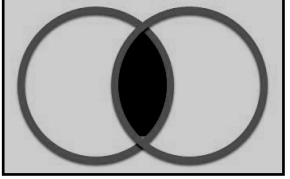


# NewsLetter



**Newsletter Team:**  
E. Foote, M. Hall, E. Kliem,  
W. Rosen

## Polaroid Retirees Association

July – September  
2020

THIS PUBLICATION IS SOLELY FOR THE USE OF THE PRA MEMBERSHIP  
POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. BOX 541395, WALTHAM, MA 02454-1395  
WEB SITE ADDRESS [WWW.POLAROIDRETIRES.ORG](http://WWW.POLAROIDRETIRES.ORG) EMAIL— [NEWSLETTERPRA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NEWSLETTERPRA@GMAIL.COM)

### *Letter from the President*

Dear PRA Members,

I hope this letter finds you feeling well, staying safe, testing negative and being positive.

As this *Newsletter* goes to the printer, we are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. We cancelled our May Luncheon and postponed our Business Meeting. Our Board of Directors sessions are held via Skype as members follow the stay-at-home guidelines, and our fingers are crossed for a world safe enough for us to see each other at The Lantana in October.

You will find the registration form for the Luncheon on page 11. When they learned we canceled our May gathering, the Direct Federal Credit Union Board of Directors and CEO offered again to provide funding for all members to attend free of charge in October. We appreciate their generosity very, very much. Please expect the best and sign up; we'll contact you in September if we cannot hold the luncheon safely. Thank you DFCU!

In this *Newsletter* Dr. Warren Kantrowitz reminds us of the extraordinary work of Polaroid's Medical Department and lets us know what Life After Polaroid has been like for the staff of assistants, nurses and doctors that worked hard for us. Ed Byrnes shares memories of a "business" trip, and Jim Murphy tells of an encounter that has stayed with him for decades. You'll find some "Life Afters" as well.

The PRA Board of Directors has openings for members who would enjoy the work of finding ways to meet the association's purpose of bringing former Polaroid employees together to share experiences, stay in touch with former colleagues and make new friends. Particularly useful to the Board right now are skills in Word and Excel, but most important is the desire to serve the organization's community. (It's fun, too.)

I can't leave this letter without talking about the horrors of these past months. In the midst of the pandemic, we are facing our country's legacy of inequality, violence and injustice that is a part of Black American lives. As we hear frightening news and see visual evidence each day, we look for ways we can do better, make a difference, look for and act on ways that can root out the racism in our legal and social systems. This is difficult. This is painful.

What I *can* do is speak up. I *can* listen. I *can* vote. I *can* do a better job of welcoming Black former employees to the PRA. I *can* urge the PRA Black members to join the Board of Directors or find other ways to influence the PRA so we can learn and grow.

Many of the marchers are young and ready to see change happen. I'm hopeful as I see communities coming together, police departments making changes, and voters demanding we honor our American values. We can all hope for a better future together. George Floyd and countless others have paid to make us do better. We *can* do it.

Please stay safe,  
Elizabeth Foote, *Polaroid Retirees Association President*

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## ***Life After Polaroid: The Medical Department by Warren Kantrowitz***

PRA Member **Warren Kantrowitz** and the Medical Department staff reached many of us during our years at Polaroid. Some of us can say confidently that we wouldn't be here today without that amazing group. Here Warren shares memories and the stories of the Medical Department's "Life After Polaroid."

While I only overlapped with Polaroid founder, Dr. Edwin H. Land for four months prior to his retirement, his philosophy and care for his employees set the tone for a corporate culture that was powerfully unique and impactful long after his departure. Because of Dr. Land, "failure" was not a bad word. Being creative, thinking "out of the box" and experimenting were all greatly appreciated. The Medical Department inherited this philosophy and practiced by it until the closure of Polaroid.

Way before it was common, Polaroid was one of the first corporations to establish a Medical Department for the care and benefit of its employees. In alignment with Dr. Land's genius mind, this element of a caring company ultimately enhanced its success.

The Polaroid Medical Department was equal or superior to many small hospitals and clinics. It was staffed with full time physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. We also had specialized board-certified medical specialists in radiology, dermatology, blood diseases and orthopedics on weekly visits and consultation.

The budget was based on "employee care" rather than on profit or return on investment.

Screening of Polaroid employees for occult diseases and cancers became a specialty of the Medical Department. We arranged for a mobile mammography unit to come to Polaroid and every woman over 40 was offered the test free of charge. Women who had the mammography with their own health care providers and the on-site testing program resulted in an astounding 98% of Polaroid women experiencing the test. It was recognized to such a degree that I was invited by first lady Barbara Bush to a luncheon at the White House along with other physicians who had made an impact on the health of employees in a workplace setting.

In addition, every male Polaroid employee over the age of 50 was offered a prostate cancer PSA blood screening test. Twelve hundred employees voluntarily participated in the screening. We arranged for a urologist specializing in

prostate cancer to come to the Medical Department and consult with those who had tests above the normal range. Ultimately, we were able to find hidden and occult prostate cancer in 12 employees that allowed them to receive care at possibly an earlier stage of their disease.

