



SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL

VIKING NEWS

Wherever you may be in the world, may you
always consider Samohi your home.

ISSUE 126
DECEMBER 2023

PUBLISHED BY THE SAMOHI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • samohialumni.org
BINDING HISTORY TO THE FUTURE • For Samohi Alumni, Faculty & Friends

Vintage Samohi Memorabilia:



Tom Morris ('65) wrote in to the *Viking News* editor, "Lawson, these belt buckles were handed out to customers of Tom Brown's Men's Clothing store on Third Street in Santa Monica around 1964."

How cool, thanks so much, Tom. This is just the kind of thing we hope our readers find and send us photos of. Please continue to send hi-res images and descriptions of your Samohi-related items of any kind to your editor at SAAvikingnews@gmail.com. Thanks again, Tom!

MORE ON... PAGE 9

Samohi Band honored at Santa Monica City Council meeting



Members of the Samohi Marching Band were honored at the Santa Monica City Council meeting for a great showing at Band Competition. Samohi alum and Band Leader Kevin McKeown shepherded his talented group of students while Samohi alums and City Council Members Lana Fernandez Negrete, Phil Brock, and Oscar de la Torre welcomed a portion of our Viking Band to City Hall.

SEE MORE PAGE 2



Visit: <https://samohialumni.qbstores.com/OC/SF9205>
to log onto the Samohi Alumni Gear Store!

Recent exhibit shines spotlight on Samohi artists

By Thomas Leffler, Courtesy of the Santa Monica Daily Press



Student-artists, such as this piece from Grace Cao, submitted pieces for a Spotlight Exhibition at the Roberts Art Gallery. Photo credit: Thomas Leffler

With so many extracurricular choices at Santa Monica High School, the campus' robust visual arts department can sometimes stay under the radar as students hone a variety of craft skills. Going into the winter season, the department is undetected no longer, as locals flocked to the Samohi Roberts Art Gallery on Dec. 7 for the Samohi Spotlight Exhibit.

Given a blessing by the arts department, Samohi senior Flynn Latta was able to adorn the gallery with selected pieces from Samohi advanced art students in art forms like photography, digital art, ceramics, acrylics and sculptures, along with more traditional paintings. Latta and the gallery's student-led installation team were inspired by the works of Vincent Van Gogh, filling the otherwise-white room with the artist's signature dark blue and gold color palette. Latta herself got into the Van Gogh spirit, creating a mirror inspired by "The Starry Night."

Sometimes an underutilized part of Samohi's campus, the gallery added the Spotlight Exhibit event for the winter

after a Dia De Los Muertos celebration in the fall. Latta said it's both a chance for students to show off for the community and a chance for the department to make itself more known in the Samohi landscape.

"I feel like our arts program is so amazing here, but nobody knows about it, so we have to broadcast it [somehow] ... a lot of people [here] graduate and go onto art school," Latta said.

The senior hopes to be an art teacher in the future, gaining crucial experience as project manager for the exhibit. Along with just showing off their works, Samohi students had the option to sell art pieces to gallery visitors, of which there were many during the two-hour showcase. Some items are staying within the department, however, such as quilt squares created from the question "how do you perceive love?," which Latta says will be sewn together into a bigger quilt.

Student-artists submitted information about their pieces along with the work

SEE RECENT EXHIBIT PAGE 5

SAMOHI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



By Phil Brock ('71), SAA President

A note from Phil...

As 2023 comes to a close, Lawson and I want to give you an updated year-end *Viking News*. This edition is digital-only and was not “snail mailed” to subscribers. However, it is being

emailed to the thousands of alumni on our mailing list; it's accessible on the Samohialumni.org website and is distributed widely on Facebook. In addition, a printed copy will be placed in the permanent archives of the Santa Monica Public Library. We encourage all alumni nationwide to access the *Viking News* through one of the above methods. Our next snail mail/ print edition copy will be distributed to all subscribers in late March. As almost all Alumni Association members are now computer savvy, we are evaluating the print edition's cost, necessity, and timing. We will have more information for all of you in March. In the meantime, enjoy your *Viking News*.

I fervently hope that your holiday season, regardless of your faith tradition, was filled with good cheer, peace, tranquility, reflection, and many smiles. For me, Christmas Day is special as it doubles as my birthday. Santa was especially nice to me as I became the Mayor of Santa Monica on December 12 for a one-year term. After assuming the post of Mayor, I was blessed to conduct the combined Samohi Choirs and alumni in “The Hymn of Praise” in Barnum

Hall. You can view my effort here. The [Hymn of Praise](#)

You can view more excerpts from the Choir concert on the Samohi Alumni Facebook Page.

The Samohi campus continues to evolve, as you have seen previously in this publication. It is noteworthy that while the look of the campus changes, the spirit of our students and alumni retains an elite status. Last week, I visited with residents on 18th Street, just north of Pico, and loved hearing about their memories of Samohi, growing up in Santa Monica, and their pride in our city's high school. Viking Pride is everywhere, and I know all of you carry it in your hearts every day, no matter where you live.

I hope that all alumni and their families thrive in 2024. We love to hear updates on your lives. Email us at saavikingnews@gmail.com or samohialumni@gmail.com to share with your fellow alums!

Finally, please renew your Samohi Alumni Association membership via samohialumni.org and consider donating a named scholarship to a deserving student this spring. Thanks for your membership and your loyalty.

