A Letter From Caryn Davies
U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association President

Dear Olympians and Paralympians,

I ran for USOPA office because I believe that this country’s network of Olympic and Paralympic athletes is the single most powerful resource in the Olympic and Paralympic movements.

This is not my first experience on the USOPA Executive Committee. I previously served two terms as a Vice President, during which time I spearheaded the initiative to add Paralympians to the ranks of what was then the Olympians Association and coordinated the re-write of our organizational mission to focus on supporting chapters and encouraging grassroots participation.

And now that I’ve been elected President, I’m working hard to get more of you involved. I’ve implemented additional communication channels for volunteers, created a shared repository of information for chapters, recruited new members to serve on committees, and opened up our monthly Executive Committee meetings to any USOPA member who wishes to contribute.

Even so, we need more help. In other words, we need you!

We need your help with our internal USOPA committees, which are working on things like chapter development, member engagement, Olympic Day activities, and organizing our upcoming reunion. By volunteering, you can be part of a newly-invigorated membership working to support one another and inspire the next generation of Olympic and Paralympic hopefuls.

We also need your help with non-USOPA initiatives. The recent shift from 20% to 33% athlete representation on all USOPC and NGB boards and committees combined with expanded definition of who qualifies as an athlete representative means that USOPA members are being tapped to serve at all levels of the Olympic and Paralympic movements. By getting involved, you can ensure transparency and accountability within the various organizations that oversee Olympic and Paralympic sports in this country.
If you are interested in helping out, please reach out to me or any one of the Executive Committee using the contact information on the Leadership section our website.

Most of all, we need you to get involved in your local chapter. You can organize watch parties for the Beijing Games this winter, partner with local youth organizations in Olympic & Paralympic Day activities next summer, and even run for chapter office. And if all that sounds like too much, simply show up to enjoy chapter events and connect with other members!

You can find the contact information for your local chapter on the Chapter Presidents section of our website.

I’m looking forward to working with all of you to honor and serve our country’s athletes who have had—or who will have—the privilege of representing Team USA at the Olympic or Paralympic Games.

Yours in Olympic & Paralympic spirit,

Caryn Davies

Caryn Davies
OLYMPIC GAMES
TOKYO 2020
CLOSE OUT A SUCCESSFUL & UNPRECEDENTED OLYMPIC GAMES

“We’re just so thankful to everyone who put in the work to make sure that this did happen.”

By Peggy Shinn

TOKYO — The weather on the final day of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 was a metaphor for these Games. With the Closing Ceremony looming in Tokyo's open-air Olympic Stadium, a typhoon was unleashing torrential rain on the city. But as evening approached, the rain stopped and skies cleared, and a warm evening welcomed the athletes to the Closing Ceremony. Just like Tokyo had...
warmly greeted the athletes (and all Games participants) in the previous weeks.

The Games had been postponed for a year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. But the postponement is now, thankfully, a memory.

After 17 days of tough competition — and many months of uncertainty leading up to the Games, plus stringent restrictions and regular Covid-19 testing for all participants — the Closing Ceremony was a celebration that Tokyo had pulled off a successful Games. With a park-like setting, the ceremony offered a communal place for the athletes to relax and celebrate.

And U.S. athletes have much to celebrate. Team USA tallied 113 total medals, the most of any nation at the Tokyo Games, and the most gold medals, with 39 (one more than second-place China). Although it was not the most medals ever, or the most golds (the Rio Games still hold that honor), Team USA athletes scored many milestones.

With a silver in the team event and bronze on the balance beam, Simone Biles tied Shannon Miller as the most decorated U.S. gymnast in Olympic history, with seven medals. … Five-time Olympian Allyson Felix became the most decorated American track and field athlete, winning two more medals in her final Olympic Games. … Delaney Schnell and Jessica Parratto won the first medal for the U.S. in synchronized platform diving. … American teen Nevin Harrison won the first gold medal in women’s canoe/kayak. … At the Izu Velodrome south of Tokyo, Jennifer Valente became the first U.S. woman to win a U.S. gold medal in track cycling. … And Caeleb Dressel won five Olympic gold medals — the most of any American here in Tokyo — and set two world records in the pool.

To name a few.

Notably, of the 257 American athletes who are taking home Olympic medals, two-thirds of them are women — a testament to Title IX and the continued fight for gender parity in sports. An example: the U.S. women won five Olympic gold medals in track & field, the American men claimed one.

“It’s awesome,” said Felix after she helped the U.S. women win the 4x400 women’s relay. “The women showed up, and I think we’ve been showing up on the track and off the track in all of the ways.”

Fueling the American medal haul is a collegiate system that offers world-class sports; 82 percent (210 of 257) of American medal winners competed collegiately.

Diving is a perfect display of the power of NCAA competition. The five U.S. athletes who won medals in Tokyo all came up through collegiate diving programs. This
past year, with most diving competitions canceled or postponed due to the pandemic, college students like Schnell still had access to world-class facilities and regular competitions.

Then there were the new sports and events that made their Olympic debuts in Tokyo — like surfing, skateboarding, and sport climbing, plus mixed gender relays.

In these new events, U.S. athletes won 10 medals, including two gold.

Fittingly, Carissa Moore brought gold home to Hawaii in surfing. And the American women competing in the new 3x3 basketball event showed that hoops — no matter the game — belongs in the U.S. (earlier today, the U.S. women's traditional basketball team won its seventh consecutive gold medal).

Of the 626 athletes representing Team USA in Tokyo, the ages of the medalists ranged from 17 (Lydia Jacoby, gold and silver medalist in swimming) to 56 (Steffan Peters, an equestrian who won silver in dressage).

“Everyone has overcome so much, and
we have been so inspired by all of these dominant performances across the board,” said Felix. “Tokyo has been an amazing host, and I’m grateful to have participated. There are so many young girls and boys looking up to Olympic athletes, it’s a very neat cycle to be a part of, and very humbling.”

Beyond records and medals, the Tokyo Games will be remembered for one that took enormous effort and world-wide collaboration to safely hold.

After the U.S. men’s 4x100 medley relay team won gold and set a world record in the pool, the four men — Dressel, Zach Apple, Ryan Murphy, and Michael Andrew — held up a banner that read, “Thank you, Tokyo.”

“It’s just something we wanted to do as a team,” said Apple, who anchored the team to gold. “Eighteen months ago, I don’t know if any of us thought we would be here, let alone finishing on a high note. And there’s just so many people that put so much work in to make this happen. The games is a huge undertaking, and then to plan it during a pandemic is mind-boggling.”

To recognize the effort involved, Games volunteers were recognized during the Closing Ceremony as the athletes looked on — a symbol that the Games are as much about the people who make them and those who participate as those who win medals.


Team USA’s flagbearer for the Closing Ceremony was four-time Olympian Kara Winger. One of two captains for the U.S. track and field team in Tokyo, Winger placed 17th in the javelin competition in Tokyo, marking her second-best career performance at an Olympic Games.

The ceremony was an expression of gratitude too — to the athletes, staff, and volunteers who came together to make the Games successful.

Zach Apple summarized it best — his words likely felt by all the athletes who competed in Tokyo.

He expressed the team’s thanks to everyone who made Tokyo 2020 happen: “bus drivers, janitorial staff, everyone is a key part of making sure this Games happened.”

“We’re just so thankful to everyone who put in the work to make sure that this did happen,” he said. “We just can’t be thankful enough that they did that work and that we are here. Thank you. Thank you, everyone.”

An award-winning freelance writer based in Vermont, Peggy Shinn has covered six Olympic Games. She has contributed to TeamUSA.org since its inception in 2008.
By Karen Price
Red Line Editorial

When the official qualification window opened for the Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 on Aug. 24, 2019, no one had any clue that the Opening Ceremony would take place exactly two years later.

But as long as the wait was to start the Games, the 13 days in Tokyo flew by. The Closing Ceremony of the 16th Summer Paralympics was held in Tokyo on Sunday night, featuring costumed performers in a carnival-like atmosphere. In the end, the Paralympic flag was taken down, folded and handed to a representative from Paris, where the Summer Games will reconvene in three years.

Five-time Paralympian Matt Scott, who won his second consecutive gold medal in wheelchair basketball just hours earlier, was Team USA’s flag bearer.

“I’m overflowing with gratitude,” the Detroit native said. “It’s an indescribable privilege to carry the flag that will lead myself, my team and the rest of our delegation. On behalf of my fellow Team USA athletes, I send my greatest appreciation to the Tokyo Organizing Committee, the countless workers and volunteers, and the entire country of Japan for welcoming us with open arms and showing the power that sport has in bringing us together.”

Though the pandemic forced a one-year postponement of the Games, the unusual circumstances under which the athletes competed — with safety protocols keeping fans and families from being in attendance — didn’t dampen their performances.

Team USA competed in a total of 241 events across 19 sport disciplines. The U.S. won a total of 37 gold, 36 silver and 31 bronze medals, and 129 athletes are coming home with hardware. Of those, 71 are women and 58 are men.

This year’s team consisted of 242 athletes, including six guides for the visually impaired, representing 41 states and the District of Columbia. Of those, 129 were returning athletes, including three four-time Paralympians — goalball athlete Asya Miller and Lisa Czechowski, table tennis athlete Tahl Leibovitz and track and field athlete Tatyana McFadden — and 10 five-time Paralympians. The U.S. delegation’s collective medal count coming into Tokyo was 233 medals.
Also included among the contingent were 21 who self-identify as military. Three are active duty: shooters John Joss II and Kevin Nguyen and swimmer Elizabeth Marks, who won a gold, silver and bronze medal and set a world record in the 100-meter backstroke S6.

More than 50 percent of the athletes also had college ties, representing a total of 77 schools including Divisions I, II and III and junior colleges.

The title of youngest to compete belongs to swimmer Keegan Knot at 16, while fencer Terry Hayes was the oldest at 63. The youngest medalists were just 17 years old — swimmers Anastasia Pagonis and Gia Pergolini, and Ixhelt Gonzalez — while the oldest medalist was cyclist Jill Walsh at 58.

Blake Haxton had the distinction of being the only athlete to compete in two sports, paracanoe and rowing, but the U.S. team was well-represented by multi-sport athletes.

Cyclist Oksana Masters became the fourth woman and sixth American to become a gold medalist in both the Winter and the Summer Paralympics when she won not only the time trial H4-5 but also the road race H5. She had previously won medals in Nordic skiing and rowing.

A total of 14 athletes competing in Tokyo this summer have also competed in other sports. In addition to Masters and Haxton, they are: Rudy Garcia-Tolson (track and field, swimming), Kendall Gretsch (Nordic skiing, triathlon), Will Groulx (cycling, wheelchair rugby), Chris Hammer (track and field, triathlon), Tatyana McFadden (Nordic Skiing, track and field), Asya Miller (goalball, track and Field), Cassie Mitchell (swimming, track and field), Grace Norman (track and field, triathlon), Aaron Pike (Nordic skiing, track and field), Alyssa Seely (track and field, triathlon), Brad Snyder (swimming, triathlon) and Melissa Stockwell (swimming, triathlon).

Swimmer Jessica Long came in as the most decorated U.S. athlete with 23 medals in four previous Paralympic appearances. She added three golds, two silvers and one bronze medal to that tally in Tokyo, including her fourth consecutive Paralympic title in the 200-meter individual medley SM8.