Screenings were conducted to detect bowel cancer by stool blood test packets for all employees. The dermatologists offered cancer screening for all those concerned about an abnormal-looking skin lesion. All women were offered bone density studies. In addition, an extensive blood study was undertaken to determine a condition called hemochromatosis or overload of the body with iron stores. Multiple employees were picked up with this condition and were able to participate in life saving treatment.

Polaroid's Medical Department became the main clinical rotation for the Harvard School of Public Health. Multiple students rotated through Polaroid's Medical Department to achieve practical experience in the care of patients and to study the approach to workplace public health.

Education was constantly emphasized within the Medical Department. All staff participated in in-house educational activities while also attending state and national medical and nursing occupational medicine conferences and programs. The Polaroid medical staff was invited to lecture at the national conference for the College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine on the method to conduct workplace safety and health inspection in the workplace. In addition, I presented at the Mass. Medical Society's annual conference about screening for prostate cancer in the workplace. Polaroid was the cutting edge of excellence of health screening of their employees.

The reputation, the philosophy, the work ethic and the caring nature of the department allowed Polaroid medical employees to achieve meaningful positions after the company closed its doors.

I am proud to share their achievements.

**Dr. John Doyle** was recruited and became the Occupational Medical Director and participated at the employee health clinic at Tufts Medical Center.

**Dr. John Semeraro** looked after Polaroid's Reservoir site. He arranged for Nicole Johnson, Miss America 1999, who lived with Type 1 diabetes to come to Polaroid. Ms. Johnson toured several plants and met with many employees, especially those with diabetes. Dr. Semeraro retired after leaving Polaroid.

**Dr. Dianne Parrott** became the Occupational Medical Director at the Bath Shipyard and Iron Corporation in Maine. Polaroid's medical department became well known for its role in modifying the workplace so employees with disabilities could return to work.

**Dr. Louis Sullivan**, who left Polaroid long before it closed, medically covered the Polaroid building at 640 Memorial Drive. He then went on to become the Surgeon General, head of "Health and Human Services" for the United States.

*continued from page 2*

**Dr. Uma Dhanabalen** has become an internationally recognized authority on medical cannabis and is sought after for her expertise as a lecturer on the subject. She recently received recognition by the Massachusetts Medical Society for her work in this field.

**Dr. Howard Frumkin** rotated through the Medical Department from the Harvard School of Medicine. He also worked part time covering the Norwood plant. Dr. Frumkin is professor emeritus of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences at the University of Washington School of Public Health where he served as Dean from 2010-2016. He is an internist, environmental and occupational medicine specialist and epidemiologist who has worked in academia and public service. Dr. Frumkin and I published several medical papers together.

**Dr. Kathryn Hayward** worked at the Cambridge medical site and went on to Massachusetts General Hospital and has been a practicing internist with an expertise in integrative health. She presently lives in Spain. In 2004, Kathryn created a private integrative health practice, *Odyssey Journey: A collaborative Approach to Wellness* ([www. Odysseyjourney.com](http://www.Odysseyjourney.com)), which brings together what she regards as the four disciplines that comprise integrative health (conventional medicine, movement, food and mind body/spirit disciplines).

**Dr. Mort Greenberg**, a regular consultant, was an internist and hematologist at Mt. Auburn Hospital.

**Mary Donahue R.N.** did not work professionally after leaving Polaroid but became a volunteer in the community. She has continued to leave her mark on the care of patients by making “chemo hats” for children who receive chemotherapy and X-ray treatment.

**Corinne Hart R.N.** worked at Polaroid for 13 years after spending 30 years at Waltham Hospital. She happily retired after the company closed and, except for volunteering, has not pursued employment.

**Julie Young** one of our department’s Administrative Assistants, continued her career at Newton Wellesley Hospital where she held positions as Unit Coordinator of the cardiac floor, Staffing Office Coordinator and recently Control Desk Coordinator of the radiology department.

**Diane Boudrot** was one of the department’s Radiology Technicians and after Polaroid became a Radiology Mammographer at Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

**Siobhan O’Flaherty** left Polaroid to become a Medical Secretary at Lahey Clinic. She subsequently worked at Winchester Hospital where she was Administrative Assistant to the Director of Surgical Services. She presently works as an Administrative Assistant for Wilmington Middle School. She is very proud that her two children have both become nurses.

**Debra Tirell**, a Senior Executive Assistant joined the staff at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center working in their admitting center. She presently is the Practice Manager for the Stewart Medical Group-Newton Primary Care.

**Cynthia Hamlet R.N.** one of our New Bedford plant nurses went on to work for South Coast VNA after Polaroid and presently is a nurse for Coastline Elderly Services.

**Leanne O’Connell R.N.** worked for 21 years at the Reservoir site as a site nurse. After leaving Polaroid she worked for a short period in an internist office and has now retired. She currently puts her energy into interacting with her children and grandchildren.

**Laraine Langston** went on to an employment at a nursing home in charge of activities and teaching current events. She is the very proud mother of her outstanding children several who have become well known college basketball players.

**Gail Serra** from the administrative staff at the Reservoir had an illustrious post-Polaroid life. She became the administrative support for the president and CEO of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and then took on an administrative support role for the Office of Provost at Northeastern University.