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310-395-3204

Many thanks for all the great alumni support. You make the organization grow and you help today's Vikings. Let's keep the connection with our high school friends and the spirit of our Samohi days strong.

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Samohi Wrestling team visits City Council



Members of the Samohi Wrestling Team testified about the need to raise more funds for the team at the Santa Monica City Council meeting. They were granted \$5,000 to aid in attending more meets around the state. Yes, the team is now co-ed and the women are doing well against other women's wrestling students around the state!

Can our readers help?

Bernard Salter ('45) wrote the SAA with a very special request:

“I would like any information pertaining to my graduation Class of 1945 and/or football history with coach Jim Sutherland. I left school and joined the Navy in 1943. It would be a miracle to find any information.”

Bernard, we found this about Coach Sutherland: “After graduating from USC in 1937, Sutherland stayed in the Los Angeles area and became a football and track coach at Santa Monica High School. He was its head football coach from 1941 to 1952, with the exception of three years that he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. His record at SMHS was 79–13–3 (.847).”



Bernard, we also sent you an e-mail from our editor with a link to a great story about Coach Sutherland and his life that appeared in the Santa Monica Daily Press back in September of 2003. If our readers have any more info about his class of 1945 or Coach Sutherland, please contact Bernard at gilliamryan54@gmail.com.

Vikings in the World of Sports:

USA Volleyball Announces 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees

Samohi physical education teacher and head volleyball coach, Liane Sato ('82) has been inducted into the USA Volleyball Hall of Fame as one of the All-Time Greatest Indoor Players!

From USA Volleyball: **All-Time Great Female Indoor Athlete: Liane Sato** -- Two-time Olympic defensive specialist and setter (1988, '92). She won bronze in Barcelona in 1992.

For more information, visit the website for USA Volleyball: USA Volleyball Announces 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees visit: <https://usavolleyball.org/story/usa-volleyball-announces-2023-hall-of-fame-inductees/>.



Class Connections:

The Soul Survivors

By Doug Moody ('65)



The Soul Survivors, left to right: Paul Young ('64), Lyle Spencer ('66), Tim Travers ('66), Stan Spencer - not Samohi, Doug Moody ('65), John - not Samohi, Joel Young ('67), Bruce Jenkins ('66), Mike Gladhart ('66).

Our little group of eleven, mostly Samohi alumni, came together because of the Covid lockdown of 2019. We had all been friends for close to 65 years and stayed connected because of our mutual love of soul music and sports. When we were kids, we hung out, mostly at my house, because that was where the music was. In the decades that passed, I had made many mix tapes and custom CDs. It was not just the music we loved, but newly acquired music that fit our interest. When YouTube became a thing, I would email song clips out, and it helped to keep our group in touch.

About three months into the lockdown, I started sending out weekly dispatches with two soul tracks and one jazz track. Mostly spanning our coming-of-age years, 1959-1972. I named our group The Soul Survivors, a name I borrowed from a mid-sixties vocal group that had a hit, "Expressway to Your Heart." Our most recent dispatch this month was edition #182. Haven't missed one week since we started.

We also try to get together at least once a year at our homes. Last summer, we were all at Joel Young's ('67) in San Francisco and next year, we plan to gather at Mike Gladhart's ('66) place in Bellingham, WA.

The music is in the center of our group, but the remarkable thing is this very special friendship we've kept fresh

and thriving for all these years. Our adopted member, Stan Spencer, Lyle Spencer's ('66) younger brother, I thought summed it up nicely:

To Doug and the Other Soul Brothers,

It has been a special joy to receive Doug's weekly Music For The Soul Survivors emails, read his unique insights into the circumstances that led to the creation of the songs, and listen to them through the video links he provides. However, as a decade-younger brother drafted into the Soul Survivor group, the most amazing part is seeing how a group of teenagers who came together as students at Samohi in the 60s with a shared love of soul music and sports, have maintained a bond that has endured for sixty years. The email discussions and Soul Survivor reunions rekindle the sparks of youth and provide some glue to keep those bonds together as the years roll by.

Thanks again to Doug for all he does to keep this going, and to all of you for accepting me into the group. Also, I have been meaning to thank everyone for the great time at the reunion last summer.

I am glad I got a chance to meet and talk to all of you who were able to be there.

A special thanks is due to the Youngs for hosting the get together
Keep on keepin' on, —Stan Spencer

Upcoming Samohi Reunions:

CLASS OF 1975 - 50TH REUNION

Class of 1975 Reunion Info: I am getting things together early for our 50th reunion in a few years. Please send me your current emails to be sure you're all included in the reunion updates! With sadness, I also ask that if you know of any classmates who have passed away, please advise me of this as well. Send all info to: LisaL4kids@aol.com. A big THANK YOU to all, be well, and please keep in touch!
- Lisa Lenes ('75).

CLASS OF 2004 - 20TH REUNION

INFO AND FACEBOOK PAGE

Jenny Barrera ('04) writes in: We would like to provide a link for the Class of 2004 Facebook page. The page was recently created and is in progress, and at this time we'd like to announce a 20-year reunion is in the planning stage! Visit link: www.facebook.com/groups/1813375315783067

The '71s are 70 - happy 70th birthday to members of the Class of 1971



Class of 1970 and 1971 Alumni gathering.

