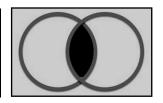


# NewsLetter



Newsletter Team: Mary McCann, Maryann Hall, Bill Rosen

# **Polaroid Retirees Association**

October - December 2024

THIS PUBLICATION IS SOLELY FOR THE USE OF THE PRA MEMBERSHIP POLAROID RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. BOX 541395, WALTHAM, MA 02454-1395 WEBSITE ADDRESS - WWW.POLAROIDRETIREES.ORG EMAIL - NEWSLETTERPRA@GMAIL.COM

#### President's Letter

Dear PRA Members,

Soon the 2024 Fall Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, October 16. It differs from the Spring Annual Meeting in several different aspects.

- It will be a buffet lunch.
- It is not subsidized by the Direct Federal Credit Union, as is the Spring Luncheon.
- There will be no business meeting.
- The location is in Norwood.
- There is **much more** time to socialize.

Time is short to sign up by mail for the Fall Buffet Lunch at The Chateau. If you have not registered by mail by October 9, Bob has suggested that members make reservations by the following steps:

- 1. **Register** names of attendees in an email to Bob Ruckstuhl at **praemail@comcast.net**.
- 2. **Email** the names in your party, your email address, and your telephone number.
- 3. **Bring t**o the luncheon a **payment check** (\$35 per person) made out to **Polaroid Retirees Association, Inc.** This is a *one-time change* in Luncheon Registration Procedure.

It is important that the Board of Directors know how well this approach is received by those attending. Please let us know!

- What did you like or dislike?
- Did you enjoy seeing your PRA colleagues?
- Do you have other ideas that you care to share?

Please return your responses to <u>PRAemail@comcast.net</u> and put "PRA Fall Luncheon Response" in the subject matter line. Those messages will get forwarded to me. I will summarize the responses in the following *Newsletter*.

Inflation has finally hit the PRA. As you know there is a modest increase in dues. This is necessary because expenses are greater than income. When you pay your dues, please feel free to contribute more than your actual dues. If you are a lifetime member, please consider a donation to the PRA.

Governance Committee – the last project for this committee is the rewriting of the association's By-Laws and Operating Procedures. Bob Ruckstuhl and Art Aznavorian have presented this rewrite for review to the rest of the BOD. When these documents are accepted by the full BOD, the Governance Commission will disband.

You may be surprised to realize that May 2025 is the 40th anniversary of the PRA. We hope to plan something special. We look forward to your suggestions!

Best Wishes for a great autumn,

Ruth Scanlan, President

Welcome New PRA Members!
William and Marie Smyth, Plymouth, MA
Tom and Julie Roughneen, Yarmouth Port, MA
Frederick Cole, New Bedford, MA

Board of Directors

Officers

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**Ruth Scanlan** 

Vice President

Don Foster

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Secretary

**Peter Clark** 

**Directors** 

Arthur Aznavorian

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Caren Friedman

**Touie Jackson** 

**Paul Lubin** 

Mary McCann

William Rosen

**Phil Souza** 

**Beau Stebbins** 

# "Opiker" Exhibit at MIT Museum

Jeannie Benton, Betsy Connors, Mary & John McCann

The MIT Museum's exhibit called "Optiker" opened in late June. Its press release wrote: "Stephen Benton (730 Main) called himself an "optiker" – someone who works at the intersection of light and vision – Benton innovated a new way to create holograms. His white-light transmission, or rainbow, holograms are viewable in the readily accessible light of a light bulb or the sun. Up to that point, most holograms required coherent laser illumination for viewing. Benton's invention injected energy into the field, opening new possibilities in imaging across scientific and commercial applications, and also created a new medium for artists to explore."

The MIT Museum presents Optiker, a hologram exhibit from June 28, 2024 - July 2025. This is a significant selection of key experimental holograms created by Benton and his collaborators at Polaroid between 1968 and viewers is its requirement for high intensity coherent laser 1978. This exhibit includes six of Steve's groundbreaking holograms donated to MIT by his wife Jeanne L. Benton (2 Osborn).

#### Steve at MIT and Polaroid

While an undergraduate at MIT, Steve made 3-D images in Harold "Doc" Edgerton's Lab. Edgerton was a professor of electrical engineering; father of microsecond flash photography; a founder of EG&G: and hunter of the Loch Ness Monster. Edgerton introduced Steve to Dr. Land, and Steve began his Polaroid research in 1961 parttime while an undergraduate. Jeannie Benton joined the Vision Research Lab in 1965.

In 1966, Steve attended a holography lecture in Cambridge, MA, by George Stokes, Un. Michigan. Steve had a laser, mirrors, and lenses, in his Polaroid lab. So he decided to try to make a hologram. Steve brought the laser to Dr. Land's projection room in 2 Osborn; while Jeannie Benton, Mary & John McCann, scrambled to find 55P/N negative film and processor back, tables, etc. A few hours after the end of Stokes's lecture, Steve made his first trial exposure; by midnight, he had made his first exploratory hologram using a very shaky optical apparatus.