**Lucille Maregni**, who held the position as my Office Manager in Cambridge and then Waltham, held significant positions after leaving the company. She was recruited by Tufts Medical Center and, following that position, she took a role with the Development Office of the Massachusetts General Hospital. She ended her professional career as a Practice Manager for a cataract and glaucoma specialist and surgeon at Ophthalmic Consultants of Boston.

*And of himself, Warren Kantrowitz says,* Because of Polaroid’s reputation regarding long term and short term care of employees who became ill, I was recruited to be a physician at Raytheon Corporation’s Andover plant. Except for teaching at Boston University’s Medical School, I ended my active patient care medical career by working at the Boston Medical Center employee clinic.

*continued from page 3*

### Original Research **that emanated from the Polaroid Medical Department:**

Frumkin H., Kantrowitz W., Cancer clusters in the workplace: an approach to investigation  
J Occ Env Med. 1987; 29(12): 949-952

Frumkin H., Horowitz M., Jabre J., Payton M., Kantrowitz W., An investigation of a workplace cluster of Bell 's palsy. J Occup Med. 1992; 34(11): 1064-1070

Kantrowitz W., Doyle J., Semerano J., Krane R.J., Prostate cancer screening in a large corporation population. J Occ Env Med. 1995; 37 (10): 1193-1198

Smith B.N., Kantrowitz W., et al. Prevalence of Hereditary Hemochromatosis in a Massachusetts Corporation: Is Celtic Origin a Risk Factor? Hepatology 1997; 25: 1439-1446

In planning for this article, I asked the past medical staff to answer the following question: "What did you go on to after Polaroid?" Many of the respondents spontaneously stated that Polaroid was the best job and position they ever held during their professional years. Several mentioned that the philosophy, culture and work environment of Polaroid could not be matched at other companies.

The Medical Department was permeated with kindness, compassion, understanding, and selflessness and fostered these qualities towards caring for Polaroid employees.

**Warren Kantrowitz, MD**

### **Memories of Otto Wolff by Peggie Prebensen**

Otto Wolff (VP & Engineering Fellow) was a close friend and contemporary of Dr. Land. He used to drop by Osborn frequently. Otto used to take turns inviting Barbara Walsh and me out for lunch. It was sweet of him because he knew that Barbara and I (like most of the back-lab crowd) always ate in the office to maintain coverage of phones, etc. He would swing by and pick us up in his beautiful red corvette (we were kids and Otto was in his 70's.) He was great fun and always had fascinating stories from the old days. He was there from the beginning.

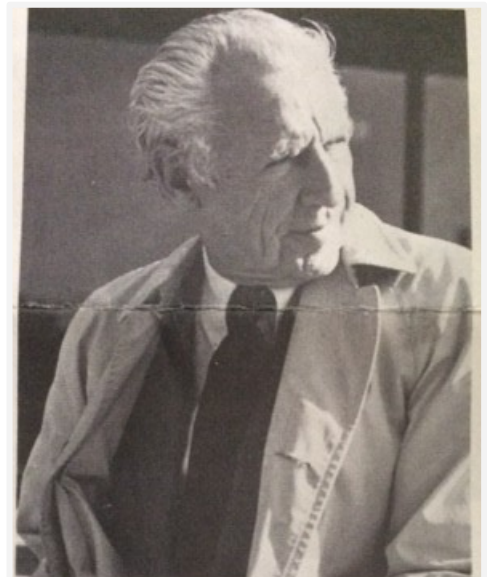
Otto once told me that early on Dr. & Mrs. Land invited him to accompany them on a cruise to Bermuda. They were young and Otto was still single. After observing EHL standing at the railing twisting his head in various contortions, a woman passenger approached Mrs. Land to ask what malady her husband had that made him move his neck that way.

Otto was laughing as he explained to me that EHL was intent on watching the dolphins frolic in the surf through his polarized material. Dr. Land never stopped observing and experimenting, even when he was supposed to be relaxing.

One of my favorite tales was from Doris Wolff whom I met a few years later. She explained how she and Otto finally got married. Doris also worked for Polaroid in the very early days. Dr. Land used to ask her to order lunch for his colleagues and himself from the local Rexall Drug store lunch counter. Dr. Land was known for not carrying money, and in those days, he probably didn't have much anyway.

One day, Doris told him that he owed her quite a bit for fronting the luncheon tab.....but before he could answer, she told him, "Don't worry about the money, I am taking Otto, instead!"

They were a lovely couple and married forever.



*"Back in 1933, I was teaching at M.I.T. when a colleague of mine from Harvard approached me saying he'd like me to meet a bright young student of his by the name of Land who was doing some wonderful things with sheet Polarizers." Otto Wolff, Vice President, Engineering (565TS) officially joined the Company in 1937.*

**From *The Polaroid Newsletter*, January 21, 1972 courtesy of Ann Tennis**

## A Day at the Beach by Ed Byrnes

*Ed shares another wonderful memory from his years with Polaroid. Thank you, Ed!*

In April of 1972, Polaroid introduced a magical new instant picture SLR camera called the SX-70. The leather-bound camera became an instant must-have. Adding to its hype was LIFE magazine's cover photo of Dr. Land taking professional full spectrum color pictures with his new, unique SX-70 camera. In addition to offering picture perfect images, the camera had another advanced design feature. When closed, it would fit in your pocket, a first for instant photo cameras.