To commemorate the milestone, about 50 classmates and friends came together on Sept. 24, 2023, for an informal gathering at El Cholo Restaurant in Santa Monica.

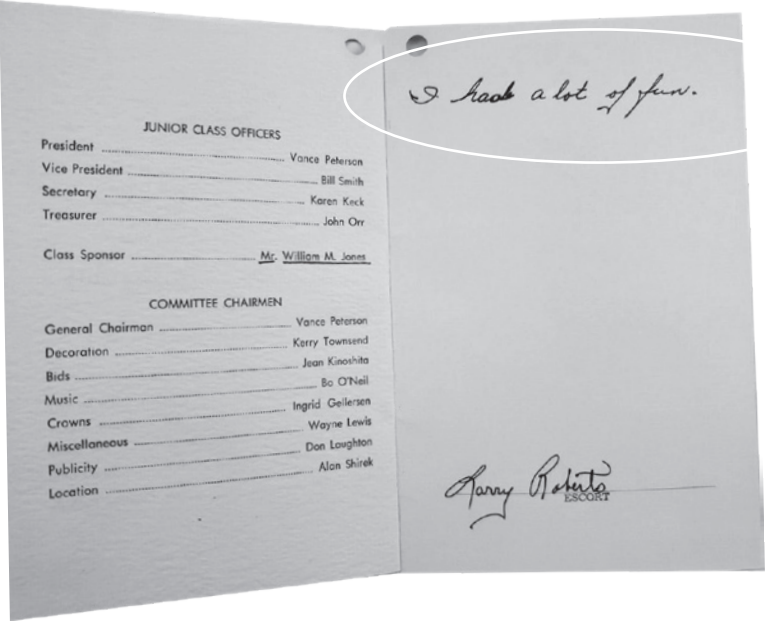
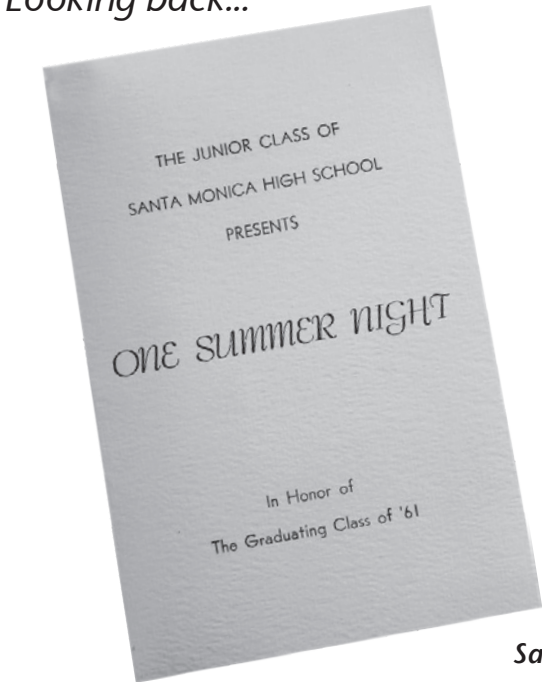
The event was coordinated by Merrilee Hapeman ('71), Bill Workman ('71) and Will Mannon ('71).

Also in attendance were several invited guests from the Class of

1970. Classmates from those two years have maintained close connections.

The '71s staged their official reunion in 2021, at the Beach Club. More than 100 people attended and most remarked that they thought it was their best reunion yet. Members of this class like to keep in contact with their high school friends.

Looking back...



**A keepsake program from a Samohi Junior-Senior Dance Program in 1961, held at the Deauville Club next to the Santa Monica Pier, May 19, 1961. The note on the last page says it all...
"I had a lot of fun. — Larry Roberts/Escort."**



Rat Pack Invitational Golf Tournament 2023



Rat Pack Invitational golf tournament, held on Oct. 2 at Morgan Run Golf Club in Rancho Santa Fe. All participants are Samohi graduates from 1967-1975.

Organizers of the 2023 Rat Pack Invitational golf tournament were pleased to be able to engrave new names onto the Pat Lavery Cup, the crystal trophy honoring the late Pat Lavery ('69).

First-time winners Allan Erskine ('71), Mark Harding ('73), Chris Harding ('70) and Chris Long ('70) proudly accepted plaudits for beating six other foursomes on Oct. 2, 2023, at Morgan Run Golf Club in Rancho Santa Fe. The perpetual trophy was donated by Rick Mitchell ('70).

As the tournament reached its 10th year, fundraising efforts have brought the total to more than \$210,000 in a scholarship fund at the University

of Washington in the name of Kristy LeMond, the daughter of Barry and Kathy LeMond. Kristy, who graduated from UW, was involved in humanitarian efforts in Africa and South America. She died from cancer in 2013 at age 24 (www.giving.uw.edu/lemond/). All donations are from family and friends. The fund issues scholarship grants of from \$6,000 to \$8,000 a year to UW students. The funds replenish through interest.

Kathy LeMond stressed the family atmosphere of the event as she thanked the participants for their support. All are Samohi graduates from 1967 to 1975. Some have known each other since elementary school in Santa

Monica.

The organizers grew up on La Mesa Drive in Santa Monica and were nicknamed "The Rat Pack." They are Larry White ('70), Steve LeMond ('70), Barry LeMond ('71), Chris Levitt ('70) and Mike Graber ('70). Along with John Guilbert ('70), they put together a fun event that keeps expanding. Last year, a putting contest preceded the welcome dinner and included everyone who attended, not just those playing golf. This year, they added a Cornhole Tournament that was thoroughly enjoyed.