Then Steve began the process of building Polaroid's state-of-the-art holography lab in the back basement of 730 Main around a massive floating optical bench. Many long exposure holograms were made after 2 am, when the MBTA T-trains stopped running. The Red Line runs down Main St., close to Steve's basement lab. In this lab he invented the "Rainbow Hologram" in 1968. He worked in 730 Main with Herb Mingace, Jean Marc Fournier, Will Houde-Walter, Bill Moltini, and Betsy Connors: Five of the holograms in MIT's Optiker exhibit were made there.

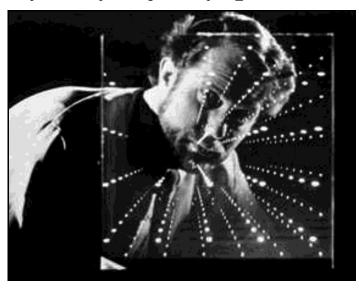
Conventional Holograms, invented by physicist Dennis Gabor in 1948, record interference patterns that reproduce a 3-D light field using diffraction. Holograms are hard to explain to non-optikers. It has many steps: Holograms are made using high-intensity coherent laser light to record interference patterns on film. The light from the laser is divided into two optical paths that: illuminate the *subject*; and make a reference beam. The scene and reference light

paths are recombined to make the interference pattern - the holographic image on the film plane. The interference pattern requires extremely high-resolution films, or photopolymers. This means extremely long exposures. These exposure times are so long that the *subject* and the laser are mounted on the same floating vibration-isolation table in a dark room. To view the 3-D scene, the processed hologram is illuminated with the reference laser light. The recorded image diffracts off the hologram, and the subject's 3-D virtual image is formed in space in front of the observer. When the observer views the hologram from a different angle, the observer sees a different view of the subject.

#### Rainbow Hologram, 1968

The largest problem in making holograms accessible to illumination: costly and dangerous. Rainbow holograms are viewable in the easily accessible incandescent light, or the sun. Steve was keenly interested in many types of holograms that generated images with unique optical properties, when viewed without lasers...

<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen</a> Benton>



Steve Benton, seen through "Crystal Beginning," a white light transmission hologram made at Polaroid in 1977. (Photo by Michael Lutch for WGBH, Boston)

The hologram "Crystal Beginning" (1977) is a 3-D spatial pattern that became a showpiece of white-light transmission holography. The use of a horizontal slit in the making of this hologram reduces information along its vertical axis, thus clearing from the image the repetition of points in different colors. The result – a sharp, deep, single -color 3-D point grid image. This white-light transmission hologram was created by Steve Benton, Herb Mingace, and Will Houde-Walter.

Steve was keenly interested in seeing his white-light transmission holography method adopted and expanded.

Steve worked with many artists, local and worldwide, including Harriet Casdin-Silver, Margaret Benyon, UK, and Setsuko Ishii, Japan. It was a true collaboration because Steve would learn each artist's visual intent, and give suggestion about changing the optical paths to modify Herb Mingace, and Will Houde-Walter. the prismatic effects from the monochromatic laser source.



Head of Aphrodite ("The Bartlett Head") 1978, was described by Steve as "the best-ever achromatic image." This work represents a culminating moment in Benton's development of white-light transmission holography. It began when Edwin Land at Polaroid boldly asked to borrow the Head of Aphrodite, a classical Greek sculpture in the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Boston. Guards from the MFA brought the sculpture to Polaroid disguised in a wicker picnic basket for a two-day shoot. Land considered Steve's work a significant technological insight, and the choice of this historic sculpture underscores the significance he and Steve placed on this advance in holographic technology.

Using ordinary bright light illumination, Steve created, an accessible 3-D recreation of the sculpture, separated from its solid form. Dr. Land asked Steve to demonstrate his monochromatic white-light transmission hologram to Polaroid's Board of Directors. This hologram illustrated the commercial potential of his technique. As Steve made the *Head of Aphrodite* hologram, he kept technical notes and took Polaroid photos of the work in progress. Along

the way, he documented the excitement and pressure he felt preparing his Board presentation. Steve's notebook is in the *Optiker* exhibit. This white-light transmission hologram was created by Steve Benton, Jeannie Benton,

#### **Mass-production Holograms**

Steve's rainbow holograms were easily adapted to make embossed holograms which could be massproduced. They were printed into flexible materials such as plastic, paper, cloth and even chocolate. The first hologram ever printed on a magazine cover was in 1984 on National Geographic. Difficult to counterfeit, embossed holograms are used for passports, money, security logos and even your Massachusetts driver's license. Steve worked with **Jim Cowan** (750 Main) on Polaroid's embossed research and later he consulted with the group producing a new type of optically mass-produced hologram developed by Polaroid that used photopolymer which is brighter with more detail.

#### Steve at MIT Media Lab.

Steve continued his pioneering research at Polaroid until he returned to MIT as a visiting scientist in 1980. In 1982, he founded the MIT Spatial Imaging Group. In 1984 Steve became a founding professor of the MIT Media Lab. Steve pioneered new technologies in digital holography, medical imaging, holographic video, holo TV and haptic imagery.