Before proceeding to "A Day at the Beach", we must go back in time to October 1, 1951. That was my first day of employment at Polaroid. My new supervisor Dr. Schurcliff handed over a heavy leather wrapped object and asked me to open it. It was a camera, the model 95, similar to conventional folding cameras of the time. However, it had one unique difference...it ejected instant pictures! Well, instant in the sense of 3-5 minutes to full development, but compared to days or weeks for conventional photography, instant was an appropriate description. It was at that precise moment that I realized that Polaroid, although internationally renowned for polarizing sunglasses and other products, would become famous for instant photography. Move over Kodak, there was a new kid on the block.

Like many developing technologies, Polaroid's unique roll films required many iterations before achieving design specifications. By way of example, the first roll film was of sepia technology. It was shortly followed by black and white films that unfortunately required a second step; one of coating the surface of each photograph for archival reasons. The task was accomplished by including in each roll of film a lipstick-shaped container that had a small squeegee containing a viscous waxy liquid. Once developed, the print had to be quickly squeegeed which was far simpler said than accomplished. A tragic opera could be scored over print coating issues. Those ranged from prints curling, sticking together, coating surfaces vandalized by the chemistry of the coating liquid and lastly, dermatological hand issues encountered by many photographers.

Fortunately, Polaroid's initial film problems were short lived, and the company quickly brought forth an array of

Instant films (no print coating required) and camera platforms (medium format, 4x5, 8x10, etc.) that the world of photography seemingly never knew they needed until so presented.

The Land Camera Co, a sobriquet of the late 40's, definitely impacted visual communications of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and it rose to become one of the most recognized corporations in the world. Thus, it was into this world that Dr. Land introduced his visionary SX70 camera which, as one might expect, was received with fabulous acclaim.

Shortly after the SX70's introduction, Polaroid management decided to send its field sales reps and marketing staff to the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara for a 3-day tutorial. A tutorial of "what" was never explained in any detail. However, it quickly became obvious that a

sympiotic relationship between Professional and Instant Photography could exist and be profitable to both. Such opportunities were quickly explored and acted upon.

On the third day, all Polaroid personnel attending "Brooks" rose and set forth to Malibu for a day at the beach. Brooks had setup a series of photo stations along the beach, staffed with models attired in attractive swimsuits. They each had different themes for various format cameras. It was to be a day of hands-on photographic experience for the sales and marketing teams. The photographic beach bazaar quickly attracted the local surfers, all of whom wanted their picture taken,

and requests were so granted.

The SX70 photo station was extremely popular with the men, as the bikini clad models were allegedly rated by Lloyds of London as a level "10". Perhaps it was the hot sun that affected the few critics who suggested a far higher rating was in need. Apparently, they held a deeper perspective of visual provocativeness and beauty that others could not see nor appreciate.

As the sun slowly set that day across the peaceful waters of Malibu Bay, the photo stations were taken down and "A Day at the Beach" came to an historical end. All the participants went their separate ways with warm memories and a clutch of mildly provocative photos tucked safely away.





## In Memoriam

Find more complete obituaries at [www.polaroidretirees.org](http://www.polaroidretirees.org)



**Amirault, Barbara A.**, Concord, NH, 4/6/20 was the wife of the late F. Richard, mother of Rick and Debbie, grandmother of five, and great-grandmother of eight. She enjoyed sewing, painting, ceramics, reading and watching sporting events.

**Balcomb, Theodore, "Ted"**, Pinellas Park FL, 4/17/20 was the husband of Nancy, father of Joshua and Mark, and grandfather of three. Ted was Vice President of the IT Department (Waltham), who implemented and supported SAP. He was fond of the beach, loved sports, fishing and reading.



**Buckley, William R.**, 88, Pembroke, 2/24/20 was the husband of Rina, father of William, and grandfather of three. William served in the U.S. Air Force (Korean War).

He enjoyed fly fishing and ran the photo studio at the Museum of Fine Arts.



**Burgess, Robert F.**, 80, Framingham, was the husband of Kathleen, father of Kathleen, Nancy, Linda and Diane, and grandfather of nine. He served in the U.S. Navy.

He enjoyed travelling, reading and attending family sporting events.



**Calvin, Charles N.**, Lincoln, 5/8/20 was the husband of the late Cynthia, father of James, Keith, Paige and Jane, and grandfather of seven. He served in the U.S.

Army. He told great stories about working with Ansel Adams and Yousuf Karsh when they visited Polaroid. He loved woodworking, sharing knowledge and teaching computer education.



**Castaneda, Mario E.**, 61, Acton, 3/21/20 was the husband of Cathy, and father of David, Mark and Peter. Mario loved the outdoors and enjoyed all that nature has to offer.



**Costa, Peter**, 74, Winthrop, 5/22/20 was the husband of Donna, father of Jessica, nephew of Aunt Girlie, and son-in-law of Rose. Peter loved the ocean and loved to sail. Peter is credited with having over 50 patents. He was a Principal of Owl Engineering. The Trocar, an instrument widely used today in non-invasive surgery, is one of Peter's patents. He was a member of the PRA.



