially part of Remington Rand. ERA became a wholly owned subsidiary of Remington Rand for a few months, then became the “ERA Division of Remington Rand,” like the tube board identifying plate reads. (Source: Oral History of John Parker, former president of ERA.) When Sperry bought Remington Rand in 1955, I think they quit using the ERA name then.}}

Anyway, any suggestions or leads would be very helpful. I have been pulling my hair out (what’s left of it), but this is as far as I’ve gotten. *Mark Greenia*

Response: Mark, since your picture(s) have insertion handles, it is quite likely that you have an 1103 computer module, per page 2 of <http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/ERA2unisysWeb.pdf>. 1102 modules did not have handles. The ERA 58 symbol/stamp image looks like a quality inspector’s number. Jim Wright’s widow, Barbara Halverson, had donated Jim’s 1102 artifacts to the Legacy committee, <http://vipclubmn.org/Newsletters/Enews1403.pdf>, page 4.

Thanks to Keith Myhre who sent two dozen 1101, 1102 and 1103 images to Mark Greenia at the Computer History Archives Project for inclusion in this new YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/WbfCJZXxvw4>. Links to other UNIVAC videos can be found here: http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/CHAP_Summary.pdf.

ENIAC Also Celebrating 75 Years!

Unisys, Blue Bell and others are recognizing the 75th anniversary of the ENIAC (<https://eniaday.org>). On February 15th each year, in recognition of the anniversary of the first launch announcement in 1946 (<http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/UnisysAndComputingGrowth.pdf>), the computer industry comes together across the world to celebrate the world’s first all-electronic, programmable computer machine. Bearing the official name of “Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer,” the ENIAC is one of the world’s greatest engineering inventions. Fred Buckles had a different opinion of the greatest invention; read <http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/ThatLittleInstrument.pdf> by Gish Devlaminck, our February article for the month.

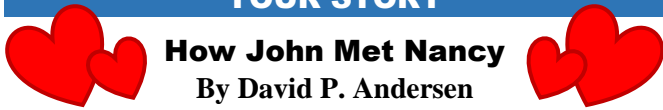
Factoid!

Prior to public GPS, the U.S. Navy had its own satellite system for world-wide navigation in the 1960s/70s (<http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/TRANSIT.pdf>). Four land-tracking stations were operated by the U.S. Navy Astronautics Group. Those stations were in ♦ Maine; ♦ Rosemount, MN; ♦ Point Mugu, CA; and ♦ Hawaii. Two of them were also injection stations: Maine and Rosemount. The Rosemount station was located because of our latitude: 45 degrees; just east of downtown Rosemount on/near the University of Minnesota property, south of County Road 42.

By Lowell Benson; Rosemount information – Keith Myhre

Retirement Status and Benefits:	
Numbers to call if you or your heirs have death benefit or pension questions – you will need an SSN and a PIN.	
♦ UNISYS:	1-877-864-7972
♦ Lockheed Martin:	1-866-562-2363
**LMCO retirees: If you have health care as part of your retirement package, you must contact VIA Benefits annually at 1-844-596-0460 to get the \$1,800.00 refund.	

YOUR STORY



How John Met Nancy

By David P. Andersen

The Speech Research Group, led by Dr. Mark Medress, worked in the Eagan Plant 8 basement for about 15 years. The group pioneered software and hardware for speech recognition, voice response, noise removal, speaker identification, word-spotting and voice deception. Customers included many international commercial entities, air traffic control and some classified DoD projects, reference <http://vipclubmn.org/Articles/InventionofVoiceMail.pdf>.

One day in the early 1970s, John Siebenand and I were working in the Speech Lab, developing a special digital encoding algorithm for voice mail. The goal was to reduce the amount of storage to half that of other speech digitization schemes, and to remove pauses and adjust the speaking rate without changing the voice pitch. In those days, we wrote assembly language code on paper, converted the code into 80-column punched cards, assembled the code, printed the results on a line printer, then tested the code with data read from tape drives. It was a time-consuming task when compared to modern methods.

We were making good progress, but some of the numbers were getting out of range. As we reviewed the data, John said, "Let's try normalizing by subtracting the mean." After more punched cards, printouts and test runs, it worked. That, plus some other things, resulted in John and me sharing a patent.

The result became part of the phenomenally successful Voice Information Processing System (VIPS), the first commercially successful voice mail system. I submitted a paper on the encoding scheme to a professional engineering society without mentioning that the algorithm was in use around the world. The paper was rejected by the reviewers, saying that they did not think it would work. We took that as a compliment!