Mickey Morey ('69) and Billy Navarro ('75) won the putting contest. Jimmy Smith ('69) and Mark McQueen ('70) were Cornhole champions.



2023 Rat Pack Invitational Golf Tournament winners, from left, Chris Long ('70), Chris Harding ('70), Mark Harding ('73), Allan Erskine ('71). John Guilbert ('70), right, presented the awards.



It's Membership Renewal Time!

***All Samohi Alumni Association Memberships expire December 31st of each year. RENEW NOW! ...online.**

(*Excluding some multi-year and life memberships)

www.samohialumni.org

Consider adding a tax deductible scholarship donation to your membership renewal!



Connecting, Honoring, Inspiring and Supporting our alumni, students and community.



More Samohi Alumni chime in...

Robert Edward Beach ('48)

I am 93 years old and retired after 50 years as Florida Circuit Judge. I am still competing as a U.S. Master Swimmer.

Mary Lou Milner Hay ('51)

I just had my 90th birthday. My daughter gave me a lovely party. Fifty+ people came from near and wide. I still volunteer at the Senior Center, and love it!

Linda Brammer Vinagre ('58) Gary and I stayed with a friend on Balboa Island over Thanksgiving holidays, visiting with my sister Joy and her family who are living in that area. We haven't seen each other for over three years due to Covid and we had a lot of catching up to do. We spent Christmas with our daughter and son-in-law at their place on Orcas Island. What a lovely spot on this good earth.

Eileen Edgerton ('68)

Still enjoying retirement, traveling around, getting together with fellow classmates and keeping in touch on Facebook. Life is good and hope the same for the Class of 1968.

Kimberly Hansen Krantz ('77)

2023 was very hard for our family with the loss of my dad Don ('53) and brother Brad ('75), just a few months apart. Thank goodness for the love and support of friends, including several Samohi alumni.



We love to catch up with all SAMOHI alumni and faculty!

Email us updates, news and your high resolution photos with captions to:

SAAvikingnews@gmail.com

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Samohi senior excels with remarkable achievement

Samohi senior Emmaline Thorpe, senior Victoria Davis and sophomore Shana Lindsey were selected as winners in the 2023 California Young Artist Expo Contest. Their work was displayed at the expo's exhibit at the intersection of the 3rd Street Promenade and Arizona Avenue, along with over 100 pieces of art from other finalists. The exhibit will then be a "traveling show" in places like Orange County.



Santa Monica High School senior Emmaline Thorpe holds her piece "Blue Board," one of the works that awarded her Young Artist of the Year in the 2023 California Young Artist Expo Contest. Courtesy photo.



Samohi Senior Emmaline Thorpe was commended by the SMMUSD School Board for a perfect Advanced Placement score. SMMUSD Courtesy photo.

More on this artist:

By Diana Bouchaaya, Communications Specialist, SMMUSD

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) recently celebrated two high school students for earning perfect scores on college-level Advanced Placement (AP) exams in spring 2023. Malibu High School senior, Molly O'Neill, and **Santa Monica High School (Samohi) senior, Emmaline Thorpe**, not only received the top score of five, but were also two of only 337 students nationally to earn every point possible on the AP 2-dimensional (2-D) art and design exam, which was taken by approximately 49,000 students worldwide.

Both students were pleasantly surprised by their perfect scores, highlighting that their hard work and unwavering dedication played pivotal roles in achieving this remarkable accomplishment in the AP 2-D art and design exam.

"I put a lot of work into my sustained investigation, but was still unsure what score I'd get, so I'm extremely grateful for my score, and really appreciate the College Board's recognition of my art," said Thorpe who hopes to study art in college. Samohi has an amazing and supporting environment that I am grateful for. Everyone from Ms. Bouse, who has been my art teacher for four years now to my family and friends, have been inspirational with their support and motivation."

SMMUSD superintendent, Dr.

Antonio Shelton, was absolutely thrilled with the students' achievement, emphasizing the significance of their perfect scores.

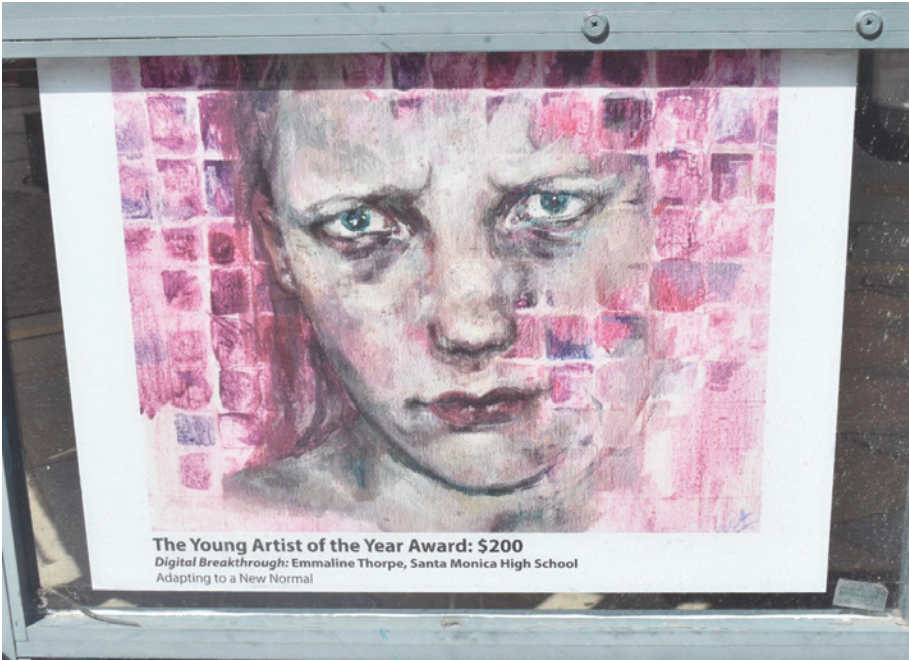
"I am overjoyed to celebrate the remarkable achievement of these two outstanding students who earned perfect scores on their AP exams," said Dr. Shelton. "Their exceptional accomplishment is a testament to their talent and dedication, as well as our unwavering commitment to nurturing the arts within SMMUSD."