**Crockett, Robert C.**, "Bob", 83, Winchester, 5/12/20 was the husband of Maryann, and father of Amy and Jennifer. He served in the U.S. Navy. Bob was an Engineer. He loved hiking, camping, fishing and blueberry picking and travelled around the world to Australia four times, Europe, New Zealand, Mongolia, China, the Baltic countries and Canada.



**deLima, Richard F.**, 89, Cohasset, 4/18/20 was the husband of Sarah, father of Jane, Jonathan, Kate and Caroline, and grandfather of eight. He served in the U.S. Navy.

Dick became General Counsel and Vice President (Cambridge). Dick studied jazz piano, sang bass in various choirs and relished attending concerts by ace performers.

**Devin, Francis X.**, 90, Framingham, 4/30/20 was the husband of Anne, father of Thomas, Gregory, Therese and Timothy, and grandfather of seven. He served in the U.S. Army. Frank enjoyed reading, and doting on his grandchildren. He was a member of the PRA.



**DeWolfe, James J., Sr.**, 83, Hudson, was the husband of Dorothy and Mildred, father of James, Joseph, John, Julie, Jerry, Peggy, Donald and Robert, grandfather of sixteen, and great grandfather of four. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was a Manager of Film Production. Jim will be remembered for his ready smile, love of

family and willingness to help anyone in need. He was a member of the PRA.



**Femino, Peter "Pete" G., Jr.**, 76, 10/13/19, Round Rock, Texas, was the husband of Sun Im "Suki", father of Janet and Jason, and grandfather of Reid. Pete served as a Captain in the U.S. Army (Korea). He was a Security Professional and Locksmith. He served as Assistant Scoutmaster and earned the District Award of Merit and the Silver Beaver Award. Pete had many life-long friends. He was a member of the PRA.

**Gelenian, Alice**, 89, Belmont, 4/18/20 was the sister-in-law of Maryann, aunt and great-aunt of Andrea, Ara, Sarah and John. She was a Buyer. Her favorite things were to talk to her friends on the phone, enjoy a good meal, watch TV and relax on her back porch. She was a member of the PRA.



**Gill, Ronald "Ron" E.**, 85, Charlotte, North Carolina, 4/16/20 was the husband of the late Loyce, father of Stephen, Kenneth and Shauna, grandfather of Deion, Lauren and DeVaughn. Ron was a Graphic Designer who designed the packaging for the SX-70 Instant Camera. He was producer of a jazz radio show and accomplished singer.



**Hall, David Calvin**, 77, of Randolph, and Tennessee, 3/18/20 was the companion of Maryann, father of Julieann, David, Barbara Ann, Anthony and John, grandfather of ten, and great-grandfather of seven.

He served in the U.S. Navy (Vietnam Era). He was a Quality Supervisor/Engineering Technical Specialist (Norwood, Cambridge & Waltham). He loved to fish, garden, watch TV and go to the Casino. He was a great conversationalist and lover of American Indian history. He was a member of the PRA.



## In Memoriam



**Hamann, Gary W.**, 78, Naples, Florida. 4/17/20 was the husband of the late Joan, father of Elizabeth, Amy and his late son Paulie, and grandfather of three. Gary was a

Manufacturing Engineer (Camera Division, Norwood), and a Senior Director of Electronics Imaging Systems. Gary enjoyed boating with friends, golfing and woodworking. He was a member of the PRA.

**Harrigan, John, "Jack"**, Somerville, 91, 4/11/20 was the husband of Teresa, father of Linda, and grandfather of Darius. He loved fishing and spending summers at Newfound Lake, NH.



**Healy, John P.**, 88, Plainville, 3/2/20 was the father of Ruth and Charlene, and grandfather and great-grandfather of six. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran

(Korean War) and a member of the Merchant Marines. He was a Security Guard. He enjoyed collecting things and was known as the "Bread Man" at the Plainville Senior Center.



**Hunt, Rodney C.**, 90, Marblehead, 5/4/20 was the husband of Kathryn, father of Stephen and Amanda, and grandfather of four. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps

(Korean War). Rodney was an Architectural Project Engineer. He was an avid sailor, enjoyed tennis and swam into his early 80s.

**Kerr, Lawrence A. "Lonnie"**, 85, Framingham, 4/28/20 was the husband of Irene, father of Shawn, Sandra and the late Kristine. He served in the U.S. Army (Korean Conflict). He was a Pipefitter (Waltham). He enjoyed playing golf including the Kerr Open at Lake Morey.

**Knowles, June A.**, 91, 9/20/19 was the sister of the late Jean. She was a Legal Secretary.

**LaRocque, Robert C.** "Bob", 79, Yarmouthport, 4/30/20 was the husband to Linda and Elizabeth, father of Rich-



ard, Mark, Christopher, Connor and Devin. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a Business Manager and also served as Chairman of the Employee Committee. Bob was an avid Boston sports fan and enjoyed travelling to Florida and Aruba.

**Lynch, James, "Jim"**, 76, Billerica, 4/8/20 was the husband of Donna and father of Donnie and Julie. He was a Machine Shop Supervisor in R2-2. Jim was a member of the Billerica Rod & Gun Club. He was a member of the PRA.