Steve's book Holographic Imaging

Steve was devoted to making holography available, even to young students, without the knowledge of calculus. Steve wrote but did not finish writing the primer Holographic Imaging (2006). This book was completed and published after his death with the help of Michael Bove, Michael Halle, and Betsy Connors.

#### **Edwin Land Medal**

Steve was an exceptional teacher with genuine love of everything new, and everything optical. His many students saw this, and learned to share Steve's curiosity and enthusiasm. Steve mentored research with all levels of MIT students, collaborating holographic artists, scientists and engineers worldwide. He chaired the *Holography & 3*-D Conference in IS&T/SPIE annual Electronic Imaging meetings for two decades, starting in the late 1980s. This period saw the transformation of electronic imaging from novelty to reality. In 1995, Steve was awarded France's Vinci of Excellence with Science for Art Prize. In 2005 he was posthumously awarded the Edwin Land Medal from IS&T/OSA.

The PRA Newsletter tries to keep track of the buildings we worked in. We have had stories such as Frank Ceppi's [Q2 2022] about the Polarizer building at 12 Ames St. and Walter Byron's story on Norwood 1, (Q4 2023) when Moderna repurposed N1 for making vaccines. Jerome Wiesner asked Dr. Land if Polaroid could move out of 12 Ames Street so that the space could become the home of Wiesner's new MIT Media Lab. Polarizers moved to Norwood in 1980. The Polaroid story here is that Steve moved his holography lab from the basement of 730 Main to the new basement at 12 Ames. The full circle is that the home of polarizer manufacturing, that made the polarizers Steve used throughout his career in Edgerton's and Land's labs, became the home of his new lab in 1985, that carried forward the traditions of 3-D stereo, holography, and spatial displays in new computer-generated holograms, medical imaging, and displays of artists' visions.

# The Polaroid Corporation Collection at Harvard Business School By Tim Mahoney, Special Collections Librarian, HBS

Baker Library Special Collections and Archives at Harvard Business School (HBS) is the home of the Polaroid Corporation Collection, the records of the iconic technology company famous for its instant photography. The collection, donated in 2006, documents the rich history of Polaroid—from its founding in the 1930s by Edwin H. Land; through World War II, followed soon after by the release of the Polaroid Land Camera in 1948; then the development of many further successful instant photography products from the 1950s through 1990s; before its eventual decline and bankruptcy in the 2000s.

The Polaroid Corporation Collection is vast and comprehensive, requiring almost 3,500 linear feet of storage space. The records are organized in thirteen series, or categories, which reflect the operational and functional structure of the company. Among the notable Polaroid series are the Administrative Records, the Research and Development Records, the Legal and Patent Records, and the Photograph and Visual Materials Collection.

The Administrative Records, which document Polaroid management and the employee experience from the 1930s to 1990s, include board of directors and annual shareholder meeting records, Peers Club and Employees Committee records, Polaroid human resource publications, and public relations and communications documents. The vast Research and Development Records cover the work of Polaroid's talented scientists, engineers, and designers in inventing and producing its innovative products, including Land's polarizer work of the 1930s, the 1940s war work, and the invention of instant photography and the many successful products that ensued from the 1940s to 2000s. The R&D records include the personal papers of Polaroid scientists, research on black and white and color film, camera design and production records, and the record of Polaroid's military work during World War II.

The Legal and Patent Records are evidence of the care that Edwin Land and the Polaroid staff took to document and protect the company's innovations. There are extensive records on the company's work to capture the daily research of the Polaroid staff, and eventually, to successfully secure patents for the results. Polaroid was equally determined to protect its intellectual property, and the records cover numerous patent and trademark lawsuits that the company pursued, particularly the Polaroid vs. Kodak case of the 1980s and 1990s.

The Polaroid collection also is a rich source of visual imagery of the company's history. The Photograph and Visual Materials series includes several hundred thousand photographs that record the progression of the photographic processes and film research at Polaroid Corporation. The series includes prototype test photographs created in the course of product development from the 1940s to the 1980s. Many of these prototypes depict Polaroid employees at work in the company's facilities. Also included are marketing and advertising images, and photographs of Polaroid operations taken for internal use.

Although the Polaroid Corporation Collection does not contain a comprehensive set of Edwin Land's personal papers, there is a series of records about Land's career, including his publications and biographical materials. Also significant are the records of the photographer Ansel Adams during many years as a consultant to the Polaroid Corporation. The collection includes the many hundreds of detailed memoranda and test photographs that Adams produced for Polaroid from the 1940s to 1980s. Most of the Adams records are digitized and available online at https://id.lib.harvard.edu/ead/bak00261/catalog to anyone who wishes to view them.

#### FROM CONCEPT TO PRODUCT: Meroë Morse and Polaroid's Culture of Art and Innovation, 1945–1969

Baker Library will present a new exhibit based on the resources in the Polaroid Corporation Collection, opening on September 23, 2024.

