

VIP Club Newsletter

VOLUME 45, NO. 06
November/December 2025
<http://vipclubmn.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS ♦♦ SAVE THESE DATES:

- ✓ **Holiday Party ♦♦ January 4, 2026**
- ✓ **Annual Reunion Picnic ♦♦ June 2026**
- ✓ **Syttende Mai ♦♦ May 15, 2026**
- ✓ **Roseville Good Old Days ♦♦ September 10, 2026**

Watch the website and your e-mail/evites for details as they become available



MEMBERSHIP

Of **504** total active member units, are you one of **478** paid club members, or one of the special members for whom annual dues is free (member types like Friends of the club or Life members over age 90; see [Club Membership](#) for details)? Check when your club membership expires in a listing of all members and membership expiration dates at <https://vipclubmn.org/Temp/Paidmembershipstatus202509.pdf>.

To **renew**, complete the membership form found at https://vipclubmn.org/ClubForms/MEMBERSHIP_FORM.pdf and mail it, along with the dues payment, to VIP Club MN, PO Box 21903, Eagan, MN 55121.

UPCOMING EVENT DETAILS

Old Timers' Reunion November 6, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center, 2750 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Eagan.

- Cost information: ♦ A free-will offering ♦ A cash bar for drinks ♦ \$13 for the optional Build-Your-Own Sandwich bar (includes tax and tip).
- Election of board officers will be held from 1:00 to 1:05 p.m. The board is currently short two director positions, which any member is welcome to fill.
- Members are encouraged to invite acquaintances to the reunion who are former company employees and not current VIP Club members.

See event details in evite already sent via e-mail. *Boni Westberg and Harvey Taipale are coordinating.*

Holiday Party January 4, 2026, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center, 2750 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Eagan.

- Cost information: ♦ A cash bar for drinks ♦ Prepay cost and menu TBD ♦ Completed form and check to be mailed to Boni Westberg.
- Entertainment by Eagan Men's Chorus.

Watch for e-mail/evite in December for details or check <https://vipclubmn.org/activities.html>. *Jim Andrews and Boni Westberg are coordinating.*

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Roseville Good Old Days Recap

About 110 current and former Unisys employees attended the RGOD reunion at the Rosetown American Legion Post, 700 County Road C West in Roseville on September 11. It was a beautiful day! A short moment of silence was taken at 2:00 p.m. to remember coworkers who had passed away since last year. Check out event pictures on page 7, and more in the website [Gallery](#). The next reunion will be at the same location on Sept. 10, 2026.



If you have photos to share from this or any event or individual group gatherings, send them to clubnewsltr@vipclubmn.org and we'll add them to the [Gallery](#) on the website.

VIP Club

Scheduled Board Meetings:

2025 – Dec 3; 2026 – Feb 4, Apr 1, June 3, Aug 5, Oct 7, and Dec 2 at the Dakota County Historical Society Lawshe Museum, 130 3rd Ave North, So. St. Paul. Club members curious about club business may join us. Contact the president two days prior for access.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Old Timers' Reunion at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center is coming up on November 6. I encourage you to attend and to invite others to join you. There will be a short business meeting to elect VIP Club board members for next year. While the current board members have indicated they are willing to serve again, there are two open director positions which we have not been able to fill. Please consider getting involved. If you are willing or have questions about serving, please contact me and we can talk. Be mindful that it is the board that keeps the club functioning.

The October board meeting included much discussion about the future of the VIP Club which turned



Remington Rand

LINIVAC

SPERRY + LINIVAC

SPERRY

UNISYS

CORAL

LOCKHEED MARTIN

UNISYS

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

45 years old this year. It seems that the club will cease its operation in the next few years as membership continues to decline and the expenses increase. It would be nice to keep the club functioning until 2030, which would be our 50th anniversary, and end it with one last celebration party. This is our challenge!

Revenue from annual dues continues to decrease. There were 88 memberships that expired in 2024 and were not renewed. We currently have 504 active members in the club. There are 88 “Life” members who no longer pay dues and 157 members who have already paid their dues through 2027. There are also 114 memberships that will expire in 2025 and we don’t know how many will renew. The result is that our yearly expenses are greater than the dues we receive. This is rapidly eating into our reserves. You can check your expiration status at [Paidmembershipstatus202509.pdf](#) on our website.