**McDonald, Roy S.**, 66, Somerville, 3/20/20 was the husband of Kelly, father of Amy, Roy, Stephen and Kaitlyn, and grandfather of three. He was an IM Consultant (Data Center, Waltham & Cambridge. He loved taking family vacations to Disney World, Rockport, The Beacon and Indian Head in New Hampshire, and countless other destinations.

**McHugh, Thomas J.**, 83, Winthrop, 3/24/20 was the husband of Nancy, father of Thomas, Joanne, Maureen, Christine, and Brian, and grandfather of eight. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps. Tom always had his camera available and was ready to go to family gatherings, functions, the Cottage Park Yacht Club or anywhere.



**McLellan, Maxine G.**, 93, Waltham, 3/17/20 was the wife of James, mother of Lorinda, grandmother of three, and great-grandmother of two. She loved traveling to her native Maine, Wells and Ogunquit. She was a member of the PRA.



**Merritt, Vincent B.**, 80, Raynham, 4/20/20 was the husband of Adelle, father of Keith and Kevin, and grandfather of two. He served in the U.S. Army (Vietnam). Vincent worked as a Production Supervisor, (Norwood). He was very involved with the Raynham Youth Soccer Program.



**Mills, Harvey J.**, Somerville, 80, 12/24/19 was the husband of the late Lorraine, father of Gary and the late Laureen, grandfather of five, and great-grandfather of three. Harvey was a proud left-handed pitcher who was drafted by the Brooklyn Dodgers in the 1950s. He was a member of the PRA.



**Moore, Paul W.**, 61, 4/15/20, Wrentham was the husband of Marlene, father of Chris and Courtney, and grandfather of Jayce. He was a Pipefitter. Paul was an avid sports fan and enjoyed trying his luck at Foxwoods Resort and Casino in Connecticut.



**Nagy, Paul J.**, 83, Charlottesville, VA, 5/3/20 was the brother of John, Tom, Christine, Eric and Tim, grandfather of two, and former spouse of

Martha. He was a Photographic Chemist in Cambridge. A highlight of his musical life took place at the age of 17, when he performed as a soloist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra where his father played violin.

**O'Brien, Paul W.**, 80, Rockland, 4/9/20 was husband of Margaret, father of Erin, Conor, Emma, Kevin and Keith.



He was part of the team that made the first color negative that Polaroid ever sold. He was an avid Boston sports fan.



**O'Connell, David M.**, 85, Watertown, 3/31/20 was the husband of the late Joan, father of Karen, Kevin, Timothy, and Claire, and grandfather of thirteen. He

served in the U.S. Marine Corps (Korean War). David was a General Supervisor of Film Production (Waltham). He founded the Polaroid social group "The Cementheads". He enjoyed tending to his yard, having a cold beer listening to the chirping crickets on summer nights, going for a run and playing poker.

## In Memoriam



**Odence, Thelma T.**, 83, Norwood, 4/23/20 was the sister of Ken, cousin to Joel, Charlene and many others. Thelma made valuable contributions as a Quality Assurance Auditor (Norwood).



**Orciuch, John J.**, 74, Wareham, 5/19/20 was the father of Julie, Elizabeth, Melanie and Tara, and grandfather of nine. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea (Vietnam Era). He was a Chemical Engineer.



**Pedroli, Walter E.**, 95, Bedford, 5/16/20 was the husband of the late Frances, and uncle to Carol, Marjorie, Janice, Eleanor, Virginia and Kathleen. He served in WWII. Walter was a Design Engineer and a Manufacturing Plant Manager in the Sesame Division. He was an avid fan of all Boston sports teams, enjoyed playing golf, designing and creating stained art objects, and traveling. He was a member of the PRA.



**Ramsey, LaVerne D.**, 83, Birmingham, AL, 5/25/20 was the wife of William, sister to Ronald, and aunt of many. She journeyed to the headwaters of the Peruvian Amazon, slept in a yurt in Mongolia, braved high seas going to Antarctica and traveled to Tanzania and Kenya on safari.

**Roedel, Frederick C.**, 78, Hingham, 4/28/20 was the husband of Kate, father of Cal and Edward and grandfather of six. He served in the U.S. Army (Vietnam) and was awarded a Purple

Heart. He remained a faithful Michigan Collegiate Sports and Boston Celtics fan and always preferred to watch with a cat in his lap.

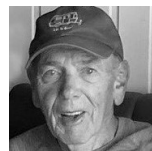


**Rogan, Jr. Daniel J.**, 86, Falmouth, 3/25/20, was the husband of Maria, father of Stephen, Kathleen, Jennifer and Christine, and grandfather of ten. He served in the U.S. Air Force (Korean War). He was a Draftsman (Waltham). Daniel was deeply religious and had a heart for helping others.



**Roman, Edward S.**, 76, Topsfield, 4/18/20 was the husband of Christine, father of Meredith and Heather and grandfather of five. He retired as Chief Patent Counsel. Ed had a curious mind, and was an avid historian and engaging storyteller. He treasured family weekends at their vacation home on Long Lake in Maine. He was a member of the PRA.