Seventeen-time track and field medalist McFadden also added to her count, with one gold, one silver and one bronze medal.

Badminton and taekwondo were new sports this year, and while the U.S. didn’t have any representation in badminton, Evan Medell became the first American to medal in parataekwondo by winning bronze in the +75 kg K44 class.

Also, NBC broadcasted more Paralympic coverage than ever before with 1,200 hours across its platforms.

World records are always apt to fall with the best of the best gathered in one place, and that was certainly the case in Tokyo. Nick Mayhugh actually set not one but three world records in track and field. Competing in the first-ever 4x100-meter universal relay contested in the Paralympics, Mayhugh, McFadden, Brittni Mason and Noah Malone won gold with a world record time of 45.52 seconds. Then the soccer player turned track star set the record in the prelims of the men’s 100-meter T37 and lowered it even further in the final with a time of 21.91 seconds.

Breanna Clark shattered her own world record in the 400-meter T20 event with a time of 55.18 seconds, and teammate Roderick Townsend also broke his own record to repeat as men’s high jump T47 champion leaping 2.15 meters.

Athletes also altered the record books in the pool. A pair of first-time 17-year-old Paralympians made history on the same day when Pergolini set the record for the 100-meter backstroke S13 twice in the same day and Pagonis broke her own record in the 400-meter freestyle S11. Robert Griswold set a new mark in the men’s 100-meter backstroke S8, and Marks wrote her name in the book next to the women’s 100-meter backstroke S6.

And as is also always the case, a few athletes competed for what they knew would be the last time at the Paralympics.

Track and field’s Cheri Madsen, who won her first medal in Atlanta in 1996, won her last in the women’s 100-meter T54 final, earning bronze at the age of 44. After quitting the sport after 2000, she returned and made the 2016 team. She retires with two gold, five silver and three bronze medals.

Swimmer Sophia Herzog is also calling it a career. She won bronze in the 100-meter breaststroke SB6 to add to the silver she won in the event in 2016.

Karen Price is a reporter from Pittsburgh who has covered Olympic and Paralympic sports for various publications. She is a freelance contributor to TeamUSA.org on behalf of Red Line Editorial, Inc.
The U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Museum celebrated its one-year anniversary with an amazing summer of activity and athlete visits. More than 70 athletes visited the Museum for autograph and meet and greet sessions, and the Museum saw its highest attendance on record. If you want to plan a visit to the Museum, please send an email to athletes@usopm.org.
1. Carl Lewis (1980, 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996 Track and Field) and Peggy Fleming (1964, 1968 Figure Skating) visit with one another at the Museum during June events.


5. Fans cheer on Team USA during Tokyo Olympic coverage with John Register (1996, 2000 Para Swimming and Para Track and Field) hyping the crowd.

6. Members of the 2020 Tokyo wheelchair basketball team watch teammate Matt Scott asking himself questions.

7. Colorado Springs saw thousands of community members in the downtown area to celebrate the Colorado Springs Sesquicentennial, the city’s 150th anniversary, on July 31, 2021. The Museum celebrated with outdoor activities and watch party events.


10. Members of the 1984 U.S. Olympic gymnastics team celebrate an evening of memories from their Olympic Games experience with fans.


Next Step 2022 Publicity Kit

What is Next Step?
Next Step is a general management certificate program designed for elite athletes and military veterans who are preparing to take the next step in their careers. This program helps athletes develop a foundation of essential business skills and translate their unique experience into sought-after professional competencies so that they are prepared to make a successful transition into the world of business. Tuck’s world-class faculty and powerful career development network make the Next Step experience truly unparalleled. The spring 2022 program will be a virtual experience for a cohort of up to 120 participants, building on the tremendous success of our 2021 virtual program.

Spring 2022 dates and deadlines
• Application deadline: November 30, 2021
• Asynchronous learning phase: begins February 14, 2022
• Synchronous learning phase: March 27 – April 13, 2022

Sample posts
Below, we’ve created a few posts you might like to share on your channels. You can use them exactly as is or personalize them to better fit your audience and voice. If you prefer to write your own content, we’ve included some images you could use, and we just ask that you use #TuckNextStep and this link to our website: http://nextstep.tuck.dartmouth.edu/?utm_source=ns&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ns_outreach_athletes

TWITTER
#TeamUSA athletes: looking to take the next step in your career? Apply to #TuckNextStep, a certificate program from Dartmouth’s @TuckSchool designed specifically to leverage the experiences of elite athletes. Learn more: http://nextstep.tuck.dartmouth.edu/?utm_source=ns&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ns_outreach_athletes

#TuckNextStep is a transformative experience taught by some of the best business minds in the world. Customized for elite athletes & veterans, this program from the @TuckSchool will kick start your career. Applications due November 30: http://nextstep.tuck.dartmouth.edu/?utm_source=ns&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ns_outreach_athletes

FACEBOOK
Hey, Team USA! Take the next step in your career with #TuckNextStep, a general management certificate program from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth customized for elite athletes. This program will build your business acumen and polish your leadership skills. The program is G.I. Bill eligible and applications for spring 2022 are due November 30! http://nextstep.tuck.dartmouth.edu/?utm_source=ns&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ns_outreach_athletes
LINKEDIN

The Next Step certificate program for elite athletes and military veterans from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth challenges participants to make decisions, not merely memorize facts. Next Step’s mix of courses and career development support equips athletes with the knowledge and tools to bridge the gap between the playing field and the business world. Build your business toolkit—apply today! [http://nextstep.tuck.dartmouth.edu/?utm_source=ns&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ns_outreach_veterans](http://nextstep.tuck.dartmouth.edu/?utm_source=ns&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ns_outreach_veterans)

NEWSLETTER

Offered by the renowned Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College, Next Step is a general management certificate program designed for elite athletes and military veterans who are preparing for a career in business. The Next Step curriculum is designed to build a strong foundation in the business acumen and the career development skills necessary to be competitive in today’s job market.

Applications for the spring 2022 are due November 30. Next Step’s virtual format includes a robust curriculum of live and asynchronous courses. The asynchronous learning phase begins on February 14, 2022, and the live phase will take place March 27 – April 13, 2022.

For further information, please visit the Next Step website or contact Margaux Lohry, program director, at margaux.j.lohry@tuck.dartmouth.edu.
Caryn Davies was elected president of the United States Olympians and Paralympians Association (USOPA) in 2021. She previously served as a vice president from 2008-2012 and 2016-2019. She also served as athlete representative to the USRowing Board of Directors from 2004-2010.

Caryn represented Team USA in the women's eight-oared event at three Olympic Games. She competed in her first Games in 2004, while still an undergraduate at Harvard, where she and her teammates won the silver medal. Four years later, her boat won gold at the Olympic Games Beijing 2008. In 2012, she won another gold at the Olympic Games London 2012 while simultaneously earning her law degree from Columbia Law School.

Davies retired from elite competition after the London Games. Over the next seven years, she clerked on the Ninth Circuit Federal Court of Appeals in Honolulu, won a Hawaii state championship in outrigger canoeing, completed an MBA at Oxford, won the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race, and worked as a corporate attorney at a large Boston law firm. In 2019, Caryn came out of retirement to train for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 but did not make the Olympic team due to injury.

Caryn now has her own law practice in Boston, but her real passions are sharing the lessons she has learned as an athlete with people hoping to achieve their own peak performance and helping athletes transition from elite competition to a successful career.

Bob Balk was elected to the United States Olympians and Paralympians Association executive committee and began serving as a vice president in July 2021.

Bob is six-time Paralympian and Paralympic medalist in track and field and skiing but has participated in a wide range of other sports, including canoe/kayak and bobsled, at the national team level. He brings to the USOPA executive committee a broad perspective across a wide range of sports.

Bob has also been very active in several volunteer administrative roles in the movement over the past decades. Bob served on the USOC Athletes’ Advisory Council and was very quickly asked to join the USOC Governance and Ethics Task force in 2003 during a very difficult time. In 2004 he was elected to the International Paralympic Committee’s Athletes’ Council, and in 2008 he was re-elected and elected by the AC to be chairperson. This role brought on several ex-officio positions, including a seat on the IPC Governing Board and the International Olympic Committee’s Athletes’ Commission. During the entirety of his ten-year tenure, he always took his ex-officio role on the USOC AAC very seriously and only missed one meeting due to the birth of his children in 2006. He is frequently called upon by AAC members for his perspective on various topics important to athletes.

Bob’s education is in finance, with corporate experience in strategy and business development in the aerospace industry. Bob is currently involved with Pier70 ventures as a founding managing director.

Bob is a member of the Paralympic Order, the highest honor in the Paralympic Movement.

Bob currently lives in upstate New York.

Allison was elected as a vice president for the U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association for the 2016-2020 and 2021-2024 quadrennials.

She is 2010 Olympic bronze medalist in short track speedskating and made a historic comeback to win bronze after shattering her right leg and ankle in a tragic skating collision one year before in the 1500-meter world cup final.

Allison won her first national championship on roller INLINE skates in 1992 (age 12) and by 2009, won more world cup medals than any American short track female skater in history. She’s broken short track American records in the 1000-meter and 3000-meter relays, and still holds the 1500 today that she set in 2008.

Bridging the gap for women in sports, Allison became the first Olympian to sign a modeling contract with Wilhelmina Models, 2008. In 2009 announced the P&G sponsorship of Allison for COVERGIRL®, Olay®, Olay Quench®, Pantene®, Secret®, and Venus®.

Allison hung up her signature hot pink skates in 2018 and became an actress. She is the founder/CEO of her own production company, Allison Baver Entertainment.

An advocate for equality, Allison met with Nancy Pelosi and Rep. Stupak to support federal investment in BJ Stupak Olympic Scholarship and with Champions for America’s Future, Baver urged Congress to prioritize funding for Head Start, Preschool Development and Child Care and Development Block Grant, to help at-risk kids compete in life.

Allison holds a bachelor’s degree in marketing/management from PSU and master’s degree in business/marketing from NYIT. She was inducted in the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.
Bruce Furniss was elected a vice president of the United States Olympians and Paralympians Association for the 2021-2024 quadrennial.

Bruce was a 1976 swimming two-time Olympic gold medalist and won two gold and two silver medals at the world championships in 1975 and 1978. During his career, Bruce broke ten world records, nineteen American records and garnered eleven AAU and six NCAA national titles. Swimming for the University of Southern California from 1975 to 1979, he was an integral part of two national championship winning teams.

He is one of three Americans (Mark Spitz and Michael Phelps being the other two) to ever win the Olympic 200-meter freestyle. Along with his brother, Steve, he is among a rare group of siblings to make the same Olympic team. The Furniss brothers share two unique distinctions as the only siblings to ever break one another’s world record and as members of the last swim club relay team to break a swimming world record.

Bruce has been inducted into the International Swimming, Orange County Sports, USC Athletic and the Aquatic Capital of America Hall of Fames. He has received the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award and in 2020 was inducted into the COSIDA Academic Hall of Fame. He is a member of USA Swimming’s Swim Team of the 20th Century and of the Pac-12 Conference’s All-Century swim team.

Bruce is a successful commercial real estate broker and affordable housing expert. He is a former member of USA Swimming’s board of directors and sits on the boards of the Swim with Mike, David X. Marks and Koroibos Foundations.

Sharon A. Jewell was elected to serve as a vice president for the U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association for the 2021-2024 quadrennial.