Here are future topics which the board must consider:

1. Rising cost of printed newsletter and events
2. Planning for the eventual club closing
3. Legacy retention after club closes
4. What happens to the website?

The printed newsletter has become the biggest yearly expense we have. Although we brought the quantity down to 61 copies, the bill to print and mail the newsletter is over \$200 per issue. The total bill to produce and distribute the newsletter is \$2500/year. The cost to host club events keeps increasing as most places charge a fee to reserve their facilities and the food costs keep going up.

Given the situation the club is in, we must project how long the money will last if we don’t change anything, and then what needs to change if we are to make it to the 50-year celebration in 2030.

Over the years, thanks to the tremendous effort of Lowell Benson, our website has a **Legacy Anthology** section that contains significant historical information about the computer industry in Minnesota and our part in it. This is our legacy and it should be preserved. The website also contains company and VIP Club historical information, not necessarily pertinent to the computer industry, but relevant to our company(ies) and people.

I look forward to the upcoming Old Timers’ Reunion and hope to see you there!

Best Wishes, Jim Andrews, VIP Club President

CLUB & COMPANY HISTORY

Memorable Postcard

*Do you have insight regarding the following postcard story or the people referenced? Your stories and memories are always welcome. **Gish Devlaminck** shared the following with the VIP Club Board, which may interest you as the Old Timers’ Reunion is fast approaching.*

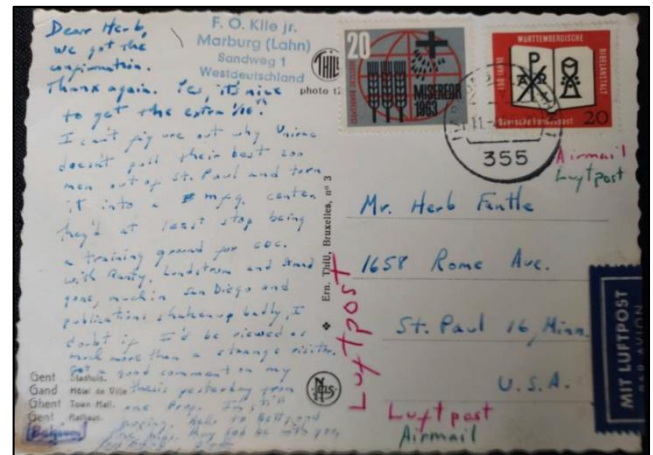
“I got images of a postcard from a friend who collects old postcards. The images of this postcard are shown below. The note written in green mentions UNIVAC and CDC. The card was probably purchased in Ghent, Belgium, but mailed from Marburg, West Germany.

Mailed to:
Mr. Herb Fantle
1658 Rome Ave.
St. Paul 16, Minn
U.S.A.

Mailed from:
F. O. Kile Jr.
Marburg (Lahn)
Sandweig 1
Westdeutschland (West Germany)

I think the postmark date is Nov 20, 1963. Airmail is written on the postcard in two places and Luftpost (German for airmail) is written in three places. The picture on the postcard is the Ghent, Belgium Town Hall.

The person mailing the card may have been **Fred Vihovde**, who is a VIP life member. The Strand name mentioned could have been **Delbert Strand** who is also a VIP life member, but left UNIVAC for CDC.”



Lowell Benson replied: “Gish: Thanks for the memories item. **Fred Vihovde** did work for UNIVAC in 1963 before he too transferred to CDC a few years later.

This is an interesting item leading into the November Old Timer’s event. Fred took over ‘hosting’ of the Old Timers in 2007 (<https://vipclubmn.org/activities.html#OTR>).

FYI, in 1963 Fred was the First Sergeant of the 328th MI Army Reserve detachment, Fort Snelling; later promoted to First Lieutenant during a summer camp at Fort Sheridan. I was in the 328th at that time, thus have known him for six decades.

The Lundstrom referred to on the card was quite likely **Dave Lundstrom** who wrote 'A Few Good Men from UNIVAC' in 1987 (<https://vipclubmn.org/OurStories.html#Books>)."