**Sanwald, Robert V.**, 94, Hopkinton, 4/24/20 was the husband of the late Mary, father of Linda, Nancy and Tracey, grandfather of six, and great-grandfather of five. He served in the U.S. Army Air Forces (WWII). He was a Principal Mechanical Engineer (Waltham). He enjoyed snowmobiling, gem mining, antiques, clock and watch collecting, and an occasional trip to the casino.



**Stanley, John D., "Jack"**, Burlington, 4/4/20 was the husband of Dorothy, father of Paula, Christine, David, Mark and Derek, and grandfather of eight. He served in the U.S. Air Force (Korean War). He worked in Film Production. Jack loved building planes

from kits, flying them and playing pool. He was a member of the PRA.

**Thompson, William J.**, "Uncle Billy", Weymouth, 3/19/20 was the brother of James, Anne, Joseph, Claire and the late Patrick, John and Gerald, brother-in-law of Anne Marie, and uncle to many nieces and nephews. He was a U.S. Army Veteran (Vietnam). He was a Tradesman. Bill enjoyed summers at his Buena Vista Shores Cottage in Lakeville, watching baseball, golfing, fishing, bowling, gardening and time spent relaxing at the beach.

**Trivisano, Vincent, 'Vinnie'**, 92, Waltham, 3/20/20 was the husband of Olga, father of Luisa, Maria, and grandfather of four. He was a Chemical Lab Technician in the Film Department. He was an expert chef and took great pride in his garden full of lush vegetables and his specialty, tomatoes.



**Whelan, Kenneth V.**, 79, Duxbury, 2/27/20 was the husband of Kathleen, father of Sean, Shane and Kenneth. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard. Kenneth was an Electrician (Waltham). Donned with his blue Voit fins, he enjoyed long cold swims off Nantasket and Humarock and had a knack for catching the biggest Cod on the charters out of Gloucester and Plymouth.

**Wise, Sereta A.**, 79, Virginia Beach, 5/16/19 was the mother of Antoinette, Sonjia, Edward and Zenobia, grandmother of 16, and great-grandmother of two. She was a Supervisor.

*"The essential characteristic of our country is a violent, vigorous, abiding, endless faith in the worthwhileness of life; in the deep and mystical resources existing both in each of us alone and in all of us together..."*

*Edwin H. Land 1963*



## Reconnecting

PRA member Bill Rosen led us to this lovely piece from *The Patriot Ledger* of May 26. Thanks, Bill.



**Madison Lipson at 10**

MILTON -- A few weeks ago (PRA Member) **Natalie Fultz**, 101, received a surprise letter in the mail from London, Ontario, Canada.

*"Dear Natalie," it began in very neat, small printing. "I know you might not remember me but my name is Madison Lipson. I was in Mrs. Detterman's 3rd grade class at the Tucker School. That year we were pen pals. For the entire year we had corresponded about the Pokemon I had named after you and your job at Polaroid. I had*

*the absolute pleasure of meeting you in the spring of of 2008 when our class visited the Milton Center for Aging. You were incredibly kind and well-spoken. That has stuck with me all these years."*

Fultz, who served as executive secretary to the late Edwin Land, cofounder of the Polaroid Corp., in Cambridge for 25 years, has been active in the town's Council on Aging since she retired in 1980, at age 62. In 2008, she was 89 and had been participating in the Intergenerational Pen Pal Program for 10 years. The seniors and the third graders exchanged hand-written letters every two weeks.

Fultz said at the time she liked the young students because "they are so smart, kids today. And in their letters, they don't treat us as elderly." In 2008, Madison told her about Pokemon, seeing a screech owl in school, her vacations, and asked if she had been a Girl Scout. After the school year ended, they lost touch.

The renewed correspondence came about because of coronavirus travel restrictions.

In March, Lipson, 21, was finishing her junior year at the University of Western Ontario and planning to return home to Milton for the summer and find a job. When the Canadian border was closed March 21 due to the virus and her roommates went to their homes in Canada, she was alone and at loose ends.

In an email to *The Patriot Ledger*, Lipson said she was lonely, had thought back to her childhood and warmly remembered Fultz, went online and read that she had celebrated her 101st birthday this past fall.

*"That made this entire quarantine a little easier to take. My thought is that if we all are lonely, we can at least be lonely together,"* Lipson wrote Fultz in her April 26 letter.

Describing herself as no longer a "cheeky nine-year-old," Lipson wrote she is majoring in international relations (political science and history) and Spanish and hopes to go to law school.

*"I am stuck in Canada, away from my family who are at home in Milton," she wrote to Fultz. "Some days are harder than others since there is little to do. I have to figure out how to occupy myself as if I were a child. Writing to you has provided some solace. But enough about me - how are you? I look forward to hopefully hearing from you and hope you are safe and healthy in times like this.*

*All the best, Madison."*

This past Saturday, Fultz wrote a reply and then typed it on her computer.