When John and I were invited to the company's annual patent awards banquet, I told John, who was single, that the banquet was for couples. I mentioned this to my wife, Rosemary, who set up a blind date for John with her former roommate, Nancy. Nancy had briefly met John once before.

John brought Nancy flowers and she was wined and dined by a vice president and high-level management of the Sperry Corporation. The banquet menu even included heart-shaped crackers, appropriate for their first date. They had a good time. I told John that he really knew how to impress a girl.

John and Nancy were married and now live happily in California with family, one of the many happy results of "normalizing by subtracting the mean."



David, Nancy and John at the Patent Awards Banquet

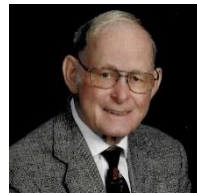
IN REMEMBRANCE OF:

The obits hereunder are redacted from funeral home postings or Pioneer Press, Star Tribune, or applicable local listings.

The VIP Club board extends its sympathies to the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones.

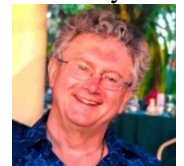
*We will grieve not,
rather find strength in what remains behind.
~William Wordsworth~*

Herman Franklin "Dutch" Bergman –Age 93, of



Brandon, FL, passed peacefully on November 23, 2020. Herman proudly served in the U.S. Navy in World War II and graduated from the University of MN with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He married Joan Jagodzinski, built a home in Fridley and raised four children together, divorcing in 1981. In 1983 he married Marilyn Piper; their happy life together cut short by her death from cancer. He retired from Unisys after 31 years and moved to Lady Lake, Florida, where he competed fiercely on the tennis court, playing well into his 80's. He was an avid fisherman, loved a good steak, chocolate, dancing and entertaining his family with his ukulele. He taught his children to fish, camp, play tennis, ski, ice skate and sing the old hymns, and imbued them with his dry humor and strong work ethic. He was always there to help with key life milestones, enjoyed taking his children on spring-break ski trips and cherished family reunions. Herman is survived by four children and many grandchildren.

Lanier "Butch" Brumback – Age 77,



passed away November 11, 2020. Butch was born in Michigan and grew up in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He is survived by 4 children and their mother (his former wife), Judy, 16 grandchildren, 2 siblings and his former wife, Sandy.

John Robert Buck – Age 89, of



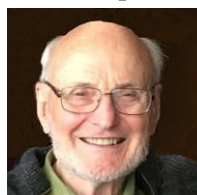
St. Louis Park, MN, passed away November 9, 2020. John served in the Air Force during the Korean War, then went to work for UNIVAC, now

Unisys, as a technician. While working full-time and supporting a family, John earned his electrical engineering degree and MBA from the University of Minnesota. Toward the end of his 35-year career at Unisys, John was manager of Metrology, and Steering Committee Chair of Total Quality Management, followed by a VIP Club member in retirement. John was a dedicated volunteer for many organizations, most notably for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and Junior Achievement. John was happiest when improving or learning something new; he loved to sing, was a private pilot and enjoyed electronics, reading, running and golf. John and his wife of 65 years, Mary Buck, were active church members for 60 years; her passing preceded his. John is survived by three children, four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Laurie Burns Nee: Warner – Age 67, of Oakdale, MN, wife of VIP Club member and former Lockheed Martin employee, passed away on November 28, 2020. Laurie is survived by her husband, Tom Burns, two children, four grandchildren, five siblings and many nieces and nephews.



Richard William "Dick" Clarke – Age 90, passed away October 11, 2020. Dick, a proud Eagle Scout, earned a mechanical engineering degree with high distinction at the University of MN under the NROTC program, and served as an engineering naval officer on the destroyer USS Yarnall for three tours in Korea. He returned to Minnesota in the heyday of early computing and began his career as an engineer at UNIVAC, followed by Control Data then MTS Systems. After he retired, Dick turned his engineering education and energy to volunteer work, serving in multiple capacities on the Minnesota High Tech Council and at the UMN College of Science and Engineering. He was also a VIP Club member. Dick loved to travel and enjoyed being outdoors. He had many sailing adventures, avoiding icebergs in the Antarctic ocean or pirates shooting RPGs at them off the coast of east Africa, and he crewed on the Cloud Nine when it became the first fiberglass boat to cross the Antarctic Circle. Dick adored his grandchildren and cherished his lifelong friendships. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Jean Illsley Clarke, his three children and five granddaughters.