Sharon is a 1988 Olympic bronze medalist, who started the sport of taekwondo on a bet. She has the fastest kick (Ap Chagi) of any male/female at 39 MPH, and was ranked no. 1 in the U.S. for nine years. Sharon won more than 10 international/national gold medals, five silver medals and five bronze medals. She served as women’s team captain (1984, 1985) and overall team captain (1984, 1989 and 1990). Sharon medaled in every competition of her entire 14-year taekwondo career. She delivered nine knockouts and one-technical knockout.

An Arkansas native with advocacy/civil rights in her DNA, Sharon is an Little Rock Central High School Hall of Fame track inductee (1978). Sharon received a full academic and NCAA Division I track scholarship to Howard University from Olympic Coach William “Bill” Moultrie. She was a MEAC Conference 110 hurdles champion, five-time Taekwondo Collegiate Champion (1980-1984) and four-time National Collegiate Taekwondo Athlete of the Year (1980-1983).

Continuing advocacy while an athlete, Sharon was appointed first female athlete/first African American female to serve on USAT Executive Committee/Board of Directors. She was selected chairperson for USAT Junior Olympic, AAC, Women’s AAC. Sharon served as USOC AAC athlete alternate (1984-1992) and USOC Athlete Support Committee.

After competition, Sharon focused on ethical issues. Sharon became the first African American female international referee representing U.S. in 2017. Sharon serves on World Taekwondo Integrity Committee regarding SafeSport, ethics and governance.

Sharon served as charter member/secretary, vice-president and president of the NEOPA Chapter. Now a five-time hall of famer (HU-’97, USTGS-2016, OTHOF- ’2017), she serves as member/secretary for recently formed African American Wrestling Hall of Fame, and volunteer community ambassador with the Team USA Council on Racial and Social Justice.

Sharon earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology and also received an MBA with distinction from Keller Graduate School of Management.

Kibwé was elected to the United States Olympians and Paralympians Association Executive Committee in 2021.

Additionally, he is part of several committees within USA Track & Field Athlete Advisory Committee, including Rules, Men’s Track & Field Executive Committee, Officials, and Law and Legislation. He was also integral in the formation of the Hammer Initiative, a USATF and USOPC endeavor.

An Olympic finalist in 2012 and two-time Pan American Games gold medalist (2011, 2015), Kibwé now serves as the director of track & field for SPIRE Institute and Academy, one of the most unique and comprehensive athletic, academic, personal and career development organizations in the world. Here, he is able to follow his passion for sport and its unquestionably large individual impact on each and every one of us. It is from this perspective that Kibwé comes to the USOPA.

During his long professional career, Kibwé won an impressive six national championships with another four runner-up finishes. This saw him considered as the most versatile thrower of all-time with the world best combination for discus throw, hammer throw and weight throw. Track and Field News named Kibwé the US Hammer Thrower of the Decade (2010-2020).

John Moffet was elected to the executive committee of the U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association in 2021. He is the current president of the Southern California chapter of USOPA.

John was a member of the 1980 (boycotted) and 1984 Olympic Swimming Team and is a former world record holder in the breaststroke. While at Stanford University, he was a five-time individual NCAA champion and two-time team champion. During his senior year, John was awarded the NCAA Top VI Award honoring the six most outstanding student-athletes in the nation. He has
been elected to the Stanford Athletic Hall of Fame and the Pac-12 All-Century Team. He also received the Congressional Gold Medal from President Carter because of the Moscow Olympic boycott.

Since retiring from athletics, John has produced hundreds of hours of television and is the recipient of three Primetime Emmy Awards as supervising producer of The Amazing Race. He currently serves on the board of directors of LA Sports Council, Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games, and Ready, Set Gold! John and his wife (another Stanford swimmer) reside in Los Angeles and have two college-age children.

LYDIA MURPHY-STEPHANS

Lydia was elected to serve as a vice president on the U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Executive Committee in 2021.

She is currently the CEO & founder of SportsBubble LLC, a sports marketing and media services company.

Lydia has built and led businesses for the Pacific Athletic Conference, MSG Media/Cablevision, Oxygen Media and ABC/Disney. Her hands-on, best practices management style was put into action with the creation of Pac-12 Networks, the rebranding of MSG Networks, the launch of Oxygen media and the global oversight of ABC’s Wide World of Sports. In winning 24 Emmy awards, Lydia’s reputation as a versatile media executive was solidified.

Lydia has served in leadership roles on numerous for profit and non-profit boards, including Octagon’s Global Media Rights Advisory Board, Lifetime Television’s Board of Directors, NYC2012’s Olympic Bid Committee, Women’s Sports Foundation’s Board of Directors, and U.S. Speed Skating Association’s Board of Directors.

Lydia was a member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic Speedskating Team. In 1994, she was inducted into the Amateur Skating Union’s Hall of Fame.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

DICK FOSBURY

Dick Fosbury was elected vice president of the U.S. Olympians Association in 2004, serving until he was elected president of the United States Olympians and Paralympians Association from 2016-2021. Dick also founded the Idaho Chapter of USOA in 2007 and served as president of the World Olympic Association from 2007-2011.

Dick became an Olympic champion in the high hump event at the Olympic Games Mexico City 1968, setting and Olympic Games and national record, clearing 7’ – 4 ¼” (2.24m) while introducing a new technique called the ‘Fosbury Flop’. This technique has revolutionized the high jump event and led to his being inducted in the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 1992, as well as many other international, national, state, and local halls of fame. Dick has remained active, coaching kids with his Dick Fosbury Track Camp and Simplot Games Track Camp, and as chair of the Simplot Games in Pocatello, Idaho. Dick graduated with a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering technology and became licensed as a civil engineer and land surveyor in the state of Idaho. Dick also was co-founder and president of Galena Engineering, Inc, until retiring in 2011. Dick was elected as Blaine County Commissioner in 2018 and is serving as chairman.

PAST PRESIDENTS

GARY HALL SR.

Since retiring in 2006 as a physician, Dr. Gary Hall has now dedicated his life to swim coaching technique and swim training methods to help children, masters, fitness and health swimmers, and triathletes at The Race Club in Coronado, California. He brings his science background, knowledge and experience in swim stroke mechanics and a strong passion for swimming to offer an unsurpassed quality of teaching at the club or through online coaching. Swimmers of all ages and abilities come from around the world to learn from and be inspired by Gary and give themselves the lifetime gift of swimming.

Gary has held 10 world swimming records. In 1968 and 1970, he was named World Swimmer of the Year. In the 1970 NCAA swimming championship, he alone scored a record 56.5 points. He was a leader as captain of the Indiana University swim team that in his senior year won its sixth straight NCAA championship.

Gary was elected team co-captain for the Olympic men’s swim teams of 1972 and 1976. In 1976, he was selected to carry the American flag in the Opening Ceremony in Montreal. He was the only U.S. Olympic swimmer ever selected for that honor until Michael Phelps in 2016. Gary served as vice president of the U.S. Olympians Association from 2005-2012 and as president of the U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association from 2012-2016.

Gary is the author of two highly acclaimed books, Fundamentals of Fast Swimming and Winning Life’s Gold Medal.

WILLIE BANKS

Willie Banks is president of HSJ, Incorporated, a sports management and consulting firm that specializes in marketing and networking between the U.S. and Japan. With vast sports experience, industry knowledge and operational skills for sports businesses, HSJ, Inc. and its network help businesses and individuals implement new programs, develop strategic planning and create fresh marketing tools.

Willie served as the deputy venue director for the 1994 World Cup of soccer and the director of athlete services for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Village. He is famous throughout the world and has represented his country in many ways. Taking note of Willie’s international popularity and outstanding personal character and leadership qualities, Time Magazine once dubbed him “The United States’ ambassador of track and field”.

Though Willie is a former world record
holder and Olympian, much of his fame comes from his innovative approach to sports. Willie entertained the crowd and in response the spectators rhythmically clapped while he ran down the runway for his jump. It became so popular that it set a tradition that is mimicked throughout the world to this day.

Willie served as the president of the U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association from 2005-2013. Willie was elected to the World Athletics Council in 2019, sits on the USA Track & Field Board of Directors, and served on the World Olympians Executive Committee from 2013-2019. He is the former USATF Alumni president and past chairman of the USATF Athletes Advisory Committee.

JOHN NABER

John Naber was America’s most decorated athlete at the Olympic Games Montreal 1976, swimming to four gold medals and one silver. Following his retirement, Naber entered the broadcasting field and served as analyst, reporter and play-by-play tv and radio announcer for more than 30 Olympic sports at ten Olympic Games. He has authored three Olympic-related books and speaks to audiences on how Olympians think and act on the path to making their dreams come true. He was twice elected as president of the U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association and currently leads a variety of non-profit organizations, including the Olympians for Olympians Relief Fund (OORF), the Koroibos Foundation, “Ready, Set, Gold!” and the Swim with Mike Foundation. In 2020, he was elected to serve on the USOPC Board of Directors. Naber has been passionate about the Olympic Games since visiting Olympia, Greece at age ten. As one of the USOPA past presidents, he hopes to increase participation at the various USOPA chapters, Olympic and Paralympic Day activities and the quadrennial USOPA reunions. He also encourages all USOPA members to help each other during difficult times by donating to, or nominating team members for, OORF grants (www.oorf.org).

WILLIAM “BILL” TOOMEY

Bill served as the director of fundraising for the U.S. Olympic Committee. He was also a member of the prestigious Presidential Commission on Olympic Sports. The Commission report resulted in a major restructuring of the Olympic Movement in the U.S., and the passage of the Amateur Sports Act. Bill served two terms on the board of directors of the USOC. He is co-founder of the World Olympians Association and served as president of the U.S. Olympians Association.

Bill won the 1969 Sullivan Award, which is awarded annually to America’s greatest amateur athlete. He was inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 1984 and honored by the University of Colorado as the ALUMNUS OF THE CENTURY.

After the Olympic Games Mexico City 1968, Bill worked for the U.S. Department of State and the Peace Corps. He worked in some 20 countries on behalf of the agencies.

Bill coached for several years at the University of California, and in his second year, won the team championship in the NCAA Division II. His teaching experience included lecturing at Santa Barbara City College.

During the Olympic Games Munich 1972, Bill was the Envoy to the President of the United States. In 1996, he acted as Special Envoy for His Excellency Juan Antonio Samaranch, President of the IOC, in a humanitarian effort involving the government of Ethiopia.

Bill received his bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Colorado and his master’s degree from Stanford University. He co-authored two books with Barry King, The Olympic Challenge 1984 and 1988.

USOPA MEMBERS SERVING ON USOPC COMMITTEES

DONNA DE VARONA
USOPC Board Athlete At-Large

DR. LESLIE MILNE
USOPC Ethics Committee

JOHN NABER
USOPC Board Athlete At-Large

JAN PALCHIKOFF
Athlete & NGB Services Committee

SANDRA PATRICK FARMER
Athlete Services and NGB Compliance Committee

BONNIE WARNER SIMI
Nominating and Governance Committee
I’ve always been an athlete, or at least a “potential” one. The day I was born, the nurse said “Oh! We’ve got a basketball player on our hands.” She was wrong, but not by much. I started playing volleyball at age 10 and now, standing at 6’4”, no one is surprised to learn about my career - which makes for an interesting transition when you go from pro to the unknown. I stopped playing competitive volleyball six months ago and, although I was often warned what the transition might be like, nothing truly prepares you for it.