Trevor Packer, head of the Advanced Placement Program, acknowledged the pivotal role played by educators in nurturing and motivating diverse students to reach their full academic potential.

"AP courses and exams are college-level, requiring great focus and persistence among participating students," said Packer. "We applaud the educators who encourage students to challenge themselves, who motivate and encourage diverse students to achieve their academic potential."

The Advanced Placement program is committed to ensuring that students have access to the opportunities they have earned. Students who succeed in AP are not only more likely to succeed in college, but have the chance to save a significant amount of time and money by earning college credit or placement.

Colleges and universities around the world receive AP scores for college credit, advanced placement, and/or consideration in the admission process. To learn more about AP, please visit [exploreap.org](https://www.collegeboard.org/ap).



Thorpe was awarded as the Young Artist of the Year, receiving a \$200 cash prize contributed by former Santa Monica Mayor Nat Trives. Thorpe entered art pieces into several of the contest's categories, including "Climate Change & Sustainability," "Adapting to a New Normal," and "My Identity & Self Expression." Her art shown above, was displayed at the Expo exhibit kiosk. Courtesy photo.



RECENT EXHIBIT FROM PAGE 1



People mingle as they view student artwork on campus at the Samohi Roberts Art Gallery. Photo credit SMMUSD.

itself, displaying their thought processes to the infatuated public.

"I like to see both color and darkness in the world," stated Samohi artist Adessa Rigg about her black-and-white piece depicting a crying female holding various flowers. "The balance of good and evil, hope and hurt, joy and pain. I try my best to achieve this through my artwork, incorporating delicate and soft details coupled with harsh and foreboding feelings ... my goal as an artist is to resonate with people, spark emotion, and to put a piece of myself out into the world for others to see."

Another standout project came from Samohi artist Grace Cao, with a piece showing two hands from opposite sides coming together in front of a blue backdrop, *see cover for artwork.

"In my art pieces, I like to play with the idea of dulls mixed with vibrancy," Cao stated. "While there are many details that go into my art piece, I like the idea of someone looking over it, and seeing the bigger picture, with all aspects coming together ... to me, art is really just one big experimental process, with no destined end goal."

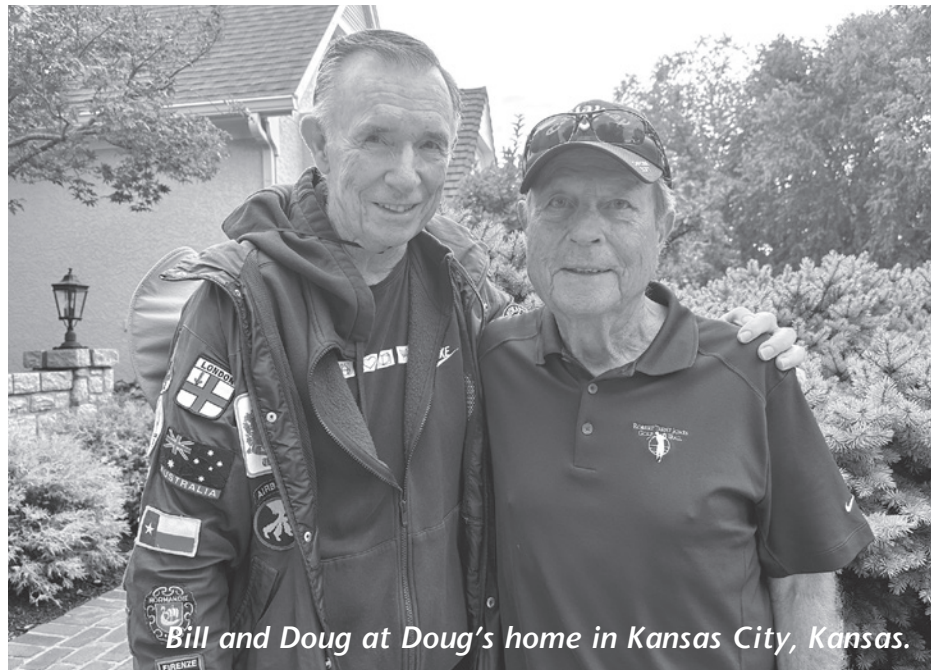
Lifelong friends for the Winter 1960 Class AKA “The Triple B.”