The universal appeal of instant photography, commercially introduced by the Polaroid Corporation in 1948, fueled the extraordinary growth of the legendary company. Edwin H. Land, Polaroid's founder, cultivated a creative culture within his research and manufacturing enterprise—building an interdisciplinary community devoted to the technical and artistic excellence of the new photographic medium. Drawing on the extensive holdings of the Polaroid Corporation Collection at Baker Library, Harvard Business School, *From Concept to Product* celebrates Meroë Morse, a key contributor to the development of instant photography. An art history graduate of Smith College with no background in science or business, she became manager of black-and-white photographic research, director of special photographic research, a trusted advisor to Land, and liaison to Ansel Adams, a Polaroid consultant who tested the company's prototype cameras and films. Morse embodied the creative ethos underpinning Land's innovative company, bringing her artistic and scientific sensibilities to the advancement of a photographic medium that would come to have unique cultural and artistic significance.

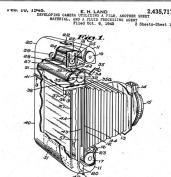
The exhibit will be displayed in the North Lobby of Baker Library | Bloomberg Center on the Harvard Business School campus and open to the public during the library's regular hours (up-to-date information on Baker Library | Bloomberg Center hours are available at https://www.library.hbs.edu/visit/hours.) Further information on the Polaroid Corporation Collection can be found at https://www.library.hbs.edu/special-collections-and-archives/collections/highlights/polaroid.

















All Photos are from Polaroid Corporation Collection (PCC) at Baker Library

**Top left:** Meroë Morse with Polaroid Land Camera, test photograph, ca. 1950s. PCC, Photograph & Visual Materials, b. X.428, s. \$-586.

Top-center: Edwin Land with an early Polaroid Land camera. PCC Photograph & Visual Materials Box X.612, Folder 5

Top-right: Ansel Adams with Polaroid camera, ca. 1972, PCC Corporate Archives Records, b. IX.38, f. 8.

Mid-left: Model 95 product brochure, 1948. PCC Artifacts, 014681354\_AA\_0380, Carton 11. Mid-center: Patent 2,435,717, Feb. 10, 1948. PCC Related to Meroë Morse b. VII.10, f. 24.

Mid-right: Polaroid Corporation 1955 Annual Report cover. PCC Administrative Records b. I.464, f. 19

Bottom-left: Sales demonstration of Polaroid products, 1957. PCC Photograph & Visual Materials, Box X.616, Folder 10

Bottom-right: Meroë Morse, test photograph, 1950s. PCC Related to Meroë Morse, b. VII.83, f. 11.

# **Contacts for Polaroid Corporation Research at Baker Library**

The Polaroid Corporation records are used by scholars of many different disciplines, including fine arts and photography, the history of science and technology, and business history. All researchers are welcome to use the collection in Baker Library's de Gaspé Beaubien Reading Room on the HBS campus in Allston, Mass. (Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-4:00PM). A full description of the Polaroid Corporation Collection and guides and inventories to the records are available at <a href="https://www.library.hbs.edu/special-collections-and-archives/collections/highlights/polaroid">https://www.library.hbs.edu/special-collections-and-archives/finding-and-using/plan-a-visit</a>. Questions about the Polaroid Corporation Collection can be addressed to specialcollectionsref@hbs.edu.

# **Upcoming Events**

# Steve Benton's "Opiker" Exhibit at the MIT Museum

Admission: \$15.00 Seniors Open daily. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM June 28, 2024-- July 2025

### **New Location of the MIT Museum**

In the Plaza adjacent to the T's Kendall Square (Inbound) entrance Gambrill Center E-28, 314 Main Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 (617) 253-5927

# Meroë Morse & Polaroid's Culture of Art and Innovation, 1945–1969 Open to the Public

https://www.library.hbs.edu/visit/hours

Opened September 23, 2024

North Lobby of Baker Library Harvard Business School Boston, MA

# LAST CHANCE SIGNUP V

Wed, Oct 16 Buffet Lunch

- 1. Email Bob Ruckstuhl at **praemail@comcast.net**
- 2. Include Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_, email\_\_\_\_Phone\_\_\_\_
- 3. Bring \$35/person check made to Polaroid Retirees Association

Chateau Restaurant, 404 Providence Highway, (Rt1), Norwood, MA

11:30	Registration						
	Coffee, Tea, Cash Bar & Conversation						
12:30	Seated for Lunch						
2 - 3pm	Speaker: Bob Perry \$35 per person						
3 - 3:30	Social Time						
<u>Lunch Buffet:</u> Chicken Parmesan, Baked Stuffed Haddock, Baked Stuffed Shells and							
Broccoli Florets, Garden Salad, Bread & Butter, Coffee & Tea, Mini Chocolate Chip Cannoli							

### In Memoriam

# Find more complete obituaries at www.polaroidretirees.org



Bayard, Susan, 81, Salem, MA, 8/3/24 was the wife of Dr. Edward, mother of Jeffrey and Lucy and grandmother of two. She worked on the development

of instant color film technology and coauthored papers for scientific journals. She was especially devoted to helping her college-level students become comfortable in both learning and teaching science to students of all ages.



Capuano, Robert "Bob" 77, Salem, NH, 8/16/24 was the husband of Dale and father of Mark and James. He served in the U.S. Navy (Vietnam Conflict) as a

Barber for officers and pilots on the USS Enterprise and the USS Oriskany, cut Senator John McCain's hair and admired him. He was a Crew Chief and a Manufacturing Systems Specialist. Bob was an exceptional cook, could fix or build things and figure out how to do anything.