Born in San Diego, the hotbed of volleyball in Southern California, I was exposed to the sport early on. I played at UCLA, made the national team after college and was fortunate enough to compete for Team USA at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, where we won bronze.

My pro career recently ended when I wasn’t selected for the Tokyo 2020 roster. While I wasn’t completely surprised, I was heartbroken nonetheless and definitely lost in knowing what to do next.

Naturally, I took to the internet. I had the amazing fortune to speak with Olympic swimming legend Janet Evans earlier in the year about the LA28 Games, where she serves as Chief Athlete Officer. I’d been regularly checking job postings already but the same week I was cut from the team happened to be the week that LA28 posted an athlete fellowship position - a year-long program with two six-month rotations through LA28’s operational teams. LA28 is intent on delivering an athlete-centric Olympic and Paralympic Games, which means providing opportunities and resources for athletes before and after their athletic careers conclude. Ding ding, that’s me! I’m now four months into my LA28 fellowship and feel like I’ve learned years worth of invaluable lessons already. But with immense learning, comes immense adjustment. I’ve been navigating how to work at a desk for 40 hours a week while staying active and finding balance, just as anyone might with a new routine. It’s been exciting, challenging, and interesting to say the least. LA28 has provided me with resources and help that I could only dream of in my post-athlete career, and...
most of all, the chance to be a part of something bigger than myself.

Every professional athlete will experience this transition in some capacity. There aren’t many careers that peak and disappear after your late 20’s or early 30’s. A lot of mojo and self-worth comes from being an elite athlete at the pinnacle of your field. To go from that to starting from the bottom in a new industry is extremely humbling - but also very exciting. To dream that I can go from someone who “was” a volleyball player to a consultant or entrepreneur is exhilarating. And though nothing will ever quite match the adrenaline of competing on a world stage - when I feel the excitement of flexing my creative brain or working on a new project, I know I’m on the right track.


2. Karsta Lowe, Team USA vs. China


4. Karsta Lowe with LA28’s dynamic emblem, with an everchanging “A.” This “A” created by Aidan Kosaka, features a hiragana “A” hugging a basketball to pay homage to the legacy of Japanese American community basketball
On October 21, a ceremony was held to celebrate the life of Rafer Johnson at the UCLA track, now named the Betsy and Rafer Johnson Track at Drake Stadium. Among those presenting the flag to Rafer’s daughter, Jennifer Johnson Jordan (Beach Volleyball, 2000) were (l-r): Meb Keflezighi (Marathon, 2004-’16), Adam Krikorian (Women’s Water Polo coach, 2012-’20) John Moffett (Swimming, 1980, ’84) John Naber (Swimming, 1976), Ann Meyers-Drysdale (Basketball, 1976) Annett Davis (Beach Volleyball, 2000) Holly McPeak (Beach Volleyball, 1996-’04), Willie Banks (T&F, 1980-’88) and Reynaldo Brown (T&F, 1968). Photo by Steve Futterman.
Ladislava “Laddie” Bakanic (gymnastics, 1948)

Ladislava “Laddie” Bakanic died on Feb. 26, 2021, at the age of 96.

Laddie attended New York City public schools and graduated from Hunter College. In her younger years she worked for the New York Central Railroad and later at IBM Armonk, New York. Laddie was married June 16, 1945, to George Bakanic, Jr. (WWII Army Airforce Veteran) now deceased.

During her younger years, she was an avid gymnast and practiced her skills at Sokol NYC. Laddie competed at the Olympic Games London 1948, where she won a bronze medal.

Laddie is survived by her daughters, Nadine Sommer and Corinne Maggiore; grandchildren, Keri Sommer, Erin Magrino, Jessi, George, Sal and Tony Maggiore; and two great granddaughters, Sommer and Kyleigh Magrino.

Robert “Bart” Bartholomew (weightlifting, 1968)


Bart grew up in Allentown but spent many hours training at York Barbell Club. He later went on to participate in the Olympic Games Mexico City 1968, placing ninth in the world. He was a lifelong health enthusiast, winning Mr. Lehigh Valley among other competitions.

He was employed as a welder with Steamfitters Local 420 and was a 50-year member of that union based out of Philadelphia.

Bart was proud of being a 32nd° Mason of Porter Lodge 284 where he was a Past Master; as well as a Past High Priest of Catasauqua Royal Arch Chapter 278, a Member of Pocono Lodge 780, a Member of Allen Council #23 R.S.M.S., and the Red Cross of Constantine Mary Conclave. He was also a 4th*Member of the Knights of Columbus.

He will be truly missed by all who admired and loved him.

Survivors include son, Michael A. Bartholomew and wife, Vicki; grandchildren Michael A. Bartholomew Jr. and Dillon R. Bartholomew; sisters, Charlotte Friend and Charlie and Gail Suarez, as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by four siblings.

Philip “Phil” Coleman (track and field, 1956, 1960)

Philip “Phil” Coleman died on Jul. 25, 2021, at the age of 90.

Phil earned his undergraduate degree at Southern Illinois University, and his doctorate at the University of Illinois in 1964. During Phil’s years at SIU he became a member of the track and field team. His love of running continued even after his college and U.S. Army years culminating in competing as a steeplechase runner on the U.S team in both the Olympic Games Melbourne 1956 and the Olympic Games Rome 1960. He won the gold medal in the steeplechase at the 1959 Pan American Games.

Phil spent the bulk of his career at California University of Pennsylvania where he served as the Dean of Liberal Arts, English professor, and part-time track coach starting in 1967 and retiring in 1998.

Phil celebrated the outdoors by hiking, paddling and cross-country skiing. He sought protection for these lands through his work with the Pennsylvania Sierra Club and other environmental non-profits. He wrote novels, short stories and poetry inspired by nature.

Upon moving to Florida in 2010, Phil became very active in the Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College and the Acting Up group at Westminster Suncoast.

Phil always made time to enjoy a game of Bridge, a glass of red wine or dinner out with friends and family. He loved a shaggy dog story. He was smart, fun, compassionate and engaging up to his very last days.

Phil is preceded in death by his wife of 51 years, Wyona, his parents Claude and Hazel, sister Dorothy, and brothers Robert, Richard, and John. He is survived by sons Philip and David (Tammy), and daughter Sydney Willis (Vic) along with grandchildren Jose Pablo, Ryan, David, Alexandre, Vic Jr., Kari, and Kati. He was also much beloved by many nieces, nephews, and the wonderful friends he met along the way.
Arthur “Art” Cook  
(shooting, 1948)

Arthur “Art” Cook died on Feb. 21, 2021, at the age of 92.

Art was born in Washington, D.C. He is predeceased by his parents, Arthur Edward and Corda Prewet Cook, and an older sister, Dorothy Cook McCall. His father was in foreign affairs and served as the Undersecretary of Labor for Calvin Coolidge.

During his time in the Boy Scouts as a child, Art began the sports of archery and rifle shooting. He won the Washington Junior Archery Championship at age 15. He attended McKinley Tech High School and won the Washington, D.C. Junior Rifle Championship while there. He attended the University of Maryland, studying engineering and participating in the ROTC. In 1948, Art was the youngest shooter to win the U.S. championship.

Art entered the Air Force in 1951 and was assigned to the Gunnery Officers School. While in the service, he worked to develop and implement the USAF Marksmanship Training Program. In 1952, Art was sent to Walter Reed Hospital for an ailment and met Mary Maus, a nurse there. Mary and Art married on June 12, 1954, and Art taught Mary the art of shooting as well.

He coached the U.S. Deaf Olympic Team in 1969 and 1989. In 1982, he received the honor of being inducted into the University of Maryland Athletic Hall of Fame. A plaque of Art is in the Xfinity Center on the campus at the university.

Art had many business ventures over the years, but never stopped his love of shooting and the occasional golf game with his wife. He was a member of St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Rockville, Maryland, for over 50 years.

Art is survived by his wife of 66 years, Mary, as well as son William Arthur, Jane Marie Spence (Charles) and James Joseph Cook. He also leaves behind two grandchildren, Corinne and Charles Spence.

In 1994, Josh was inducted into the Penn Relays Wall of Fame for winning three straight victories in the college men’s 400-meter hurdles during his college career. He was a three-time U.S. outdoor champion in the 400 hurdles. He served as the honorary carnival referee at the meet in 2016 where he was also celebrated for the 60th anniversary of those three consecutive wins.

Josh was also a member of the Bears’ outstanding mile relay team dubbed as “The Flying Foursome.” That team won 13 national championships as well as five relay crowns at Penn Relays.

Josh served in the United States Marine Corps from 1956-58. During those years in the Marines, he was a member of the U.S. Olympic track team and won a bronze medal for the 400 hurdles at the Olympic Games Melbourne 1956.

Following his Olympic performance, he won numerous military and NATO track and field medals. He set world records in the hurdles in the 300-yard Oval Grass Track held at Bendigo, Australia, in 1956 and in the 440-yard hurdles set in Oslo, Norway, in 1957. In 2008, he was enshrined in the U.S. Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame. He won gold medals in the 400-meter hurdles at the 1955 and 1959 Pan American Games.


At the Olympic Games Atlanta 1996, four of his athletes participated, including Deon Hemmings, who won a gold medal for the 400-meter hurdles. Josh was the director of athletics at Morehouse College in Atlanta.
after his coaching career.

Josh received a lot of attention for a couple of guest appearances on “The Cosby Show.” He played the character Col. Sanford B. “Tailwind” Turner, Cliff Huxtable’s college track rival. He was also a member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity.

Josh is survived by his son, Jahan Culbreath; brother, Ernest Culbreath of Norristown; sister, Wilhelmina Barnes of Tuskegee, Alabama; son Maliq Culbreath of Greensboro, North Carolina; and daughters Sandra Penn of Columbia, Maryland, and Camille Culbreath of Hyannis, Massachusetts; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Janis was named All-American her freshman and sophomore years and set school records in the 50-, 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events. She qualified for the Olympic Games Moscow 1980.

Following her graduation from UNC in 1980, she moved to Charlotte with her friend Kathy Horvath and opened a popular aerobics studio, Exercise Plus, which they ran together until 1993. On May 11, 1991, Janis married Frank Dowd IV, enjoying almost three decades of happy marriage.

A lifelong fitness buff, Janis was a familiar sight at the YMCA and yoga studio or at the swimming pool, walking, biking, and swimming when she wasn’t on her elliptical trainer. She maintained a wide network of friends from her days as an Olympian, college swimmer, proprietor of Exercise Plus and an active mom in the lives of her three children. The children all attended Charlotte Country Day School, and Janis developed many close friendships there. She believed that her greatest accomplishment was the life she built with her children and husband and will be remembered for her boundless energy, loving spirit, authenticity, and big smile, one who “lit up the room” with her presence. Despite her sudden illness and passing, her legacy will live on through her husband, children, extended family, and many friends across the country.

In recent years, Frank honored Janis with a couple of months of formal training, sheCouponsand set school records in the 50-, 100- and 200-yard breaststroke events. She qualified for the Olympic Games Moscow 1980.

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In recent years, Frank honored Janis by funding the Janis Hape Dowd Nike Invitational, which features several of the country’s top collegiate swimming programs in a multi-day competition hosted by UNC at its Koury Natatorium. In 2019 she was inducted into the North Carolina Swimming Hall of Fame.