Doug holding the tomahawk steak he is about to barbecue for the best steak dinner Bill ever had.

While attending Lincoln Junior High School, Doug Wyckoff (W’60), Pete Croshere (W’60), Bill Thayer (W’60), Stan White (W’60) and Mike Petty (W’60) formed a group called the Triple B. Doug even made up a song for the Triple B while having

a soda at Sweet Sixteen on Montana Avenue. We all went through Samohi together and then scattered around the country to different colleges.....but we always stayed in touch. Mike and Stan are now gone. This year Bill was able to rendezvous with Doug in Kansas City,



Bill and Doug at Doug’s home in Kansas City, Kansas.



Bill and Pete at Mammoth, CA.

Missouri where Doug treated him to a tomahawk steak. Doug is an expert fisherman and doubled Bill’s lifetime fish catch to four fish at a nearby lake where he is the game warden (informally known as Lake Wyckoff). Earlier in the

year, Bill made his annual trip to Mammoth and met Pete who has lived in Mammoth for 30 years and connected with Doug by phone. Doug, Pete and Bill have been friends for 70 years.

VALHALLA



Ernest Marquez

Excerpt courtesy of Daniel Miller at the L.A. Times.

Ernest Marquez, Santa Monica historian and descendant of rancho owners, passes.

After this self-taught historian released “Santa Monica Beach” in 2004, his publisher arranged an appearance for him at the Jonathan Club on Pacific Coast Highway.

Marquez’s Mexican ancestors had owned the 6,656-acre land grant rancho that included part of what is now Santa Monica. During the book signing, Marquez spoke about his heritage — and how, during his early years, it had afforded him little.

“I am honored to be here, signing my book, because when I was a child, I was cast off the beach of the Jonathan Club for being Mexican,” Marquez told the audience, according to Angel City Press co-founder Paddy Calistro.

She said that the club’s members

were proud to host Marquez — and that times had changed.

Marquez, a prolific chronicler of his hometown died recently at a hospice center in North Hollywood after a short illness, his daughter Monica Marquez said. He was 99.

Ernest Marquez was born March 12, 1924, coming of age in interwar Southern CA. He attended Santa Monica High School, and, according to a dust jacket biography from one of his books, enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduating. The biography, from “Port Los Angeles: A Phenomenon of the Railroad Era,” said Marquez served for 3½ years during World War II and then returned to Santa Monica.

After a stint at Jefferson Machamer School of Art in Santa Monica, Marquez moved to New York, where he became a freelance magazine cartoonist. His work was featured in publications including the Saturday Evening Post and Collier’s.

Marquez began a career as a commercial artist in the aerospace industry, spending many years at Garrett Corp. in L.A. By the 1980s, Marquez, long interested in his heritage, was ready for another act and retired.

Marquez dove into his new career as a historian. He had a keen eye when it came to collecting, buying items from thrift shops and other stores across the region. Books. Maps. Photographs. Postcards.

These materials were vital to his work. Marquez published four books: “Santa Monica Beach” (2004), “Port of Los Angeles” (2007), “Noir Afloat” (2011) and “Rancho Boca de Santa Monica” (2021).



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'44
Walter Roy
Ringwald

June 25, 1926 - May 15, 2023

Submitted by Nancy Lou
Andreae Ringwald ('46),
his wife of 73 years.



Walter Roy Ringwald, a Master Mason and a World War II veteran, rode the roller coaster of life for 96 years.

Walt was born June 25, 1926, in Wildomar, California. He died on May 15, 2023. The cause of death was being 96 years old. A heck of a run.

During the Great Depression, Walt and his five siblings raised goats, attended a one-room schoolhouse and had many adventures in the hills of Wildomar. One day, Walt didn't return home. Panic ensued, neighbors formed a search party, and Walt was found in an abandoned well. They warmed him up by the wood stove and frogs jumped out of his pockets!

After their mother died, the siblings were split up. Walt and his older sister Margaret went to live with an aunt and uncle in Santa Monica, where he would meet the love of his life who was just down the block.

Walt dropped out of high school to enlist in World War II and needed special permission because he was only 17. He served in the U.S. Navy as an aviation machinist's mate second class. He spent much of the war in Kodiak, Alaska, but was sent to Germany to fix planes involved with the Berlin Airlift. A pilot asked if he was confident enough in his mechanical ability to fly in one of the planes he fixed. Walt said yes and the pilot took him up. The plane flew perfectly.

After the Navy, he became a lineman putting up telephone wires for General Telephone. He was so dedicated that he'd drive down alleys while on errands so he could look at the telephone poles and check the work. He received his GED and a certificate in business management and rose to become a highly regarded engineer with a 40-year career at General Telephone.

In 1950, Walt was raised to Master Mason of the Santa Monica-Palisades Masonic Lodge No. 307. The Masons were a North Star for him and he dedicated his life to bringing people together and supporting the community. In 1994, the Masonic Center was destroyed in an earthquake. Rebuilding it was one of Walt's proudest accomplishments. He held the office of trea-

surer for 13 years and was Worshipful Master in 1962, 1966, and 1994.

In 1991, Walt received the Hiram Award, which is given to a Master Mason who has unselfishly given his time, talents and energy for the betterment of his Lodge and the Masonic Fraternity with devotion over and above the ordinary, and who displays his devotion to the Lodge and the Fraternity without asking for anything in return.