More on Millie

The U of MN has an abstract, oral interview of VIP Club founder, **Mildred Gignac**:

"Mildred 'Millie' Gignac grew up in Carver City, Minnesota, then moved with her family to St. Paul in 1933-34. After high school, she worked briefly for the government then joined Northwest Airlines and became supervisor of the payroll department. She married a Turkish man, moved briefly to Colorado, then overseas to Syria for several years. She returned to the Twin Cities and joined Remington Rand UNIVAC and became secretary to the director of financial control in 1956. She ascended the corporate ladder and eventually became UNIVAC's first female director (in 1980) with responsibility for benefits and administration. She discusses the several UNIVAC locations where she worked, starting with the original ERA plant and the newer one on Shepard Road, both in St. Paul. After a tour of duty in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, working on information systems for employee records, she returned in 1974 to UNIVAC's Defense Systems division and the Eagan facility, where she continued executive positions in benefits and administration until her retirement in 1986. She offers comments on a set of Datamation advertisements from 1967.

This material is based on work funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation award B2014-07 'Tripling Women's Participation in Computing (1965-1985).'"

Find the entire interview conducted by Tom Misa, PhD, 5 November 2015 here: <https://conservancy.umn.edu/items/2dec6e7d-674d-4587-abfe-d9e41e90cfd3>.

Tie Tack Inquiry

Keith Behnke received the following e-mail from **Steven Andersen** a while back. It piqued my interest as my family ran across similar items stored away by my dad, **Richard Mullins**, employee of ERA through Unisys, and VIP Club membership database manager from club start through 2006.

Keith: I have an old UNIVAC Tie Tack that has a rectangular shape, UNIVAC logo, and 3 gemstones mounted in a row. The gemstones are clear and could be diamond, but somehow I think not.

I have a different tie tack with rubies (or similar color gems) that I know is for 15 years of service. I am

guessing the one with clear gemstones is a 10-year service tie tack. But I have no factual basis for this guess.

Can you tell me what number of service years this tie tack represents? If not, is there someone else that I might get to answer this question?

Lowell Benson provided direction to point your browser to <https://vipclubmn.org/Mementos.html> (Section 2, Service Awards in Our Mementos, Chapter 8). This section discusses jewel types for service years. Good to know!

Mary Beth Ruhland

LEGACY STORY

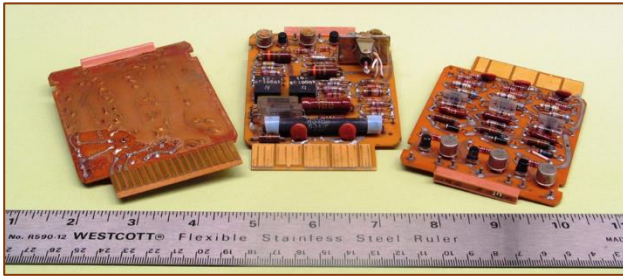
Letter to Webmaster

Computer History Archives Project (CHAP) Director **Mark Greenia** sent another inquiry message to Lowell Benson: "I am writing to seek your opinion on a question that has me a bit stumped. Over the years, I have collected an increasing number of vintage computer circuit boards from Remington Rand, Sperry UNIVAC, etc., and have about 50 or so in my collection. Most I have identified. However, when trying to identify some specific cards, in this case I have 'hit a wall.' These two cards (shown below) are #4080602 and #4080644, 3"x 5", dated 1965, from UNIVAC, St. Paul."



Lowell Benson's Response: From my early 60s Drawing Control Clerk position, I recognized that part numbers (drawing numbers) starting with #4080... were from commercial, i.e., Plant 4. Also, the card edge connections were not centered as almost all connectors were.

In our Lawshe Memorial Museum artifact collection, we have similar connector and size cards (<https://vipclubmn.org/Artifacts.html#PCcards>). See Img_3849 donated by **Don Weidenbach** – Noted as 1107 PC boards, 4.25"x2.9", 1962; no Part Number (P/N) markings nor Quality Control (QC) stamps. These edge board connector patterns are the same. If Img_3849 note of 4.25" did not include the connector area, then we have the same 5" dimension.



Img_3849

The first 1107 delivery was 1962, and the last was 1965 (<https://vipclubmn.org/Articles/ThroughTheAges.pdf>).