Janis and Frank spent many happy summers at Figure 8 Island near Wilmington and recently winters at the Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo, Florida. In the last decade, the family travelled extensively, visiting Africa, Australia, Peru, Fiji, Italy, Greece, and the Galapagos Islands.

Janis is predeceased by a brother, Gary Hape. In addition to her mother and husband, she is survived by a son, Willis Frank Dowd V; twin daughters, Diana Worth Dowd and Sally Carson Dowd; a brother, Jeff Hape (Suzie) and their two children.

Winona “Suzanne” Zimmerman Edwards
(swimming, 1948)


Born into the small, forested community of Lake Grove, Oregon, Suzanne grew up with her parents, Edith Chaffee Wardwell and Charles William Zimmerman, and brother Ward Arden Zimmerman, on a dirt road without a family car, climbing trees, biking, and swimming nearly every summer day in Lake Oswego. Her early years were embedded in small community life. She attended Lake Grove Grade School, West Linn High School, and Willamette University.

Suzanne lived a dynamic life. At 14, with only a couple of months of formal training, she earned a spot at the nationals that occurred that year at Janzen Beach swimming pool in Portland. At 15, she began traversing the country during the war years with the famed “Cody Kids”, the championship team of girl swimmers sponsored by the Multnomah Athletic Club. She won 15 national titles over eight years, culminating in a silver medal at the Olympic Games London 1948 in the 100-meter backstroke. Along with fellow Olympians Brenda Helser and Nancy Merki, both Portland natives, the Cody Kids won 42 individuals, 16 relay and three team titles at the national level from 1939 to 1948.

Suzanne and the Cody Kids were widely
feted across the country, including by movie stars in Los Angeles and Duke Kahanamoku in Hawaii. She was on the June 19, 1948, cover of Collier’s, a top national magazine, and at age 93, pointedly reminisced about her Olympic Games experience in a profile for Portland Monthly magazine. She was inducted into the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame in 1988.

She married Gordon Edwards (deceased), an urban planner, in 1958, and together they travelled the world, establishing homes in Boston, New York City, Manila in the Philippines, Dallas and Vancouver, B.C., among others. In 1974 she began a new life with her children in Portland among its trees, green gardens and clouds.

She was a dedicated mother who took pride in her independence, creativity and intelligence. She delighted in reading, especially the Oregonian, The New Yorker, The Atlantic, and political, historical, biographical books from the public library. She collected works from contemporary Portland artists and cherished her friendships with them, especially Gregory Grenon and Mary Josephson.

Suzanne is survived by her children, Christopher and Ann Edwards; son-in-law, John Payne; grandchildren, Dylan and Alia Payne; and nephews, Craig, Darrell, Bryan, and Alan Zimmerman.

John “Louie” Ehrensbeck
(ski and snowboard, 1968)

John “Louie” Ehrensbeck died on Jul. 17, 2021, at the age of 76.

Louie was a talented athlete who went on to compete on the baseball field, ski hill and Nordic course. He was a member of both the U.S. alpine and U.S. Nordic ski teams in the 1960s and competed in the Olympic Winter Games Grenoble 1968 on both the men’s Nordic and biathlon teams. He was able to return to his Olympic stomping grounds with his daughter, Kerrin, in 2019. Their three-week tour of Europe brought him great joy and memories that he loved to share.

Louie settled in Old Forge, raising his five daughters and operating a successful ski shop and ski tuning businesses, where he was happy to share his expertise, knowledge and words of wisdom. He was especially connected to local youth, spending many years coaching high school soccer and golf, as well as cheering on his hometown Eskimos from the bleachers, ski hill or sidelines every chance he got.

Louie was a fixture around Old Forge; from his dedicated work at Thendara Golf Course and McCauley Mountain, to his wave and smile from his convertible, to sharing special time with his grandchildren. He always made time to stop and say hello, share a chuckle, talk about how he hit ‘em that day, or relive the best play of the soccer game. He taught countless local kids not only the sports of skiing, soccer, and golf, but about sportsmanship, fair play and the value of hard work and teamwork.

He wore a lot of hats and cultivated many relationships, but his proudest achievement was his family. Local legend, Olympian, entrepreneur, mentor, coach and friend; his favorite titles were “Dad”, “Poppy” and “Pop Pop.” Louie will be remembered for his love of family and friends, his gentle manner, hard work and his devotion to his community.

Louie is survived by his beloved children, Kelli (Shane) Parmelee, Katie Ehrensbeck, Kristin (Nick) Armendola, Kayla (Ryan Chauncey) Ehrensbeck and Kerrin Ehrensbeck. He also leaves his adored grandchildren, Henry Parmelee, Thailer and Reagan Ehrensbeck, and Kit and Cooper Armendola; a special friend, Linda Compo; as well as many nieces and nephews and extended community of people who considered Lou family. He was predeceased by his parents; siblings, Jim and Joan; and many close friends.

In the seasons to come, when the sun twinkle on the morning dew on the greens in Thendara, when the first snowflakes of the season fly at McCauley Mountain and when the scoreboard lights up on North Street, he will be there still, in spirit, cheering on his hometown team.

Lee Edward Evans
(track and field, 1968, 1972)

Lee Edward Evans died on May 19, 2021, at the age of 74.

At 21-years old, the Madera, California, native was a pillar of San José State’s world-renowned brand known as “Speed City.” As a slender 158-pound college student by his own admission, he won gold medals in the men’s 400-meters and the men’s 4x400 meter relay at the Olympic Games Mexico City 1968 in world and Olympic Games record-setting times. Lee is the university’s first and only two-time Olympic Games gold medal winner.

Lee was the first person to run 400-meters under 44.0 seconds with his winning time of 43.86, he also ran the anchor leg of the victorious U.S. 4x400-meter team that crossed the finish line with a time of 2:56.16. The gold-medal winning 400-meter time remained a world record until 1988 and the 4x400-meter relay world mark stood until 1992.
The winning performances were in the shadow of controversy. Lee had considered withdrawing from Olympic competition following San José State and U.S. teammates Tommie Smith and John Carlos were expelled from the Olympic Village. Approaching the victory stand following his 400-meter victory, Lee, silver medalist Larry James and bronze medalist Ron Freeman wore black berets as their sign of support for the Olympic Project for Human Rights.

For his gold medal winning performances, he was named Track & Field News’ U.S. College Athlete of the Year. From 1966 through 1968 and again in 1970, he was ranked #1 in the world in the 400-meters by Track & Field News. Lee also was ranked in the top-10 in the 400 by Track and Field News in 1969 (second), 1971, (ninth) and 1972 (third).

The 1970 San José State graduate was captain of the Spartans’ 1969 team that won the NCAA Division I Men’s Outdoor Track and Field Championship in Knoxville, Tennessee. While at San José State, Lee also was a member of the Spartans’ 1967 world-record-setting 880-yard relay team that included Tommie Smith, Ken Shackelford and Bob Talmadge.

His track and field notoriety runs parallel to his humanitarian contributions in the United States and, particularly, in the African continent.

Lee was one of the greatest athletes and social justice advocates in an era that produced a generation of such courageous, committed, and contributing athlete-activists. He was an originating founder and advocate of the Olympic Project for Human Rights and what evolved in the late 1960’s into an all-out revolt among Black athletes over issues of injustice and inequality both within and beyond the sports arena.

Lee shared his knowledge and experiences in track and field with interested parties of all ages domestically and internationally. There were college coaching appointments at San José State, the University of Washington, and the University of South Alabama. He served as the director of athletics for Special Olympics International from 1988 to 1990. Lee provided technical assistance to Special Olympics programs in the United States, its territories and 90 countries around the world.

The United States Information Service (U.S.I.S.) agency appointed Lee as a track and field clinician for Sports America as a leader of coaching clinics throughout the world, particularly, in developing countries.

A Fulbright Scholar, Lee spent much of his post-competitive life on the African continent as a track and field coach and a humanitarian. He was a professor of biomechanics at the Cameroon National Institute of Youth and Sports and an associate professor of physical education at the University of Ife in Nigeria. He coached the national track and field teams of Qatar, Cameroon, and Nigeria.

In 1991, he was a recipient of a Nelson Mandela Award given to those who “…stood for the values of equality and friendship and respect of human rights, against apartheid and any form of racism.” In the 1980’s. Lee was focused on the Madagascar Project which included providing a fresh water supply, power, and electricity; creating economic self-sufficiency through profitable cash crop farming; improving the transportation system; and access to medical care.

A member of the San José State Hall of Fame, he also is enshrined in the United States Olympic and Paralympic Hall of Fame, the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame, the city of San Jose Sports Hall of Fame, and the African American Athletes Hall of Fame. Lee also was a 1994 recipient of a NCAA Silver Anniversary Award honoring exceptional student-athletes for their life’s work 25 years after completing a college career.

Francis “Conn” Findlay died on Apr. 8, 2021, at the age of 90.

Conn won gold medals in the coxed pair rowing event at the Olympic Games Melbourne 1956 and the Olympic Games Tokyo 1964, and a bronze in the event at the Olympic Games Rome 1960. At the Olympic Games Montreal 1976, he competed in sailing and earned a bronze medal in the tempest two-man keelboat class event, crewing for Dennis Conner.

Conn was part of the winning America’s Cup crews in 1974 and 1977. The second victory in sailing’s marquee regatta included Ted Turner as the skipper of the yacht Courageous. He won a gold at the 1963 Pan American Games in coxed pair and placed fifth in the event at the 1962 world championships. He was named USRowing’s Man of the Year in 2007.

Conn rowed at Southern California as a senior in 1953-54. He later earned an MBA from UC Berkeley. He also served as freshmen rowing coach at Stanford and became varsity coach in 1959 for several years. He was responsible for building the original boathouse on the Palo Alto campus. He was inducted into several Halls of Fame: USRowing, US Sailing, Stanford and USC. After coaching, he ran a boat leasing business and officiated rowing regattas.

Findlay wed for the first time when he and Luella Anderson were both in their 60s. They traveled widely and bought and
restored a boat that they sailed on. She died two years ago.

Peter T. George
(weightlifting, 1948, 1952, 1956)

Peter George died on Jul. 28, 2021, at the age of 92.

Peter was the first 15-year-old to clean and jerk 300 lbs. and was the youngest senior state champion in Ohio.

Peter won gold at the Olympic Games Helsinki 1952 and silver at both the Olympic Games London 1948 and Melbourne 1956. He also won five world championships. George placed second at the world championships in 1949, and 1950, earning a total of ten medals in world and Olympic competition. He also set four world records, three in the clean and jerk, and one in the total.

After retiring from athletics, he attended Kent State University, the Ohio State University and Columbia University. George became an orthodontist and served on the faculty of the University of Hawaii. He pioneered treatments for obstructive sleep apnea. He held the patent for the Nocturnal Airway Patency Appliance (NAPA), a device preventing the stoppage of breathing during sleep.

In 1993, George was awarded the Macedonian Hall of Fame Award by the Macedonian Businessmen’s Club.

Edwin “Eddie” Gilbert
(swimming, 1948)

Edwin “Eddie” Gilbert died on Nov. 7, 2020, at the age of 91.