It is the single highest honor a California Mason may receive, other than being elected Master of the Lodge. It is awarded at the request of the individual's Lodge, and bestowed by the Grand Lodge of California.

Walter married Nancy Lou Andreae on Aug. 7, 1949. Their wedding was full of unbridled joy. Nancy in a white dress and Walt in his blue Navy uniform – both with matching smiles.

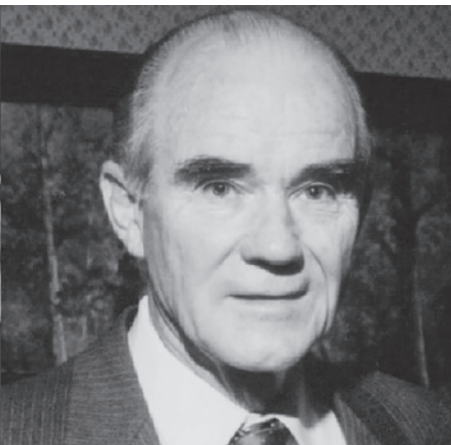
Family was important to Walt. He and Nancy had four daughters: Monica, April, Teri and Debbie. They were raised to have a strong work ethic, to believe in equality and that they could be anything. All four became Honored Queens in Job's Daughters and Walt made all their gavels and sounding blocks in his wood shop. The smell of wood and sawdust will forever remind them of their dad in his garage creating beautiful tools and even pictures from wood.

Walt helped build the family cabin in Big Bear, where kids and grandkids spent many summers playing board games, taking swims in the lake, and watching the stars on the sleeping porch.

He and Nancy were also blessed with 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. They were present for every one of their most important moments. Whether an Eagle Scout ceremony hundreds of miles away or a college graduation in a different state, Grandpa and Grandma were always there.

He was an A+ younger brother. For his 90th birthday, his family organized a gift exchange with the theme "W" for "Walter." Whiskey, wine bottles, whack-a-mole. But the hottest, most stolen gift of the night? A "Welcome" mat. Walt's older sister Margaret thought she'd snagged it. Who would steal from a little old lady? But it was stolen. Twice. Walt had the final pick of the night and he took the welcome mat just to give it to his sister.

Walt knew what he liked. Brown sugar and cranberries in oatmeal. Buttered popcorn and black licorice jelly beans. Rocky Road ice cream. And



morning walks to the bakery for a donut and strong black coffee.

When news of his passing reached the younger generations, the overwhelming response was how lucky everyone felt to have gotten to spend so much time with him.

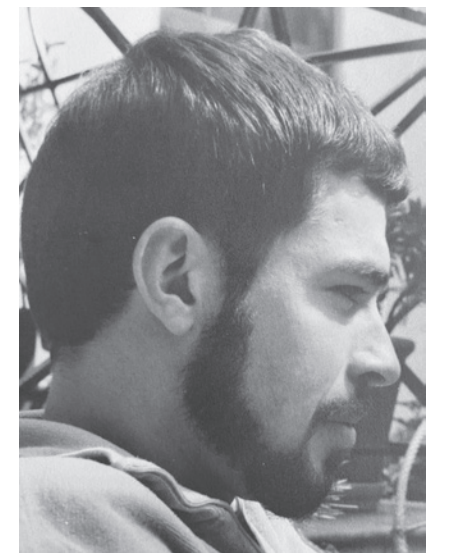
In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the California Masonic Foundation: <https://masonicfoundation.org/ways-to-give/give-now/> or the Midnight Mission: www.midnightmission.org/donate/

'59
Nelson W. Dunn

Nelson W. Dunn ('59), born December 7, 1941, passed June 8, 2022. He retired after 20 years in the Army. He held other jobs including long-haul trucker. He might best be remembered as a prankster, storyteller and avid bowler.

At the time of his death, Dunn was living outside Oklahoma City and had just returned to truck driving.

'60
Peter Joseph
Cornberg
January 6, 1943 – April 1, 2023



Peter Joseph Cornberg ('60) was born in Cleveland Ohio on January 6th, 1943, to Sol Cornberg and Phoebe Elenor Gullion Cornberg.

Peg, Peter and his brother David moved to LA around age 4 and remained in the area until leaving to sail to New Zealand in 1985.

Peter had a successful run working in the film industry, starting on the 'ground floor' in set building and stage management, working in advertising production management and eventually culminating his career in a few higher calibre production manager and assistant director roles, including being first AD to Ridley Scott in Blade Runner in (1982). In 1983, he and Cheryl met, and a couple years later were on their way across the pacific on a sailboat.

They settled in Auckland New Zealand in 1989, and had two children, Colin and Clare.

Peter lived out the rest of his life in Auckland, enjoying yachting, fishing,

'65
Bob Cox



Bob Cox ('65) died on Dec. 3, 2023, of complications from pneumonia. Cox enlisted in the Navy after graduation and served mostly in Asia. Following his discharge, he began a lengthy career as a newspaper sports writer, first at the Hollywood Citizen News, then at the South Bay Daily Breeze. He settled in Torrance, where he lived the rest of his life. He was married to Nancy, and they had two children -- Allie and Randy.