Dick Petschauer wrote *History and Evolution of 1100/2200 Mainframe Technology* in 1990 (<https://vipclubmn.org/Articles/HISTORY1100series.pdf>). Page 9 shows a picture of *A 1107 logic card plugged into a section of the connector block*. That illustration appears to be the same card type, especially the white pull/plug handle at the card's top.

Thus, my conclusion is that Mark Greenia has production 1107 cards, whereas Don Weidenbach donated prototype cards. After sending this conclusion to Mr. Greenia, **Paul Dickson** commented that the cards looked like what he had seen in 1107s when in the Air Force at Wright-Patterson AFB in the early 60s.

LABenson

Weather!

Although most people do not realize it, they watch Next Generation Radar (NEXRAD) information output every day on the morning, noon, and evening weather reports. A September 30, 2025 Webinar for the Rocky Mountain IEEE chapter was *UNIVAC Signal Processing & NEXRAD* presented by retirees **Dave Bondurant, Les Nelson, and Ray Artz, PhD**. The National Weather Service's reporting has its technology foundation from Sperry/UNIVAC IR&D, as well as a development subcontract from Sperry/UNIVAC in Great Neck. This is another enduring Sperry/UNIVAC legacy of innovations with roots back to Naval Tactical Data Systems (NTDS) and Air Traffic Control (ATC). We have posted links to the webinar documents at <https://vipclubmn.org/OurStories.html#slides>; *UNIVAC Signal Processing & NEXRAD – Weather Reporting 'Technology Foundation'* by Dave Bondurant, Les Nelson, and Ray Artz, PhD: Slides, video, and a previous synopsis museum poster.

- Slides link:
<https://vipclubmn.org/LegacyDocImg/Univac%20%20NexRAD.pdf>
- Video link:
<https://vipclubmn.org/LegacyVideos/Univac Signal Processing NEXRAD.mp4>
- Poster link:
<https://vipclubmn.org/EngDocImg/14.%20NEXRAD.pdf>

Our *Legacy Anthology* already has NEXRAD stories from **Les, Gerry Pickering, and Andy Lang**. If you do not have time to watch the webinar video, read <https://vipclubmn.org/sysgovernment.html#Pickering>.

LABenson

Today's Technology!

At the October VIP Club board meeting, we mused how many pages it might take to print the website. So, in my Edge browser, I did a right click to pull down a menu, then selected "Create QR Code for this page" to generate this image.

Back in my browser again, a right click on Print gave me a print option on the menu. Another click gave me a Printer Select box in which I selected Microsoft Print to PDF. Then I saved the ClubPage1.pdf in the website images folder (<https://vipclubmn.org/images/ClubPage1.pdf>). This file is just over two pages long.



The largest .html file on our site is People5.html (<https://vipclubmn.org/images/ClubChapter15.pdf>) at 173 KB. This would take 25 pages to print. The site's *Our Stories Articles for the Month* folder has 248 .pdf files ranging from 12 KB (1 page) to 24,557 KB (55 pages to print). My conclusion after 25 minutes generating this article, is that a single *Legacy Anthology* book would be between 8,000 and 12,000 pages. Uff Da!!!

LABenson

Club Newsletter Readers: If you have comments, please send to webmaster@vipclubmn.org or la.gj.benson@comcast.net.

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.*

"A life that touches others goes on forever."

Dale Fredrick Berndt — Age 85, formerly of Plymouth, MN, passed away May 1, 2025, in Highlands Ranch, CO. Dale received his BSEE from the U of MN, worked at Control Data Corp, and then went back to the U of MN and received his MSEE. Dale worked for several technology companies, joining Unisys in 1972, then moved on to Honeywell, the Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC), and Sensor Systems. Dale was awarded the H.W. Sweatt Engineer-Scientist Team Award "for creating the world's first digital modular ring laser gyro," and was co-author and inventor on 16 patents. He retired from Honeywell as Sr. Principal Research Scientist after a total of 35 patents. Dale and his wife Carolee J. Larson (Carol) enjoyed traveling to Spain, Germany, Switzerland, and