*"What a lovely surprise to receive your letter," she wrote. "It brought back so many pleasant thoughts of when we were pen pals. I am sorry you are locked in by yourself in Canada."*

As for herself, Fultz wrote, *"I am 101 years old. I depend on a walker to get around so I have no problem getting where I want to go except now with all the restrictions I am mostly confined to home. In good times I am able to call the Milton Council on Aging if I have a doctor's appointment and they will drive me."*

During World War II, Fultz served as a member of the WAVES, Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, in the Navy from 1942-1945. In her letter, she also told Lipson that after she retired, she was a hospice volunteer for 15 years and helped in a children's bereavement program.

*"When you get home, I hope you will come and visit me,"* Fultz wrote.



**Madison & Natalie today**

## ***A Story I Never Forgot by Jim Murphy***

Dr James Baker lived in Bedford, NH.

I happened to meet him in the men's room at 4 am in W1. Dr. Plummer moved us there from Osborn Street.

When I came to work at 3 am and saw a late to early (60s to 70s) Ford Sedan I was curious as who was the owner. I met him like I said in the bathroom and said, "Good morning. Boy, you're in early." He was dressed very neatly and wore a sports jacket and tie so I knew he probably had something to do with Dr. Plumber and was in early to prepare his work.

After some chitchat about that car I asked, "Where do you live?" He responded with Bedford, NH, and I replied, "That's quite a ride. How come so far away?" His response was, "Because Bedford, New Hampshire, is out of the Nuclear Ring."

Dr James Baker was instrumental in the development of the all of the Optics for the U2 Spy Plane "SR-71."

I was floored.

I now live in Bedford, New Hampshire.

Dr. Baker was a Harvard astronomy professor and expert in telescope design when he worked on Dr. Land's team in the 1940s to develop the U2's high powered lens design. He experimented with 3 main variables—curvature, refraction and the distance between lens components—to capture an image that was 4 times sharper than the best long-range cameras then available.

Dr. Baker worked with Dr. Land on other projects and joined his old friend in the 1960s to assist in the lens design for the prototype of the SX-70. Dr. Land called that first prototype the "U-2."

From *A Brotherhood of Spies: The U-2 and the CIA's Secret War*  
by Monte Reel



## ***New PRA Members***

**Welcome!** We hope your Life After Polaroid has been rewarding. Please let us know what you've been up to.

**Richard Corriero** of Malden, **David Cronin** of Danvers, **Stephen Hawley** of Sarasota, Florida, **Leo Lechtenberg** of East Falmouth, **Joseph Manning** of Hull, **Zelma March** of Dorchester, **Irving Martel** of Leesburg, Florida, **Clarence Tucker** of Cranston, Rhode Island

## ***Note from Jerry Fefferman***



With many activity restrictions still in effect here in Palm Beach County, I took the opportunity to go through the thousands of slides that I have collected over the years. I found one that fits in the nostalgia category.

The enclosed photo is a print of a scan of the slide. Written on the cardboard mount was my title, "C'est Magie, the Polaroid Man, 1962."

I took the photo while on vacation in Nice in 1962 (my second year working for Polaroid). I saw the photographer following the mother and her son in an attempt to make a sale. He convinced them, and took the photo. I waited to photograph their reaction when the magic of instant photos was revealed. The camera was a Polaroid 110A Pathfinder.

Best regards,  
Jerry Fefferman

## Sign Up for the Fall Luncheon - October 21, 2020

As this Newsletter goes to press, the presence of the COVID-19 pandemic makes our October gathering uncertain. If you register but we cannot meet, we will notify you. See [polaroidretirees.org](http://polaroidretirees.org) and the Q4 Newsletter for updates as they occur. With optimism we plan to see you there.

### PRA FALL LUNCHEON THE LANTANA RESTAURANT, RANDOLPH, MA WEDNESDAY, October 16, 2019

9:30 - 11:00 am **Registration - Coffee & Pastries**

11:00 am **Guest Speaker: Bob Perry**

12 noon **Cash Bar - Social Hour**

1 pm **Seated for Lunch**

☛☛☛ **FREE** for PRA Members ☛☛☛  
\$25 for non-members  
**Thank you**  
**DIRECT FEDERAL CREDIT UNION!**

#### **Entrée Selections**

**Chicken Florentine:** Pan Seared Chicken Breast with Spinach, Crimini Mushrooms in a Garlic Cream Sauce  
**or**  
**Boston Baked Cod :** Served with a New England Ritz Cracker Topping on a Bed of Rice Pilaf

Chef's Choice of Vegetable & Breads; Classic Caesar Salad, Apple Crisp, Coffee or Tea

Enclose your check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 per guest.

Name Desired on Name Tag	Chicken	Fish	Other*

*\*The Lantana will make every effort to honor your request for a special meal. Please note vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, etc., in the box above.*

If bringing a guest, make checks payable to: **Polaroid Retirees Association, Inc.** and mail **with the reservation form** above to: **Jim Mitcheson, 181 Acushnet Rd, Mattapoisett, MA 02739.**

**Please note:** We will be unable to offer refunds for reservations cancelled after **Wednesday, October 14.** In the event of an emergency after then, please call **Jim Mitcheson at 508-985-8284.**

**Bob Perry** is the Executive Director of the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation. The Museum explores the roles of Waltham and the area in the American Industrial Revolution. Polaroid's innovations figure prominently here. Bob's vast knowledge will inform and excite the audience. Come hear his stories.