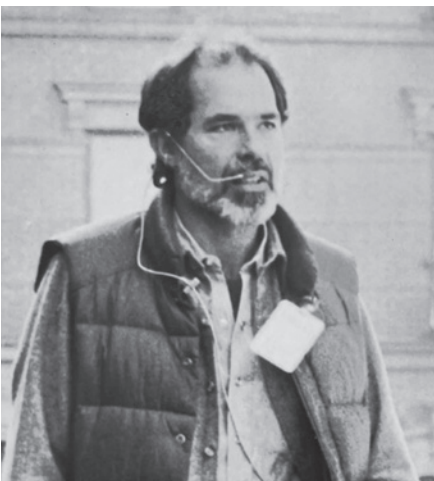
Cox was a dynamic beat reporter, first covering the Dodgers and Angels, then the Rams and Raiders. Upon ending his newspaper career, Cox went into education for the Los Angeles Unified School District -- first as a classroom teacher, then an administrator. Cox also found joy as an umpire for youth league and high school softball.

He turned an advocacy into a vocation as a avid skier. In addition to participating on the slopes, he was an award-winning writer for various ski publications and served on several ski club panels.



running a home and marine repair business and travelling.

He passed away after 15-month battle with Brain cancer. A memorial was held at his home in May. He is dearly missed.



'70
John Zook



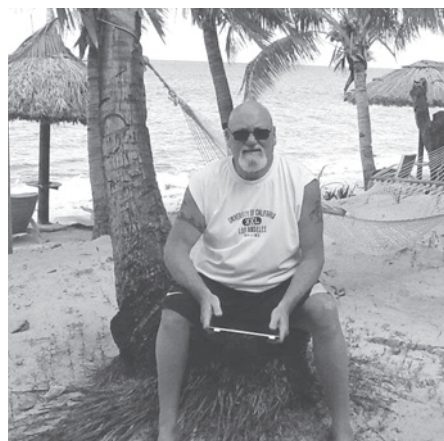
Submitted by Bob Ochoa ('70)

Jon Zook ('70) passed away peacefully on Dec. 14 after a long illness and several surgeries. Jon is survived by his wife Marki, his daughters Liz and her husband, John Hitt, and Katy Zook and granddaughter, Emily Hitt. Jon, after leaving Samohi, was educated at Cal State Northridge and at the UCLA Anderson School of Management. After working for several companies, Jon took a position with 3M and relocated to Minnesota in 2012, where he eventually retired. Services were tentatively set for Dec. 27 or 28 in Los Angeles with internment at Forest Lawn Cemetery. Jon was a good friend and a wonderful, loving father. He will be sorely missed.



Terri (Cohen) Decker ('73). He is survived by three children, Jennifer (Field) Kelman ('95), Jesse Field ('98) and Cody Decker ('05); five grandchildren - Ethan, Dylan, Casey, Addy, and Chris; two siblings - Nicki (Decker) Alexander ('68) and Roger Decker ('65); along with many nieces and nephews. He was pre-deceased by his Mom, Grandma Jean (Marshall) Decker, his Dad, Jack Decker, and sisters Donna (Decker) McKinsey ('62) and Kay Decker ('63). A native Santa Monican, Jay was born at Santa Monica Hospital, attended Franklin Elementary School, Lincoln Junior High School, and Samohi. He continued to live in Santa Monica his entire life. Jay loved dining at his favorite restaurants, such as Chez Jay, The Galley, and Gilbert's, as well as enjoying other establishments in town and up the coast. His love for travel led him to work as a travel agent for 15 years at Tops in Travel on Montana. He enjoyed having the front desk and interacting with folks walking along the street. This prompted him to receive the designa-

tion of "Montana Man." Jay took full advantage of his travel benefits and explored the world, enjoying every minute of it. His favorite destination remained the North Shore of Oahu where he traveled to a few times every year with his wife Terri. Jay's other love was music. He would spend hours at his mixing board with his very large album collection making custom tapes for family and friends. He introduced his kids to music at an early age taking them to concerts and loudly blasting classic rock throughout the house with tunes from bands like The Beach Boys, Chicago, The Beatles, Boz Skaggs, and The Eagles. It is not an overstatement to say that dozens of Santa Monica youngsters grew up with Jay. He loved having a house full. His home with Terri was the central hub where everyone hung out. We celebrated *Jay Day at Decker's Dock* on December 9th with over 100 people telling stories and reminiscing with his long-time friends, family and co-workers. Jay lived a very full and fun life and loved spending time with those he cared so much about.



'75
Brad Hanson



Brad Hanson ('75), 66, passed away on August 12, 2023. He was born in Santa Monica on March 4, 1957. Brad is survived by his wife, Ann, daughter Jen and her partner Daniela, sister Kim ('77) and her husband Steve, and his mom Maggie. Brad is also the son of Don Hanson ('53) who passed away in May 2023. Brad was a kind, caring, generous and amazing man. His laugh and his smile were infectious. Brad's love and affection changed the lives of everyone he knew - from his clients as a social worker, to his lifelong friends and family. Brad's passion for life included any opportunity to play golf, listening to jazz music, and spending time with his family and friends. His legacy lives on in every person's life that he touched. Private services were held.



'73
Jay Decker

Jay Decker ('73) passed in his sleep October 2, 2023. Jay was married to

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A great year and a great class. Cheers to the Class of 1973! Got any Samohi gear? We want to show the world! Send pics to your editor, Lawson Desrochers ('86) to: SAAVikingNews@gmail.com.



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