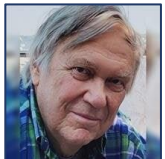
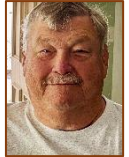
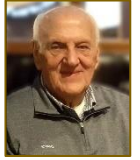
Austria, among others. Summer weekends found Dale and family and friends at the Berndt cabin at Lower South Long Lake, south of Brainerd, enjoying waterskiing, sailing, golfing, and boat parades. He always had projects at the cabin—building a racing boat, a remote-controlled boat, the aluminum lift at the dock, and the remote-controlled cart and track lift in the boat house. His retirement projects included building remote-controlled helicopters and converting a new Toyota Matrix into an all-electric vehicle (EV). A Unisys coworker remembers Dale driving his home-made Toyota Matrix EV to one of the Mermaid Good Old Days gatherings; under the hood it was plumb full of circuit boards for monitoring and controlling each battery—in addition to all of the motor control circuitry. Dale also worked on projects at his daughters' homes, and at his Highlands Ranch residence was a member of the car club and chess club, and was instrumental in promoting EV charging. Dale is survived by his wife, Carol, two daughters, four grandchildren, and other family.

Thomas Robert "Tom" Eykyn — Age 78, of Eagan, MN passed away peacefully August 29, 2025. Tom attended Mankato State University, then began his 40-year career in finance and accounting at Sperry UNIVAC, through eight company name changes, retiring in 2006 from Lockheed Martin—and then becoming a VIP Club member. Tom loved snowmobiling with friends and family, and spent much of his retirement in Arizona, golfing and playing cards. He was a great storyteller with an uncanny memory for faces and places. Traveling was one of his favorite pastimes, especially to Alaska. Thomas enjoyed Sunday drives, watching the news, and sitting in the driveway to talk with neighbors and friends. Tom was a sincere man whose humor, smile, and larger-than-life presence was outshined only by his compassion and big heart. Tom is survived by his high school sweetheart and loving wife, Marilyn Jenniges, two children, six granddaughters, siblings, and many nieces and nephews.

Ronald Ivan Jensen "Ron/RJ" — Age 78, of Bloomington, MN completed his 2.5-year journey with cancer and died peacefully August 25, 2025. Ron graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from the U of ND. He liked to say he graduated from UND one day, became engaged the next day to Rebecca (Becky) Vonasek, received his anticipated draft notice the next day, and found himself drafted into the U.S. Marine Corps as one who understood electrical to help repair equipment during the Vietnam War. While home on leave, they married, then returned to Yuma, AZ where he fulfilled his two-year stint as a Marine. Next, back to Grand Forks, ND for two years of grad school, then to the Twin Cities where Ron worked for UNIVAC/Sperry/Unisys for 23 years until Lockheed Martin acquired Unisys. Ron went back to school and into data base development and consulting for many different metro area companies until retiring in 2011. Ron was a story-teller, chess master, 10K

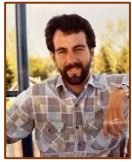
runner, armchair philosopher, classical music enthusiast, handyman, and fisherman, just to name a few, and he loved the outdoors and putting in his yard. He spent some of his last days reviewing family members because "he didn't want to forget anyone." Ron is survived by his wife of 55 years, Becky, two sons, four grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews, and other family, friends, and their church family.

James "Jim" Schwab — Age 93, passed away peacefully September 15, 2025 surrounded by his family at the VA Hospice Center. Jim entered the Air Force at the Fort Snelling 72nd Air Base Squadron, and after serving attended the U of MN. His first job was with the U.S. Post Office until a buddy asked Jim to join him at UNIVAC. With his dedicated work ethic and personal touch, Jim found his niche within the computer industry where the work brought him around the world, allowing him to build a network of friends across the U.S. and from Europe to Asia. The company landed a large, high-profile contract and looked to Jim and his crew to install some of the first computers at NASA in Cape Canaveral. Jim eventually led over 200 employees as director of the Mendota Heights Reconditioning Center, one of the most successful branches of the company. Shortly after retiring from Unisys, a couple of Jim's former employees started a new company, Asset Recovery, where Jim, with his broad industry expertise, many contacts, and being fun to work with, enjoyed working well into his seventies. Jim's interests and hobbies included bowling, golf, watching NASCAR, the Vikings, and Twins. He enjoyed fixing or repairing almost anything perfectly, dabbling in the stock market, and making sure his yard was impeccable, but his true passion was cars—Jim loved everything about cars. With his friend Dick, Jim bought classic Thunderbirds, Mustangs, and Cougars, working the cars to perfect condition to sell at auctions in MN and AZ. They would then find another classic beauty to restore. Jim and his wife Bernice Melcher, the love of his life from meeting 71 years ago, built a Christian life with an abundance of happiness and love for their daughters. The two took many vacations together, including an Alaskan cruise and trips to Hawaii, Phoenix, Laughlin, Florida, and California, to name a few. His favorite outings were with his family; he was always there for his girls as protector and guardian doing anything he could to make their lives better, and watching his grandsons' baseball and basketball games, picking them up from school, and teaching them about manhood. He had a zest for life and loved the company of family and friends. His Unisys colleagues shared stories and laughs at Mancini's a couple times each year; Jim, a former VIP Club member, looked forward to reminiscing and joking about old times at work. A coworker remembers the pleasure of knowing him in the early years in the Customer Engineering organizations. Jim was an honorable, strong, and proud man, full of knowledge and care, wanting to help others and leading by example. Jim is survived by his