John Patrick Curtin – Age 79, of Hugo, MN, passed away July 14, 2020. John was a husband, dad and grandpa. Coworkers described him as a great guy to work with; a superb leader of an international project at Sperry UNIVAC in the Twin Cities on which John made



an important contribution to the betterment of all people throughout the world. In retirement, John was a VIP Club member. He is survived by loving wife, Patricia, 7 children and 10 grandchildren.

Ruthe Tollefson Enstad – Age 75, of Prior Lake, MN, passed away October 15, 2020, with husband John, a VIP Club member and former Lockheed Martin employee, beside her after a 6-year battle with Alzheimer's. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and amazing friend.



Ruthe graduated as her high school salutatorian, attended Concordia College, transferred to Fairview Nursing, then Augsburg University where she met John. They married, raised three sons in Starbuck, MN, and launched and hosted the Lutheran Marriage Encounter program. Ruthe resumed her studies at Australian National University, Canberra, Australia; completed her undergraduate BA at Metro State University; and a Master of Arts in Woman Studies at Minnesota State University, Mankato; then taught Woman's Studies at MN State University, Mankato, as part of the adjunct faculty. In addition, Ruthe did massages, had a house cleaning business, did lots of artistic projects and was involved at church. A tandem bicycle was purchased in 2000 and over the next 13 years, with Ruthe as stoker, the team averaged close to 2000 miles per year around Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and around the country. In addition, Ruthe was an enthusiastic grandmother, attending lots of dance and piano recitals, band concerts, hockey matches and basketball, baseball and softball games. With retirement, Ruthe and John traveled internationally to Germany, Israel, Prague, Australia, Norway and other Scandinavian countries, and on multiple cruises to Alaska, the Caribbean, Spain, Italy and France. Alzheimer's stole Ruthe's amazing mind and magic, but memories of her incredible smile and laugh are forever. Ruthe is survived by her husband, John, three sons, six grandchildren, three siblings and other relatives and friends. She was greeted in Heaven by a grandson, her parents and other family.

Paul Frederick Fonstad – Age 77, of Buda, TX (previously of Northfield and St. Paul, MN), passed peacefully on November 8, 2020. Paul earned a degree in Psychology from the University of Minnesota, then worked many years as a manager for Unisys and Best Buy. Paul was an amateur genealogist who enjoyed connecting with relatives, as well as music, art, reading and telling jokes and stories as a self-described raconteur. Paul was always curious, had a love for books and learning and could make a friend anywhere. Paul is survived by his wife, Ruth, five children, eight



grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents and a son.

Arthur William Francis III – Age 81, of Apple Valley, MN, passed away on November 15, 2020. Born in Elk City, OK, Art was a computer engineering manager working for Unisys/Lockheed Martin for 40 years. While working as a defense contractor primarily with the U.S. Navy's P-3C



Orion Anti-Submarine warfare system, he played a critical role in defending the nation through the Cold War. Once retired, he became a VIP Club member. Art's interests were his family, gardening/landscaping and reading. He is survived by his wife, Anna Mae Francis, two children, two grandsons and other family members.

Elvira Kuehn 'Vi' Garfield – Age 96, surviving spouse of deceased VIP Club member Dale Garfield, passed peacefully at her home on December 3, 2020, with her children by her side. Vi, born in Watertown, WI, married Dale on July 9, 1949. Vi is survived by two children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Thomas J. Geheren – Age 84, of St. Paul, MN, died peacefully at home on October 29, 2020, surrounded by family. Tom was born into an Irish family in DeGraff, MN, was a star athlete, graduated from the College of St. Thomas, then embarked on a 35-year accounting career at Unisys. Tom also worked for the Twins and Vikings and was an avid sports fan. After retirement, he volunteered at his church. Tom was a man of faith; throughout the years, prayers gave him peace. Tom will be dearly missed by his devoted wife of 56 years, Barb Archambeau Geheren, 5 children, 15 grandchildren and many other caring family members. He was preceded in death by his parents and in-laws, as well as a daughter, a grandson and two brothers.



Steven Ray Homme – Age 75 of Plymouth, MN, passed away November 29, 2020, from complications of dementia. Steve was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, and raised in Bloomington, MN. He graduated from the University of Minnesota and spent four years enlisted in the Air Force as a Staff Sergeant stationed in Tacoma, WA. He later worked as a quality/production control engineer at Sperry UNIVAC, Control Data and Honeywell. He loved the outdoors and spent long hours hunting, fishing and golfing. Steve is survived by his wife of 44 years, Judy Homme, a son, his ex-wife, Chris Loweth, and his dog.