**Dietz, Milton S., 92,** Cambridge, MA, 9/1/24 was the husband of Carol, father of Laura and Vivian and grandfather of four. He directed the operation of the

Pronto and One Step Cameras, was appointed the Senior Vice President of Strategic Planning and Corporate Development and held 21 US patents. He was a model boat builder and adventurous traveler. Milt had passions for military history, craft, photography, and science. He was a member of the PRA.



**Dillon, William H. "Bill"** 85, Gloucester, MA, 8/22/24 was the husband of Marilyn, father of Robin, Karen and Bill and grandfather of five. He served in the U.S. Army

as a First Lieutenant, nicknamed "Can Do Dillon." He was a Plant Manager in Waltham. He enjoyed his family activities, camping, hiking, teaching, the Red Sox, boating and lobstering, group runs and bikes. He was a member of the PRA.



**Driscoll, John J., "Jack"** 83, 6/26/24, Andover, MA was the husband of Alix, father of Mark and Hilary and grandfather of six. He served in the U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers as an officer (Vietnam War). Jack worked with Dr. Edwin Land

and helped create the SX-70 camera. He held four patents and played a role in the landmark case of Polaroid Corporation vs. Eastman Kodak. His love of boats continued with his creation of a series of half-hull model boats in his workshop. He was a member of the PRA.



Elfman, Bernard, 68, Quincy, MA 8/23/24 was the husband of Lori, brother of Sheri and the late Mark and uncle of Charles. He was a Custodian. Bernard enjoyed

the outdoors and biking.



Elias, Serge, 68, North Royalton, OH, 6/16/24 was the husband of Lilian, father of Abdulkarim and grandfather of Sergio and Anastasia. Serge was a Sub-

Deacon at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church and St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. He was a passionate and a moving cantor and a dedicated entrepreneur.



Farrell, Daniel R., 92, Pine Bluff, WI, 8/2/24 was the husband of Mary, father of Daniel, Eileen, John, Mary Ellen, Richard, Bernadette, Anne, Erin, Paul, Mark and

Steven, grandfather of eight and greatgrandfather of two. He served in the U.S. Navy (Korean War). Donald enjoyed watching and listening to the Red Sox, Bruins and Patriots, tending to his garden and tomato plants, and teaching his kids everything from how to field a ground ball to how to balance their checkbooks.



Fink, Robert, C. "Bob", 93, Oxford, Ohio, 9/4/24, was the husband of Margaret, previous spouse of Patricia, father of Thomas, Carol, Carlson and

Janet and grandfather of three. He served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers stationed at the Thule Air Base in Greenland. He was the Controller for Camera Division, Norwood/Cambridge.



Fredrickson, Barry, 83, Merrimack, NH. 7/1/24 was the husband of Linda, father of Barry, Jill, Adam, Jodi and the late Pamela, grandfather of twelve and

great-grandfather of twelve. He served in the U.S. Army where he was a Communication Specialist focusing on Morse Code, a skill he never lost. He was a Chemical Supervisor. He enjoyed babysitting his grandkids, watching baseball, football, and NCIS and was an avid crossword puzzle lover. Barry liked playing solitaire, both card and digital, and enjoyed reading and telling the vast stories of his life to anyone who would listen - and that was everyone.



George, John C., 85, Margate, FL, 8/27/24 was the husband of Jessica, father of Christopher, Cheryl, David, Kurtis and Sean, grandfather of nine

and great-grandfather of two. He served in the U.S. Marines. John was a Facilities Manager (Waltham). He was a big sports fan and a regular player in the Polaroid League.



Graves, Robert L. "Bob" 76, Hudson, NH, 6/8/24 was the husband of Dorothy, father of Kim, Laurie and Robert, grandfather of four and great-grandfather of two.

He served in the U.S. Navy. Robert enjoyed traveling, fishing and hunting, gardening, camping and sharing his many colorful stories.



Herbert, Louis Pasteur, 90, Tavares, FL, 6/19/24 was the husband of the late Shirley Ann, father of Walter, grandfather of two, greatgrandfather of two and

companion of Lorraine. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Machinist Mate and earned the Navy Occupation Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. He was a Mechanical Engineer. He was a lifelong traveler, avid reader and historian.



Heskey, William A., 77, Northborough, MA, 7/19/24 was the husband of Dorothy, father of Kenneth and the late James and grandfather of one. Bill enjoyed

spending time at the family's vacation home in North Woodstock, NH, found solace while hiking the White Mountains and looked forward to taking in a Red Sox game with his son, James. He was a member of the PRA.

# In Memoriam cont.



Holmes, Claire B., 85. 6/29/24, Brockton, MA was the wife of Isiah, the mother of Takita and the late Carl, grandmother of Carlene and Olivia, sister to Linda,

stepmother of Shelby and greatgrandmother of several. She was a foster parent who impacted many children's lives. Claire was a Supervisor (Norwood). She could be found doing word-search books, shopping on HSN/QVC, watching game shows, peeking out the windows to see the neighborhood happenings and having frequent telephone conversations with her loving family.