loving wife of 66 years, Bernice, two daughters, two grandsons, a sister-in-law, and many nieces and nephews.

Brian Storberg — Age 63, of Hudson, WI, passed peacefully August 24, 2025 with his loving family by his side. Brian graduated with an Associate's Degree from Brown Institute in Minneapolis. Brian began his IT career working for Unisys at Air Force bases in



Omaha, NE; Alamogordo, NM; and Glendale, AZ. He later transferred to the Unisys facility in Roseville, and remained with Unisys for 25 years. He was once honored as "Unisys Employee of the Year;" rumor has it that he should have received a few trophies for volleyball escapades while on call at Unisys. A coworker remembered Brian as a nice fellow—leaving way too young—who worked in the Hardware Support area. Brian more recently worked for Andersen Windows in Bayport, WI. Brian was a die-hard Packers, Brewers, and Badgers fan. Family felt fortunate to have enjoyed countless hours with Brian, boating, fishing, and hunting. He completed beautiful woodworking projects, works of art and of superb craftsmanship, both at home and for friends and family. He could repair just about anything, he was kind and big-hearted—and he loved teasing family members! Brian is survived by his loving wife, Cindy, whom he met 48 years earlier when he was 15 at L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library where they both worked. He is also survived by his sisters, sisters- and brothers-in-law, 16 nieces and nephews, 28 great-nieces and -nephews, and 6 great-great-nieces and -nephews.

Edward John "Ed" Thomas — Age 83, of Prior Lake,



MN passed away peacefully at his home August 5, 2025, surrounded by family. Edward was a proud U.S. Army veteran. During his service he obtained the designation of sharpshooter, a skill he carried later into life as a hunter and trap shooter. He also enjoyed fishing and boating. Throughout his life, Ed was an avid do-it-yourselfer building boats, remodeling homes, or building barns. When he retired from Lockheed Martin, he spent his days on his hobby farm with his beloved horses. Ed is survived by his wife of 58 years, Annabelle, two daughters, four cherished grandchildren, and other family.

Belated Remembrances

Joseph Rutledge Clements — Age 93, of St. Paul, MN passed into eternal life May 26, 2022. Joe



attended the College of St. Thomas to which he returned to graduate after enlisting and serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War as a paratrooper. Soon after college he met his wife Jeanette DeLong through a religious study group. They were married over 60 years, raising six children and opening their home and Lake Butterfield to countless friends and relatives over the years. Joe spent most of his career at the U.S. Department of Defense and UNIVAC, during which he spearheaded a professional

organization, the National Contract Management Association (NCMA), serving in many leadership roles, including as president. Joe was honored with the NCMA Distinguished Service Award for his contributions. Joe also helped establish the U of MN Government Contracts seminar program, and later the Masters of Business Administration program in Government Contracts at the University of St. Thomas. For many years, Joe served on the St. Thomas graduate school faculty and as the department chair for the Government Contracts concentration MBA program. Joe's kind heart and sense of humor gave him the ability to connect with people from all walks of life and build lifetime relationships. He uniquely found fun and humor in ordinary and extraordinary life events. As a master gardener both in St. Paul and at his lake home, Joe was able to make things grow in almost any environment, whether it be his plants, his intellectual curiosity, his students, or his family and lifelong faith. Joe was preceded in death by his wife, Jeanette, and was survived by 6 children and 13 grandchildren.