Edward B. Kuntz – Age 86 of Pine City, MN, passed away November 13,



2020. Ed enlisted and served in the U.S. Navy after high school, and was a longtime member of the American Legion Post. Ed wore many hats in his lifetime: he worked for UNIVAC (Unisys) and Comten (NCR), owned a plant nursery, built garages, owned and drove tractor trailer and was the proprietor of Palmdale Tap and Grill in Almelund, MN. He enjoyed the outdoors—hunting, fishing and gardening, and had many hobbies, including beer and wine making, stamp collecting, Vikings football, attending auctions and tinkering. He was a kind, gentle loving man. Ed was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter. He will be missed by his 3 children, 9 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and many friends.

Harry Lofgren – Age 84 of St. Paul, MN, passed away October 25, 2020. Harry Clare "Chuck/Charlie" Lofgren worked for Remington Rand/Sperry UNIVAC/Unisys for over 30 years. He was heavily involved in the Sports Car Club of America where he held many positions over the years and acquired many friends. Harry loved spending time with his friends and family, and also enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, photography, music and going to the Dairy Queen. He was preceded in death by his wife, Darlene, and other family members. He is survived by two sons, three grandchildren and many other loving family and friends.



Ronald H. Middlestaedt – Age 87, of Bloomington, MN, went to be with his Lord and Savior on October 21, 2020. Ron proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1953-1955, and worked for many years at UNIVAC in Roseville, MN. He was looked up to by all, not only because of his 6' 6" stature, but because he was always there, ready to lend a hand. He had a passion for barbershop and classical music, the railroad, history and photography. Until recently he could be found volunteering in the sound booth at church, arranging music, creating publications or simply chatting with anyone who had time. Ron was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Barbara Middlestaedt (Buvick), and is survived by three daughters, nine grandchildren and a sister.



Norman F. Palzer – Age 76, passed away on October 30, 2020. Norm was a UNIVAC/Sperry employee, who, coincidental to this issue celebrating ERA's 75th anniversary, once submitted the following which landed in *Our Stories Article 128* in June 2009: [*A Letter to the Editor from Norm Palzer about the DRUM prototype donation to the Minnesota Historical Society*](#), the DRUM prototype being the ERA DRUM! Norm was a VIP Club member. He is survived by two brothers, nieces, nephews and great-nieces/nephews.

Gerald W. Paulsen – Age 87 of Chanhassen, MN, was called home November 12, 2020, after a long battle with Parkinson's. Jerry served his country as a F-102 pilot, Captain, in the Air Force. He received his BS in Geology at Iowa State University, and a Masters of



Geology from the University of Minnesota. While his career started in Geology, he went on to be a systems analyst for Lockheed Martin. His Christian faith was foundational to his life. He met and married his wife, Jan, at the University of Minnesota Lutheran Student Center. They were both founding members of Living Christ Lutheran Church where he served as a teacher, elder, treasurer and president, and loved to sing in the choir. Jerry enjoyed family camping and fishing trips, coaching his children's athletic teams and spending time with family. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Janet, 4 children and 12 grandchildren.

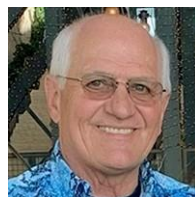
Frederick J. Schramm – Age 86, of Coon Rapids, MN, passed away peacefully at home on November 26, 2020. Fred worked in Technical Operations – TRACE Support at Unisys in Roseville, MN. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Janice (Janniebabe) Schramm, four children, five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.



Bruce Scott – Age 78 of Forest Lake, MN, passed away unexpectedly on October 18, 2020. Bruce served his country in the U.S. Air Force, serving three years in Japan, and was employed by Sperry for over 30 years, finishing his career as supervisor of Final Assembly. He had a passion for working on computers, repairing anything mechanical and spending time with his son and granddaughter. He was an incredible father, grandpa, brother and friend. Bruce is preceded in death by his parents and a grandson. He is survived by his son, a granddaughter, four stepdaughters, other family members and many good friends.



Michael L. Setterlund – Age 71, of Spring Lake Park, MN; our beloved father, husband and grandpa passed away on December 7, 2020. Michael was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving from 1968-1972, earning a Vietnam service medal. Michael's entire 48-year working career was spent at Unisys Corporation; coworkers remember him as a dedicated Facilities team member in Roseville, MN. He was an active member of VFW post 6587 and held many leadership positions for his love of country and fellow soldiers; he invested his



entire life with devotion to his wife, children, neighbors, coworkers, friends and relatives. Michael was an enormous giver of his time, skills and love. He spent his later years in Cable, WI, where he built a cabin with family and friends, creating a wonderful place to reminisce and enjoy for years to come. Michael is survived by his devoted, loving wife of 50 years, Bonnie, two children, four grandchildren and many other relatives and friends.