Hutchinson, Betty Jean V., 84, Boston, MA, 8/4/24 was the niece of Evelyn, aunt of Stacey and Thomas and cousin of many. She was an Evaluation Technician. She

joined Triumphant Church where she continued the Betty Way of ushering and helped plan menus for events.



Knaus, Paul E., 82, Bellingham, MA, 8/17/24 was the father of Peter, Tracey, Robert and Joseph, grandfather of eight, greatgrandfather of two and

former husband of the late Claudette. Paul was a Material Handler for the Integral Film manufacturing process (Waltham). He was an avid saltwater fisherman and looked forward to yearly trips on the ocean toward Martha's Vineyard with his friends from Polaroid.



Koch, Richard W. "Dick" 87, Pelham, NH, 7/21/24, was the husband of Cheryl, father of Kimberly, Melanie, Harmony and stepson Ian and grandfather of nine. He

served in the U.S. Air Force. Dick worked as a Standards Engineer. He was a Master Woodworker. He made Christmas ornaments, children's toys to intricate intarsia, china cabinets, desks, beds, wardrobes and many other beautiful items. He was a member of the PRA.



Leach, Ralph P. "Ray" 78, South Boston, MA, 6/27/24 was the husband of Meg, father of Tara, and Gregory and grandfather of two. He loved walking Castle Island

and the beaches of San Diego, soaking in the natural beauty and tranquility. His

passion for animals led him to volunteer at the Helen Woodward Animal Center.



Mariano, Joseph R., 92, Bridgewater, MA, 3/22/24 was the husband of Mary, father of Janet, Laura and David. He served in the US Navy during the Korean

Conflict. Joe was an Engineer. He enjoyed skiing, tennis, and spending time with family. He will be remembered for his strong work ethic and endearing personality. He was a member of the PRA.



McLaughlin, Bruce J., 89, Salem, MA 8/20/24 was the husband of late Jeanette, father of Scott, Nicole and Kara and grandfather of five. He worked in Human

Resources. He served in the U.S. Army. Handsome enough to be a movie star, Bruce spent a brief time after high school in Hollywood, where he played extras in approximately thirty movies, including Rebel Without a Cause and Blackboard Jungle.



Mitchell, Viola, 79, 7/22/24 was the wife of Oscar, mother of Terry, Charles, Corey and Shauna, grandmother of twelve and great-grandmother of fifteen.

Viola loved cooking, grew all types of fruits and vegetables and was a great cook. labor of love was stewarding the non-profit She loved shopping, sewing and talking on the phone.



Mungovan, Brendan, 81, North Chelmsford, MA, 7/14/24 was the husband of Eileen, father of Brendan and Jennifer and grandfather of two. He was an Engineer.

Brendan enjoyed cars, watching NASCAR, The Price Is Right and solving sudoku puzzles.



Murphy, Dennis J., 88, Salem, NH, 9/6/24 was the husband of the late Joan, father of DJ and David and grandfather of six. He served in the U.S. Army as an MP

in Korea. He was a Materials Manager in several locations. He coached Little League and youth hockey, volunteered with "My Brother's Keeper," loved all things sports, and had an epicurean's palate, often driving long distances to get fish cakes from the S&S Deli in Inman Sq., apple turnovers from White's Bakery or hot dogs from Sullivan's on Castle Island.



Muther, Millie, 82, Sarasota, FL, 9/2/24 was the wife of the late Michael and the late Robert, mother of David and Debbie. grandmother of five and

great-grandmother of four. She was the General Manager of Inner City helping underprivileged and troubled individuals. Millie took immense pride in her role as a mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother, always placing the needs of her loved ones above her own.



Myer V, Albert J. "Bert" 80, Portsmouth, NH, 8/22/24 was the husband of Ann, father of Aliso and grandfather of two. He spent a year in Military Service,

(Vietnam). Bert worked in Editorial and Marketing Communications. He loved reading history and discussing politics, often switching from one side to another just for fun, and loved sailing, golf and skiing.



Nilson, Roy P., 77, Petersham, MA, 6/16/24 is survived by his children, grandchildren and many friends. He worked as a Publicist. His most recent

Friday Market in Petersham.



Norton, Robert L., 85, Naples, FL, 6/22/24 was the husband of Nancy, father of Robert, Mary and Thomas, grandfather of five and great -grandfather of one. Robert's

love for sailing was a true passion. He was an Engineer and spent a decade designing cameras and machinery.



Parent, Eugene A. "Gene" 79, Littleton NH, 8/19/2024, was the husband of Marilyn, father of Christine and Marc and grandfather of one. He served in the U.S. Army

where he earned best marksman in his battalion. Gene enjoyed taking photos, playing softball, announcing baseball games and watching the Red Sox and all New England sports teams.

# In Memoriam cont.



Pazzanese, James G. "Jim" 77, Belmont, MA, 7/16/24 was the husband of Kathleen, father of Cheryl and James, grandfather of four and great-grandfather

of one. He was a Purchasing Manager. Jim was a grateful lung transplant recipient, and he never passed up a chance to be outdoors whether it was a trip to Fenway to watch the Sox, hiking in National Parks or spending time at the beach on Bass River at the Cape. He was a member of the doing car maintenance and collecting PRA.