Raymond Alexander McKenzie, Jr. — Age

87, of Coon Rapids, MN, passed away June 12, 2022. Ray attended a vocational technical high school for art and at 19 began



working as a graphic illustrator at the company that eventually became Unisys and brought him to MN. A generous spirit, he used to clean his church. was willing to lend a hand to anyone in need, and valued good conversation and friendships. Ray worked a lot of overtime to provide for his family, but still found time to coach baseball teams; attend plays, concerts, recitals, swim meets, awards banquets, and sporting events; take them to zoos and museums; load them into their old Dodge van to visit National Parks; and get them to church every Sunday. In his later years, he and his wife of 39 years, Nancy, were on the church bowling team and took up square dancing, hobbies Ray continued after Nancy passed away. Raymond was survived by six children and his grandchildren.

Robert N. Wasti – Age 86 of Hastings, MN, died at home



on January 13, 2022 of kidney and heart failure. Robert served in the U.S. Army in Germany and was a member of the American Legion, Post 47 in Hastings. He graduated from Dunwoody Institute and was a mechanical designer at UNIVAC and Dexon, after which he started full-time cabinet making. Bob enjoyed singing solos, duets, and in church choirs; he sang and played guitar at dozens of weddings and funerals; and especially enjoyed singing at nursing homes. Nothing meant more to him than singing the National Anthem at Memorial Day services. Bob was very active at church, including teaching Sunday School for 28 years. He also loved drawing cars, biking, golfing, water skiing, traveling, playing basketball, the Green Bay Packers and Wisconsin Badgers, and time with friends and relatives. Bob was survived by his wife, Shirley, relatives in the U.S. and Finland, friends, neighbors and loving dogs.



RGOD Reunion at Rosetown American Legion Post September 11, 2025



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 are eligible for the health care supplement through VIA Benefits, submit your expenses to receive up to \$900 each annually for you and your spouse (Total \$1,800). Eligible expenses include copayments, Medicare premiums and insurance supplement premiums. For questions call **VIA Benefits** at 1-844-596-0460 or go to <https://my.viabenefits.com/>.



P. O. Box 21903
Eagan, MN 55121

VIP CLUB Newsletter

VIP Club MN P.O. 21903 Eagan, MN 55121

<http://vipclubmn.org/newsletters.html>

Board of Directors – 2025

President	Jim Andrews	651-451-7502
Vice President	Tenner Thompson	612-210-6620
Treasurer	Eric Spring	651-454-1154
Secretary	Boni Westberg	612-418-6206
Director	Gish Devlaminck	651-470-8905
Director	Al Douglass	651-492-4219
Director	Dean Nelson	651-785-5245
Director	OPEN	
Past President	Harvey Taipale	651-280-7332

Newsletter Editorial Staff

Mary Beth Ruhland clubnewsltr@vipclubmn.org

PERIODIC SOCIAL GROUPS

Monthly Breakfast Gathering

- **1st Thursday**, 8 a.m. – **Capitol View Cafe**, 637 Smith Ave., **St. Paul** (corner of Smith and Baker). 651-222-2435

Monthly Lunch Gatherings

- **1st Tuesday Engineering Luncheon**, 11:00 a.m. – **Casper's Cherokee of Eagan**, 4625 Nicols Rd. (off Cliff Rd.) **Keith Behnke**: 651-587-2591.
- **2nd Tuesday**, 11:30 a.m. (Unisys/Burroughs group) – **Mall of America** 3rd floor North Food Court
Paul Wennerstrom: 952-854-7855.

CLUB CONTACT DATA

CBI Liaison; Lowell Benson, la.gj.benson@comcast.net
Golf Leagues; Keith Behnke, keithbhk@comcast.net
Lawshe Museum Support:

- Exhibits: Keith Myhre, kmyhre@lightblast.net
- Photo ID work: Les Nelson, lnelson46@gmail.com;
Bob Pagac, rpagac@hotmail.com;
and Jon Simon, jcsimon1st@aol.com

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