Father of Lisa (Bill) Anderson and Amber Gilbert. Known as “Papa Texas” to his grandchildren Kellen and Krista Damico. Former husband of Cathy Crosby.

Eddie was Texas state high school champion in the 100-meter freestyle in 1946 and 1947. He won the AAU title in the 200-meter freestyle in 1948 and swam the 4x200-meter freestyle relay at the Olympic Games London 1948.

He competed for the University of Texas. He was a Southwest Conference champion and All-American in each of his three seasons at Texas. He served in the Korean War and has lived a lifetime of patriotism. Eddie joined the Naval ROTC program at University of Texas and graduated as a naval officer. Following graduation, he was assigned to duty in Coronado, California. He continued his training in Hawaii for three weeks and then set sail with nine other ships to Korea. He served in the Navy for two years and served in Japan and Korea, he also did a tour in Hong Kong before his discharge in 1954. He returned to Texas to begin his career in the oil business.

After an amazing career in the oil business, Eddie continued serving others through his philanthropy. After 9/11, Eddie began donating to military charities including Helping a Hero to ensure that our men and women who have served had the resources needed to begin their road to recovery.

Eddie has had a full life committed to service and his family and is an American Patriot.

Lawrence “Larry” Gluckman
rowing, 1976, coach, 1984)

Lawrence “Larry” Gluckman died on Mar. 30, 2021, at the age of 72.

Son of Sidney and Mae, brother to Norm, husband to Sara, father to Meg, Kate and Anna, brother-in-law to Sue and Curt, father-in-law to Michael and Scott, grandfather to Sky and Dylan, friend, and coach to many.

On early spring mornings in the far northeast corner of Vermont, you’d find Larry in a single boat circling Shadow Lake. Steam rising off the cold water as a pair of loons call back and forth. After more than 55 years of being an oarsman, these movements were second-nature, ingrained into his body. He still tracked his progress, jotting notes about his performance into a small notebook. Millions and millions of meters rowed. A post-workout dip in the chilly water led to a cup of black coffee and a quiet hour on the front porch.

In his younger years, spring was filled with collegiate rowing races. Larry began his rowing career as a walk-on at Northeastern University. Within 18 months he had earned a spot on the U.S. National Team, and he would remain at the pinnacle of the sport for the duration of his career. Larry competed at the Olympic Games Montreal 1976.

As a coach, he led championship programs at Princeton, Dartmouth, and Trinity, impacting thousands of athletes with his philosophical approach to training. Coaching elite athletes in the small boats
program at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center was a fitting conclusion to his career as it brought his dedication to rowing excellence to his favorite place, the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. He coached the women’s coxed four at the Olympic Games Los Angeles 1984.

Summer’s warm weather would beckon Larry’s family back to the lake each year. The girls — Kate, Meg and Anna — would gather on the dock for lazy days of sunbathing and swimming. Larry built a raft for diving and organized a yearly swim across the lake and pancake breakfast. Each morning the family would walk up the hill to Stone’s Farm, with Larry never forgetting a carrot or two for the horses, who would greet them at the wooden fence.

On the way down the hill, Larry would trail the girls, picking up garbage along the roadside — practicing what he would preach — leave it better. Since 2010, this annual pilgrimage included grandchildren, first Sky and then Dylan. Since early mornings were Larry’s domain, many were spent playing quiet games, going for walks, and eating his favorite snack, Wheat Thins. When the kids were away from the lake, “Gumpa” often sent notes, tucking a few dollars in with each handwritten card.

Summer also meant the yearly celebration of his marriage to Sara. This July would have marked their 50th anniversary. After meeting at a party at Northeastern University, Larry and Sara spent their years together traveling the world. Whether for Lan’s international competitions or their two years in Brazil as Peace Corps volunteers, their joint passion for adventure, people and culture was a foundational element of their life together.

Once the girls came along, theirs was a true partnership with Sara deftly guiding the home ship while Larry was off coaching. He would often mention (and she would never forget to remind him) that his coaching success was possible because of Sara’s strength and brilliance as a mother. During retirement, Larry and Sara took road trips across the country, visiting their daughters and siblings, camping, and finding adventure and purpose wherever they roamed.

When the weather cools and the leaves turn copper and crimson, the fall heralds the start of basketball season. Always a fan of the sport, for some years Larry joined the basketball coaching staff at People Academy in Morrisville, the public high school his daughters attended. He would hurry from his job at Concept2 to catch each afternoon’s practice, lacing up his white high tops to be a rebounder or defensive stopper.

Most of the athletes had no idea of his coaching pedigree but loved his impassioned calls from the sideline and occasional clipboard snapping.

Larry’s investment in his daughters’ lives was not restricted to any court but encompassed all that they did. With each new job or passion, Larry showed up through learning, asking questions, giving financial support, or giving the gift of his time and labor. He scooped hummus, learned about ICU nursing, investigated the civil rights history of Mississippi, kept stats on turnovers and box outs, and built sheds and farmer’s market setups.

He was the resident advisor on all things financial, electrical or car related. His love could conquer any distance and he was often teased for his ability to drive cross country through time warps at lightning speed — so many audio books! He was the quiet force behind big family celebrations, often working for months to bring together and create surprises for the ones he loved. No project was too small, no effort unrecognized.

As winter grabs hold of the mountain and lakes, Larry would stow away the boat for the season and turn his attention to his community. In recent years, he dedicated tremendous time to advocate for young people in the child protection system as guardian ad litem and worked to stop the polluting of Lake Memphremagog with the action group DUMP, Don’t Undermine Memphremagog’s Purity.

He continued to coach athletes, advocate for the rowing world, and volunteer at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center. Each Saturday he would show up for Black Lives Matter on the Glover green, holding Bread and Puppet protest posters.

For the last few winters, Larry and Sara would travel south to the ocean. Larry’s love of the sea echoed that of his father’s. As an older man, Larry’s dad Sid would make kites and fly them in the strong sea air on the beaches in Hampton Bays, giving many away to the children who would come to see the beautiful creations. It isn’t hard to see the similarity between a kite on the wind and a blade in the water — the interaction between man and nature. The endless give and take.

Larry’s life ended in a way he would have been proud of; his body strong, his hands callused, his mind inquisitive and creative, and his family together. His body was taken away to the children who would come to see the beautiful creations. It isn’t hard to see the similarity between a kite on the wind and a blade in the water — the interaction between man and nature. The endless give and take.

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David Gorsuch
died on Jun. 26, 2021, at the age of 82.

David Gorsuch died on Jun. 26, 2021, at the age of 82.
The allure of mountain summits never lost its hold on him.

David, a promising young racer, competed in the 1954 junior nationals in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. There, he met Renie Cox, a young woman from the Northeast and a top competitor. They shared the podium that year as medal winners. He competed in the 1958 Alpine World Championships in Bad Gastein, Austria. The pair competed internationally and were members of the U.S. Ski Team that competed in the Olympic Winter Games Squaw Valley 1960.

After competing in the Games, David and Renie were married and moved to Denver, where David attended the University of Denver. David and Renie moved to Gunnison in 1961 where he attended Western State College. He graduated in 1964.

The couple opened a ski shop in 1962 in an abandoned Standard gas station. A second ski shop was opened the next year in Crested Butte. In 1964, Fred Rice, founder of the Crested Butte ski area, hired David as mountain manager.

David and Renie moved to Vail, to open a small ski shop in the Clock Tower Building in 1966. What began as a dream eventually evolved into an iconic business that has grown over the last 60 years.

David's progressive vision in the ski industry earned him induction into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame and the Colorado Snowsports Hall of Fame. Under his leadership, the Gorsuch family opened additional stores in Aspen, Beaver Creek, Snowmass, and Park City, Utah.

David is survived by his wife, Renie, with whom he celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on June 15. He is also survived by three sons; John, of Vail and Las Vegas; Jeff, who lives in Aspen; and Davy, also of Vail, and 10 grandchildren; Luke, of Minturn; Brooks, Elli, Mariel, twins James and Wallace, of Aspen; and Zella, Violet, River and Wesley, of Vail.

David was deeply devoted to his family and friends. He loved nature, the land, and was inspired by the mountains, and the family's Rivergate Ranch. He was passionate about dogs, especially his many Bernese Mountain Dogs.

He served on numerous boards: the Vail Planning Commission, Ski and Snowboard Club Vail, Vail Mountain School, and the Colorado Snowsports Museum. David has left an indelible mark on our town, and we are forever grateful for his humor, kindness, and wisdom. He will be remembered as a role model for the American and International community of skiing.

Charles “Charlie” Hamlin
(rowing, 1968)

Charles “Charlie” Hamlin died on May 23, 2021, at the age of 74.

Charlie was born in 1947 to Catherine Lansing Hamlin and Franklin Clark Hamlin and grew up on Point Salubrious in the village of Chaumont, New York.

Recalling the barefoot summers of his youth spent sailing on Lake Ontario, he would often quote Kenneth Grahame’s The Wind in the Willows: “There is nothing—absolutely nothing—half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.”

For Charlie, this amounted to an article of faith, and the friendships he made in sailboats and rowing shells formed the weft of his life. From Boston to Bellingham and around the world, the sailing and rowing communities were the focal point for his boundless energy and generous spirit.


After graduating with honors from Harvard in 1970, Charlie went to work for Hood Sailmakers in Marblehead, “sewing sails by the seashore.” Ever the cheerful competitor in search of a race, he traded his oar for a tiller, and joined Marblehead’s International One Design fleet, winning world championship titles in 1979 and 1981.

Charlie earned an MBA from Harvard in 1978 and enjoyed a long and successful career as a corporate executive, including vice president roles with Lotus, Harvard Business School Publishing, and NFO Worldwide, and as CEO and President of Cambridge Water Technology.

In 2018, he retired as executive director of the National Rowing Foundation, a position that harnessed his organizational acumen in support of the U.S. national team, and which reflected the central role rowing played throughout his life.

As a master’s oarsman at Cambridge Boat Club, Norwalk Rowing Club, and Upper Thames Boat Club in Henley-on-Thames, England, he competed in countless regattas around the world. He and his “Team Attager” teammates were frequent champions at the Head of the Charles, and he often won eight or nine events at the Masters World Championships. In 2013, he set an indoor rowing world record for 2,000-meters.

But the medals tell only a small part of the story. As enthusiastic as he was competitive, Charlie possessed an irrepressible “can-do” spirit. His instinct was to help, to improve, to lead; all of which he expressed
with contagious optimism. Whether it was coaching young oarsmen at Groton School, serving as the Chairman of the Friends of Harvard Rowing, or simply offering advice and encouragement, he was a generous and engaging booster for the sport. In recognition of his contributions, USRowing named him its Man of the Year in 2019.

He is survived by his wife and double-sculls partner, Ellen Kennelly; his former wife Julie Peet, their sons Alex and Ben Hamlin, and his grandchildren Henry and Charlotte Hamlin; his daughter Ellyse Hamlin; and his siblings Jane Hamlin, Andrew Hamlin, Catherine Wehrle, and Robert Hamlin.

Andy coached one of four of the very first AYSO soccer teams in Torrance, California in its inaugural season. This grassroots effort resulted in AYSO becoming the largest youth sports organization in the United States, if not the world.