Powers, Joseph G., 78, Milton, MA, 6/26/24 was the husband of Mary, father of Annemarie and grandfather of Maeve. Joe served in the U.S. Coast

Guard Reserve.



Raia, Richard M., 94, Windham, NH, 8/25/24 was the husband of the late Martha, father of Lyn, Steven, Michael and Joseph and grandfather of seven. He

served in the U.S. Marines as a pilot landing on aircraft carriers, and he also served in the Reserves. The family has many fond memories of their times spent together at their lake house on Lake Ossipee.



Rickter, Donald, 93. Arlington, MA, 7/11/24 was the husband of the late Phyllis, father of David and Paul, grandfather of four and great-grandfather of one. He

was a Chemist and an Information Scientist and was awarded four patents. Don's favorite pastimes were dreaming of new ways to do things. He was a member of the PRA.



Rowley, Addison D., Jr., 80, New Bedford, MA, 9/6/24 was the father of Sarah, grandfather of McKenzie and former husband of Nancy. He

worked in New Bedford NB1 & NB6 and in the Fiber Laser Project at Henry Street. He enjoyed collecting coins and magazines, doing sudoku puzzles and painting his amazing paintings. Addison was an avid Patriots fan, loved writing political essays and listening to the sounds of Motown and Doo-Wop that constantly

played in his house.



Soares, Joaquin Joseph, Jr. "Joe" and "Sonny" 82, Stoughton, MA, 8/23/24 was the husband of Mary Ellen, father of David and Nancy, grandfather of four

and great-grandfather of one. He served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army National Guard. Joe enjoyed a variety of hobbies including building Cox Model Airplanes, historical memorabilia. He had passion for history and politics and was an avid fan of classic John Wayne films.



Stead, Nancy, 83, Wake Robin, Shelburne/Stowe, VT, 6/21/24 was the wife of Jim and the late Dick. mother of Julia and the late Carl. She was one of only

three employees who knew the entire formula for Polaroid's color film. Nancy's passions were travelling, writing and athletic endeavors.



Swindell, Murray J., 90, Lincoln & Concord, MA, 9/2/24 was the husband of the late Jean, father of Murray Jr., Steven, Chris and the late Sharon,

grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of two. He was a Senior Executive. Murray was committed to the Concord community where he was an active member of the Trinitarian Congregational Church and the Concord Country Club. He served on the board of Emerson Hospital.



Tabor, David A., 77, Medfield, MA, 8/21/24 was the husband of Anne, father of David, Jen and Dan, and grandfather of six. He served in the U.S. Navy as a

Parachute Rigger where he earned the National Defense Service medal. He was an avid and sometimes vocal fan in all sports endeavors and had interests in camping where he was crowned the tarp king. He enjoyed sailing with his mates, dabbling in puzzles and taking trips that included lighthouse adventures (climbing to the top). He was a constant and devoted Kraft blood donor.



Thayer, Jen S., 66, Hudson, NH, 7/15/24 was the daughter of Pollie, sister of Harvey, Tracy and Emily and aunt of nine. Jen lived in a lakeside cottage. She

had a green thumb and loved to watch and feed the birds, especially the cardinals and hummingbirds.



Wade, John R., Jr., 77, Tewksbury, MA, 8/7/24 was the husband of Marie, father of John and David and grandfather of seven. He looked forward to

welcoming his great-grandson John, later this month.



Weeden, Robert J., 83, Watertown, MA, 7/17/24 was the husband of the late Linda, father of Paul, Julie and Erik and grandfather of four. Robert served in the

U.S. Navy Seabees, (Vietnam War). He was an Engineer. He built and raced dragsters, volunteered as a coach for Watertown Youth Hockey, volunteered as a scout leader for Watertown's Cub and Boy Scout troops, volunteered for many fundraising activities at the Brown School and thoroughly enjoyed his summers in York Beach, Maine and winters in Watertown. He was a member of the PRA.



Whynot, Gary F., Azle, 79, TX. & Barrington, RI, 7/26/24 was the husband of the late Ann, father of Dawn, Adam and David, grandfather of six and great-

grandfather of four. He was a Warehouse Manager. He enjoyed Scrabble and Jeopardy and was bested by none at either.



Williams, John, P. Jr., 82, 7/20/24 was the husband of Joan, father of John. Thomas, Paul and Donna, grandfather of three and great-grandfather of one. He

was a Mechanical Specialist and was the pitcher for the Polaroid Softball team.

# How Did You Do? By Frank Ceppi

Here is a copy of the front page of the March 19, 1962 Polaroid Newsletter identifying the sixteen employees we challenged you to identify. You will see there is an explanation of why they all appeared in that original Newsletter.





Monday March 19, 1962

#### APPOINTED TO SUPERVISORS COMMITTEE

Dr. Land has appointed seven people to the Supervisors Committee for 18month terms: Douglas Arnold of the Distribution Center, Alfred Chiuve and Paul Girouard of Windsor, Jeanne Dainis of 750 Main, Martin Helsmoortel and Thomas McCole of Waltham II, and George McQueen of Osborn.