Barbara Jean Vizanko – Age 98, surviving spouse of deceased VIP Club member Donald Vizanko, Barbara passed away on December 3, 2020. Barbara graduated from Superior State Teachers College and taught kindergarten in Ashland, WI, before moving to Montana with Don. The family then moved to Indiana for several years before settling in Roseville, MN. She was an avid volunteer for any activity involving her kids: PTA secretary; Cub Scout, Girl Scout and Bluebird leader. Barb was an accomplished seamstress, quilter, knitter and crocheter and many families received her handmade donated items. Along with her husband, she shared her love of the outdoors with her family, teaching them to skate, ski, canoe, camp and play tennis. More recently she shared her piano playing talents with her great-grandchildren. Barb is survived by four children, seven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, a niece and a nephew.



CLUB CONTACT DATA

VIP Club 2021 Activity Coordination:

CBI Liaison; Dick Lundgren, rlundgr@aol.com
 Golf Leagues; Keith Behnke, keithbhk@comcast.net
 Lawshe Museum Support:

- Exhibits; Keith Myhre, kmyhre@lightblast.net
- Photo ID work; Bob Pagac, rpagac@hotmail.com
 and Jon Simon, jcsimon1st@frontiernet.net

Legacy Committee chairman; John Westergren,
jwestergren48@gmail.com

Membership database; Gish Devlaminck,
membership@vipclubmn.org

Newsletter Chief Editor; clubnewsltr@vipclubmn.org

Old Timers' Annual Reunion:

- Paul Hove, paul@paulhove.com or
- Steve Koltes, steve.koltes@comcast.com

Picnic planning & volunteer staffing; John Westergren,
jwestergren48@gmail.com

Roseville Good Old Days; Paul Dickson,
paul.dickson@comcast.net

Syttende Mai; Dale Torgerson, dale.o.torgerson@gmail.com
 Sunshine Cards; Lynn Lindholm, lynnlindholm@comcast.net

UNIHOGS & Technologists; Lowell Benson,
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Volunteer Luncheon; Frank King, kingx063@umn.edu
 Webmaster; Jim Andrews, webmaster@vipclubmn.org



P. O. Box 21903
Eagan, MN 55121

Established in 1980

VIP CLUB Newsletter

VIP Club MN P.O. 21903 Eagan, MN 55121
<http://www.vipclubmn.org/Newsletters.html>

Board of Directors – 2021

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Vice President	Steve Koltes	651-303-9112
Treasurer	Paul Hove	651-738-4908
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Director	Gish Devlaminck	651-470-8905
Director	Jim Andrews	651-451-7502
Director	open position	xxx-yyy-zzzz
Past President	Keith Behnke	651-894-2182

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Dick Lundgren	rlundgr@aol.com
Don Naaktgeboren	donfishn@yahoo.com
Joe Schwarz	jschwarzsr@centurylink.net

UNISYS Liaison

Kirsten Rasmussen; meetings, etc., 651-323-9543
Judy Bornetun; Eagan print shop, 651-635-6792

PERIODIC SOCIAL GROUPS

Attendees: Are you still meeting as noted here?
Please e-mail clubnewsltr@vipclubmn.org with current status and updated contact information. Thank you!

Monthly Breakfast Gathering

- **1st Thursday** at 8 a.m. – **Capitol View Cafe**, 637 Smith Ave., **St. Paul** ↗ *Meeting status checked monthly*

Monthly Lunch Gatherings

Formerly at Stark's ↗

- **1st Tuesday** at 11:00 a.m. – **Zoom meeting**.
Coordinator: Dave Kaminski 952-854-1997.
- **2nd Tuesday** at 11:30 a.m. – **Mall of America** 3rd floor North Food Court; we meet by the tables between the elevator & Burger King. Coordinator Paul Wennerstrom: 952-854-7855.
- **2nd Wednesday** at 11 a.m. – Baker's Square, Northtown, 221 Co. Rd. 10 NE, **Blaine**, MN
- **2nd Saturday** of odd-numbered months at 11 a.m. – Baker's Square, 1881 West Hwy 36, **Roseville**. Coordinator Urho Rahkola: 651-429-3319.

Quarterly Breakfast Gathering

- **2nd Wednesday** at 9 a.m. in Mar., June, Sept., & Dec. – Eagles Club, 563 Old Hwy 8 in **New Brighton**. Coordinator Paul Dickson: 651-482-9934. **Temporarily Suspended**