Andy was an aerospace engineer by profession and worked most of his career at Rockwell International in Downey, California. He worked on many projects, but his most notable was the Space Shuttle which required daily flights to Palmdale, California and at one point, a brief family move to Cape Canaveral, Florida. He never spoke of his many achievements and long-standing career with Rockwell, never wishing to talk about himself with his humble disposition. He ultimately retired from the industry after 33 years in the late 1980s and relocated from Torrance to Murrieta to begin the next stage of his life.

He was a kind, funny, modest, supportive, patient, and gentle man. He was deeply committed to his family and was a positive role-model for all his children and grandchildren to follow. He left a lasting impression on the world, and he leaves behind a wonderful legacy, his footprint forever engrained deep in the hearts of his family and whomever interacted with him. He always tried to leave the world in a better place with his positive spirit during all his travels and will be forever missed by so many who knew and loved him. He truly was a remarkable father and a blessing to all who were fortunate enough to have known and spent time with him.

Andy is survived by his four children and seven grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his father Andrew Keir, mother Annie Keir, and wife Loretta Keir.

Robert Koehler died on Jan. 5, 2021, at the age of 89.

A graduate of St. Francis Prep in Brooklyn, New York, who entered Queens in 1947, Robert was a multiple Eastern Collegiate Conference All-Star Team and AAU All-America Indoor Team selection. He served as head coach at Queens from 1948 until 1956. He was a member of the U.S. team at the Olympic Games Helsinki 1952, where Team USA finished fourth. A longtime member of the New York Athletic Club (NYAC), Robert won AAU Sr. National Championships Outdoor (1954, 1956, 1958) and Indoor (1952, 1954, 1960) following an AAU Junior Indoor National Championship (1950), he helped his team finish second (1952) and fourth (1954) at the U.S. Olympic Trials and collected a 1954 Mid-Ocean Championship in Bermuda.

Robert served as treasurer of the NYAC Swimming and Water Polo Club to accompany service as a member of the organizing committee for the Eastern College Water Polo Conference. A collegiate official from 1972-1982, he was elected to the USA Water Polo Hall of Fame in 1982 and is a member of the Queens College Hall of Fame.

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Henry Kolowrat died on Mar. 16, 2021, at the age of 87.

Born in Prague in 1933, he came to this country in 1948, after post-World War II detours to Turkey and England. He was a graduate of Hotchkiss, Princeton, and Yale Law School. Between Princeton and law school he had the enlightening and democratizing experience of enlisted service in the Air Force; he made S/Sgt. In 1956, Robert became a U.S. citizen. He was the U.S. champion in epee fencing in 1959 and competed at the Olympic Games Rome 1960.

Coming to then Barnes, Dechert, Price, Myers & Rhoads in 1961, he spent his entire legal career with the firm, becoming a partner in 1969 and retiring at the end of 1995. He excelled in his field of major commercial litigation, representing either side, and was a wise and objective business counselor with deep knowledge of antitrust law and its practical implications. He was an acknowledged master of the English language and a sharp wit. Loathed the corrupted and fraudulent verb “to address”. And he never wore a pocket square or tiepin.

Robert is survived by his children and grandchildren: Nadine and her daughter Vivian; Harry (Joanne) and children Samantha and Alex; and Alyssa (Vladimir) and daughter Alexie (Sasha). Also survived by friend and former wife Elizabeth.

Clara Lamore died on Apr. 2, 2021, at the age of 94.

Born and raised in Providence, Clara was an honors student at Central High School. As a youngster she joined the Olneyville Boys Club Swim Team. Under the guidance of Coach Joe Watmough, she became a swimming powerhouse. During the 1940s she was a Rhode Island Athlete of the Year and a two-time New England Athlete of the Year. Clara was also an AAU National Champion and a five-time All American. Her swimming career culminated participation at the Olympic Games London 1948.

After participating in the Games, Clara returned to Providence where she worked for the New England Telephone Company. Clara then became a cloistered nun in the Religious Order of the Cenacle. She left the convent, as she jokingly explained, “Due to a lack of decorum.” For example, during family visits her brother Raymond gave her candy bars, which she hid in her habit. As a nun in a cloistered order, this was strictly forbidden.

In 1964 Clara was one of the first two women to graduate from Providence College. She earned a B.A. in philosophy. It was during this time that she met her husband, Don. During his naval career, Don and Clara lived in Long Beach, California, Washington, DC, Dayton, Ohio, Japan and Naples, Italy. While Don served in the Vietnam War, Clara traveled throughout the world, by herself, for 18 months.

While living in Naples in 1970, Don passed away unexpectedly. Clara returned to Rhode Island and settled in Cranston. She became an English teacher at Cranston West High School and then a guidance counselor at Western Hills Middle School. During her teaching career Clara returned to Providence College where she earned master’s degrees in counseling and school administration.

After a 32-year hiatus from swimming, Clara returned to the pool to soothe a sore back. She went on to set 484 masters national records and 184 masters world records. For these accomplishments Clara was the first master’s swimmer to be inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1995. Clara was also inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame, the Italo-American Hall of Fame, and the Rhode Island Aquatics Hall of Fame.

Following her retirement Clara became a residence hall director at Providence College. Clara enjoyed serving as a volunteer at the Rhode Island Red Cross and Catholics for Life. She was a Eucharistic Minister at Rhode Island Hospital, taught religious education and was a lector at the Immaculate Conception Church in Cranston. Clara was a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic.

Clara loved God, her church, family, friends, and former students.

Clara was the daughter of the late Raymond P. and Irene A. (Martellucci) Lamore, the sister of the late Raymond F. Lamore, Sr. and wife of the late Captain Donald P. Walker, USN. She is survived by her nephews, Raymond (Lisa) Lamore, Paul (Lynn) Lamore and her niece Stephanie (Michael) Kent.


Buckie truly loved being a fencing coach. His students were successful on both the national and international levels. Buckie started fencing at the age of 12. His father was stationed in Ft Sam Houston, Texas at that time. His family then moved to Ithaca, New York and Buckie continued fencing at Cornell University. Over the past 42 years, he became a fencing master at 20, started the Rochester Fencing Center, coached at The Fencers Club Inc., and created the Blackstar Coaching clinics, a teaching program for fencing coaches. Buckie was the coach for the Olympic team in 1996, 2000, 2004, 2016 and 2020. At the Tokyo Games, he was fortunate enough to see a past student win the gold for women’s foil. Prior to the 2016-2017 season Buckie was recruited by Notre Dame head coach Gia Kvaratskhelia. Gia remembered Buckie in the following way: “It was his heart, passion and laughter that made Buckie a beloved coach. Buckie’s legacy at Notre Dame stretched far beyond the athletic accomplishments of the fencers and the team he coached. Rather his enduring memory will be of the incredible person that he was, his kindness, his passion his sense of humor, and the genuine way he brightened the lives of everyone who was fortunate enough to know him.”

The son of the late Lt. Col Anthony and Betty Leach. In addition to his parents, Buckie is predeceased by his sister Peggy Leach, aunts, Mary Lou Liotino, Pat Rosebrook and uncles, Arthur Leach, Jim Rosebrook, and Randy Painton.

Buckie is survived by his sister Kathy Leach; aunts, Patti Leach Painton, Joy Leach and Sandy Leach; his uncle Rich Goodstein and several loving cousins and their families; and so many friends that meant the world to him.

Buckie’s family is very thankful that he had a second family in the fencing community!

Per Buckie’s wishes he will be buried beside his parents in Ithaca, NY.


Curtis Lovejoy died on Mar. 11, 2021, at the age of 63.

Affectionately known as “the living legend,” Curtis was an athlete, motivational speaker, author and a deacon.

From South Africa to Greece, Poland to Mexico, and everywhere in between, Curtis competed in dozens of countries around the world. According to his website (thecurtislovejoy.com), he is ranked the number one fencer in the world with over 200 gold medals. He has won over 500 gold medals in swimming and set 12 world records.

A car crash in 1986 left Curtis as an “incomplete quadriplegic”. In his case, he had a spinal cord injury that left him with limited use of his arms and confined to a wheelchair. It was during his aquatic therapy where he began to love swimming, calling the sport his “serenity”.

The Shepherd Center in Atlanta shared a quote from Lovejoy where he said “Sport is the way I express myself in so many different ways. When I am in the water, no one sees my disability. I am myself.”

Curtis is survived by his wife Mamie, daughter KeShunda Cumming, grandson Malik Duncan, nephew Priest (Kenya) Deadwyler, and many other loved ones.

Frank McCabe (basketball, 1952)

Frank McCabe died on Apr. 18, 2021, at the age of 93.

The son of the late Frank J. and Beatrice Reilly McCabe. The family moved to Chicago in 1928 so Mrs. McCabe could make a home for her father, as her mother had passed away in mid-1927.

Frank graduated from Chicago’s De La Salle High School in 1945. He received his Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree from Marquette University in 1950. He was a charter member of Marquette’s Chi Epsilon Fraternity, a civil engineering honorary fraternity. He was also a member of Triangle Fraternity. Frank was a four-year member of the Marquette basketball team and was a captain of the 1948-49 team. Being in the Cooperative Education Program, he was a five-year student. During his fifth year, he played for the Allen Bradley Company team in the National Industrial Basketball League (NIBL).

Upon graduation, Frank went to work in
Alaska for the Bureau of Public Roads. While working on upgrading and paving of the Alaska Highway, he received a phone call offering him a chance to join Caterpillar Tractor Company who also had a team in the NIBL. He joined Caterpillar on Sept. 1, 1950, as a staff engineer in the Plant Engineering Department. He played on the Caterpillar team for four years. He was chosen as an AAU All American all four years. The Caterpillar team National AAU Champs the last three years he played. In 1952, the CAT team won the AAU championship and then won the Olympic Trials in New York City. The starting five, of which Frank was one, was named to compete at the Olympic Games Helsinki 1952, where they won gold.

After the four years of basketball, Frank felt it was time to change his career path by switching to the marketing side of Caterpillar. One of the benefits of the switch was meeting Suzanne Brodbeck. She was a Peoria native and a fellow Caterpillar employee. They were married on Oct. 1, 1955, at St. Philomena Church in Peoria.

Frank was appointed the Caterpillar Earthmoving Representative on the St. Lawrence Seaway Project in upstate New York. Sue and Frank moved to Syracuse, New York, where they enjoyed snowfall like they’d never seen before! While covering the Seaway, Frank was involved with the Calvin Production Co. filming of a movie for Caterpillar named “The Eight Sea” narrated by Walter Cronkite. As the Seaway project wound down, he used his civil engineering education working with contractors on the Niagara Falls Power Project.

During the 40 years plus spent with Caterpillar, Frank worked in many areas, including Plant Engineering, Sales Training, Domestic Sales, Sales Development and Corporate Accounts. The time spent in the field working with customers and dealers on machine application earned him The Golden Beaver Award received in 1989.

Since retiring in 1991, Frank had kept busy as an election judge, Catholic Cemetery Board, USPO Customer Advisory Council, Chairman of the Peoria Advisory Commission, and as a Team Host during March Madness, to name a few of his activities. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus for a few years, where he served as Treasurer and Bingo Caller.

Frank was succeeded in death by his parents; sisters, Helen Ann Griffin and Mary Cay McCabe; brother, James T. McCabe; and his son-in-law, Gale Neff. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Sue; their five children, Ray McCabe of Aledo, Texas, Erin Neff of Peoria, Tom (Marilyn) McCabe of Old Hickory, Tenn., and Kelly Skinner of Bolingbrook, IL; twelve grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Richard “Rich” McGeagh
(swimming, 1964)

Richard “Rich” McGeagh died on Sept. 9, 2021, at the age of 77.