Continuing on the Committee are John Leahy of Waltham IV, Chairman; Don Pheanis of Waltham II, Vice-Chairman; Vern Baker of Osborn, Arthur Brown and John Harlor of Memorial Drive, Bill Conway and Hugh MacKenzie of Albany, John Dunn of Waltham I, and Douglas Nieh of Ames.



Arnold



Baker



Brown



Chiuve



Conway



Dainis



Dunn



Girouard



Harlor



MacKenzie



Leahy



Helsmoortel



Nieh



Pheanis



McQueen



McCole

All sixteen employees pictured were members of Polaroid's Supervisors Committee. The Committee was formed to be a resource for supervisors across the company. One of the Committee's responsibilities was the development of new supervisors for Polaroid's growing needs.

You will recall that Dr. Land's "Second Aim" was to give everyone working at Polaroid the opportunity to exercise their full talents for personal benefit and for the benefit of the company. The Supervisors Committee facilitated Dr. Land's "Second Aim" by nurturing and overseeing the Supervisor-in-Training Program. This program accepted hourly employees recommended by department managers and interviewed by a member of the Committee. Members of the program originally came from a variety of employment positions within Polaroid such as machine operators, technicians, secretaries, inspectors, material handlers, trades, etc. Through a combination of classroom learning, mentoring and on-the-job training, successful trainees graduated from the program and were accepted into the supervisory ranks as job opportunities became available.

# Night Visitor By Joseph M. Rainha

I started work at Polaroid on August 29, 1966, hired as the 3rd shift's lead operator on the first mainframe computer at PRD, the GE-415, located in the basement of 119 Windsor Street, Cambridge. Looking back, it was a dog of a computer compared to its IBM counterparts, the 360-series. There were two other operators on my shift. They ran the IBM 1401s which were mini-computers, for want of a better name. Their functions were to print reports from tapes produced on the 415, to create tapes from punch cards which were then inputted into the 415, and to create punched cards as most systems were still card driven.

A few months into my job working overtime one Saturday night by myself, I got hungry and decided to pick up a scrambled egg and cheese sandwich at the diner on Main Street across from Daggett's Chocolates. Running was a 3-hour-long Purchasing Master File Update. I didn't eat at the diner but brought the sandwich back with me. When I got back, I realized I had left the building's keys inside. Now what do I do? I could have gone to one of the Main St. addresses to seek Polaroid Security's help... but I didn't know about that then.

Anyone familiar with 119 Windsor St. will remember that the restrooms were along the side of the building adjacent to the parking lot. There was a ledge that enabled me to carefully walk on until reaching one of the restroom windows and hope that one was not locked. Luckily, one wasn't and I made my way inside hoisting myself up through it. Not that this is important but it was the ladies' room...first time I was ever in a ladies' room. I got my keys, didn't want to lock myself out again, and went back to the main entrance where I had left my sandwich outside the door. I sat down in front of the 415, my feet propped up on the console, the long-running job still going strong. Attending Northeastern University nights, I started reading one of my text books while munching on my meal. And then I had that feeling that I know some of you have experienced, and that is...the sensation of being watched.

It was an uneasy one. I turned and standing about ten feet from me was a police officer. I never heard him enter the computer room. He asked what I was doing in the building. "Working," I said. "I'm operating this computer." Just then a Polaroid security guard entered and told me not to worry and that everything was under control saying, "A neighbor from the three-decker across the parking lot noticed something suspicious and called the police." The officer interjected, "Another officer is looking through the building for a guy who climbed through a window just a few minutes ago." "Oh," I said, "...that was me." "What!" the slightly miffed PRD security guard roared rather loudly. I explained to him why I wound up doing it. The police officer excused himself and left to get his partner. The security guard stood there for an indefinite amount of time just shaking his head. I asked him: "Can I get fired over this?" I didn't. I mentioned it to my supervisor on Monday morning and never heard anything more about it.

About a month later, again working OT alone on a Saturday night, I had the same eerie feeling of being watched. I turned and this time a firefighter holding an axe across his chest advised me, "A fire alarm went off. There may be a fire in the building." There was no fire. It was a false alarm.

The floor of the computer room was raised to enable the cables underneath to connect the main computer console, printer, tape drives, card reader/punch units, etc. The same was true for the 1401s. The opening for the cables under the 415 console was fairly large. A box containing the printouts from each run, if reruns were needed, covered that large opening. Again, working alone on a Saturday night, I decided to get rid of the oldest printouts which were no longer needed, since the box was filled to the top. Naturally they were at the bottom. I pulled the box out to retrieve them. When I did, a startled rat, not a mouse mind you, but a big freakin' rat, froze and stared at me, his eyes wide-open, for a few seconds before hightailing it back down into his hole. I quickly replaced the box over it. The next night I worked, I brought with me a box of aluminum foil. Scrunching it into hard balls of some sort, I forced them tightly into all the openings.

I never saw the rat again.

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What's a special memory or two of your life at Polaroid? Send your stories to Bob Ruckstuhl's address below or to newsletterpra@gmail.com

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