Rich was an Olympian and an NCAA swim champion from USC. He was a three-time (1964-66) All-American at USC on teams that won the NCAA championship each year. As a sophomore in 1964, he won the NCAA 400-yard individual medley in 4:16.4. He also won four conference titles (two individual, two relay) in his Trojan career.

At the Olympic Games Tokyo 1964, he swam the opening backstroke leg of the 400-meter medley relay for the U.S. in the preliminary heats but did not swim in the final that the Americans won. Under Olympic swimming rules at the time, only those who competed in the final were eligible for medals, so he did not get a gold medal.

In 1963, he helped the U.S. 400-meter medley relay team set a long course world record of 4:00.1 while swimming the opening backstroke leg in a meet in Osaka, Japan. He also won a gold medal at the 1963 Pan American Games in Sao Paolo, Brazil, as well as an individual and three AAU titles.

Rich came to USC from Hoover High in Glendale, California. A long-time resident of La Crescenta, California, he worked as a real estate appraiser. He moved to Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, eight years ago.


Paul McMullen
(track and field, 1996)

Paul McMullen died on Mar. 4, 2021, at the age of 49.

Paul, an adored son, brother, husband, and father lost his life in a tragic skiing accident in his hometown. He always lived life to the fullest.
He was best known publicly for his accolades on the track, having been an eight-time All-American at Eastern Michigan University, and he competed at the Olympic Games Atlanta 1996. Paul achieved his success through hard work, mentorship from amazing coaches in high school and college, and the unwavering support of family and friends. However, those who knew him best understand that his greatest achievements were not made around the oval; they were forged through relationships and the drive to succeed.

Even at a young age, he felt “the need for speed,” as he pedaled his Big Wheel as fast as he could down the dirt road, eventually launching it off the dock and into Wells Lake. That desire continued into his teenage years when he rode his bike from Leroy to Cadillac and back in his pursuit of the high school sport he loved: football. As he aged, he traded in his foot-powered transportation for faster and stronger horsepower. With that, he darted across the country on family trips to California to see his brother Phil or sped south for a quick getaway with his wife, Nuria, and two youngest children, David, and Catalina. It was the desire for adventure and speed that helped him conquer and enjoy life.

He loved his quaint town of Grand Haven, Michigan where he served our country in the U.S. Coast Guard. He and his family rooted themselves in the lakeside town where he started a local youth running program called “The Chariots of Fire Track Club.” It was in that endeavor that he realized his passion for helping others in the sport that had become an important fiber in the fabric of his life. Not only did it give him the opportunity to ignite an affinity for the sport in youngsters, but he was also able to mentor adults and encourage them in their own running pursuits.

While Paul loved his sport and helping those in it, his priority was his family. His soulmate and beautiful high school prom date, Nuria De Soto, became his wife on Dec. 18, 2011. They loved each other fiercely and enjoyed the excitement of traveling together. They have a daughter, Catalina, age 6, who kept them entertained and on their toes. Paul also adored his daughter Olivia, a sophomore rower at the University of Michigan, and son, David, an eighth grader who is just beginning to realize his running potential with the help of his dad. In a similar vein, David caught Paul’s fever for adventure, and the two of them traversed many waterways on padded boards and kayaks alike.

In addition to his wife and children, Paul also leaves behind his loving parents, Doug and Theresa McMullen; brother, Phil (Traci); sister, Sarah (Nino) Fogaroli; mother-in-law, Margarita Queralto; sister-in-law, Marta (Jake) De Soto; and nieces and nephews, Chase and Riley McMullen, Olivia and Adam De Soto, Lilliana and Nila Fogaroli. Paul also has a large, supportive extended family that will miss his presence at the annual family reunion fishing contest. He is preceded in death by his grandparents, David and Lillian De Soto, Lilliana and Nila Fogaroli. Paul also

Paul was much more than just a fierce runner. He was a teammate, friend, mentor, and a man who loved to push the limits. His favorite high school quote, “Today I have all I had; what I’ve kept is lost forever” should function as advice for everyone. Give your best each day, and above all, give your love each day. For, you never know when someone or something will be lost forever. Even in death, Paul continues to help other in need through the donation of his organ to Gift of Life.

Robert “Bob” Miller
(modern pentathlon, 1956)

Robert Miller died on Aug. 19, 2021, at the age of 92.

Bob was an athlete, coach and mentor, devoted husband, dad, and grandfather. He was respected, loved and an inspiration to everyone that knew him. Bob’s entire life had been centered in and around water. Up until this death, he could be found at the Green Valley West Center pool five days a week. He impacted so many lives during his nearly 70 years of coaching he was quoted saying that he had coached nearly 5,000 kids and adults over his lifetime. Many of Bob’s athletes competed at Olympic Trials and some of his best swimmers, (Lynn Colella, Rick Colella, Janis Hape and Bob Lynn), finished in the top 3 at the Olympic Games and world championships. Coach Bob was the U.S. National Team Coach at several international competitions including the 1975 Pan American Games in Mexico.

Bob’s athletic career began at the University of Washington where he was the captain of the swim team. He enlisted in the Army after graduation where he was recruited for modern pentathlon which encompassed horse show jumping, fencing, swimming, cross country running and pistol shooting. In 1956, he was the best in the country and qualified for the team to compete at the Olympic Games Melbourne 1956. An unfortunate accident with his horse kept him from competing but he still flew to Melbourne as an alternate team member. Bob and the team received a silver medal. For the next seven decades, Bob focused on coaching...
while still swimming and staying active.

In 1959, Bob Miller along with two swimmers from his college swim team, John Tallman and Bob Regan, co-founded the Olympic Swim School in Seattle, later to be called the Cascade Swim Club where he coached until 1971. He also coached at the Totem Lakes Swim team in Kirkland and Lake Oswego. He coached in Ft. Lauderdale Pinecrest school. He returned to the Pacific Northwest, coaching at the Bellevue Swim Club, The Tucson Jewish Community Center, and Bainbridge Island Swim Club. Over the course of his coaching career, Bob was honored as coach of the year in Washington, Florida, and Oregon. In 1973, Bob received the coach of the year award from the American Swim Coaches Association (ASCA) and in 2011, Bob was inducted into the ASCA Hall of Fame for his lifelong success in coaching.

During his coaching career Bob also focused on his master’s swimming. His USMS swimming career started in 1972 with a lifetime achievement of 180 individual and nine relay top-ten awards. He also achieved All-American honors status for 17 years by placing first in an event nationwide from 1974 to 2015. His specialty was in backstroke events, but he also swam the free and IM. He was awarded All Star honors in 2010 by placing first in the most events in that year. Over his USMS swim career, Bob has broken 17 USMS age group records. He was also featured in swimming magazine March-April edition 2006 in “Records tumble in 5K/10K ePostal National Championships.”

RIP Bob! You were loved and will be missed!

Ted A. Nash


Ted was born in Melrose, Mass., to Allison Glasgow Solt and Theodore W. Nash. He grew up in the Boston area and Carmel, California.

He later served as a first lieutenant in the Army Aviation division, teaching aviation and aerobatics. Ted attended Boston University and then the University of Washington, where he earned a bachelor’s degree while competing out of the Lake Washington Rowing Club.

Ted won the gold medal in rowing in the four without coxswain in the Olympic Games Rome 1960, he took home bronze in the same event at the Olympic Games Tokyo 1964.

In 1965, Ted became the freshman rowing coach at the University of Pennsylvania, and later became head coach of men’s heavyweight rowing. With Ted as coach, Penn won Intercollegiate rowing titles, and its athletes placed on Pan American and Olympic teams. In 2014, the university honored him with the dedication of the Ted A. Nash Land Rowing Center.

In addition to competing in two Olympic Games, Ted was also an Olympic coach. During his career as an athlete or a coach, he helped win 48 medals with 76 crews in Olympic Games, world, and Pan American events. He received many awards, including the Medal of Honor from the United States Rowing Association, the organization’s highest honor. He also was the recipient of accolades from the National Rowing Foundation, the University of Washington, and the Boston University Hall of Fame.

A co-founder of the National Women’s Rowing Association, he mentored and encouraged countless rowers over the course of his coaching career and as a volunteer on the Schuykill to the rowing community. Ted was still rowing well into his 80s.

“Ted loved people and enhanced the lives of so many who were privileged to have known him,” said his wife, Jan Nash. “Known for his kind, generous nature, his positive perspective, and his love of life, Ted was loved and respected by all. His smile and the joy he brought to everyone’s life will be greatly missed. I was so blessed to be his wife.”

In addition to his wife, Ted is survived by his sons, Aaron Nash and Ted Nash; stepson David Coogan; three granddaughters; a sister; a brother; and other relatives.

James “Jim” Leo Norris
(water polo, 1952)


Jim’s family moved to El Segundo, California, at the beginning of WWII and he attended El Segundo High School (ESH) where he was the 1948 Student Body President and a guard on the water polo team. In 1947, the ESHS team won the first CIF Championship and went on to the 1948 Pan American Games in Buenos Aires and then the
Olympic Games Helsinki 1952, where Jim served as team captain. ESHS was also where he met his high school sweetheart, Lynne (Oldmen), whom he married on Apr. 26, 1951.

Jim was awarded a four-year Navy ROTC scholarship to the University of Southern California, studying zoology. After graduating with his bachelor of science from USC, Jim spent three years as a gunnery officer and athletic director on the USS Los Angeles in the U.S. Navy and served in the Korean War. Upon his retirement from service, Jim got his teaching credential at UCLA, taught at several South Bay high schools, and got his master’s in counseling at CSU Los Angeles. He was a counselor at El Camino College in Torrance and a recurrent LA County Lifeguard; he resided in Manhattan Beach for 35 years.

His sense of adventure and wanderlust then led him to move to the Santa Ynez Valley (Santa Barbara County), where he lived for 35 years, becoming a renowned local historian and Westerner’s member with a specific interest in California Missions and the fur trade. He was an avid reader and researcher and he and Lynne published over 60 books under the publishing company, The Olive Press.

Jim moved in 2008 to the historic Gold Rush city of Jackson, California, where he lived out his days reading, researching, teaching his family about local flora and fauna, and volunteering at the local archive and museum.

He was a lifelong learner and devoted friend to many. He and Lynne celebrated their 70-year wedding anniversary earlier this year.

Jim is survived by his four children, Michael (Kathy), John, Jeanie (John), and Jane Suzanne (Steve); his eight grandchildren, Alyssa, Aaron, Jason, Austin, Kenda, Paul, Andre, and Neal; and his siblings Richard, David, and Kitty. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Mary.

Willis “Billy the Kid” Olson
(ski and snowboard, 1952, 1956)

Willis “Billy the Kid” Olson died on Apr. 9, 2021, at the age of 91.

Billy was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He attended Eau Claire schools elementary through high school, graduating in 1948. Afterwards he completed accounting classes in Minneapolis while working. Billy married Ardella Harstad in July of 1950 and they had two daughters, Nancy and Kathy. He graduated from the University of Denver on a ski jumping scholarship.

As a child he started ski jumping at recess, becoming part of the Eau Claire regular ski jumpers. Billy competed at the Olympic Games Cortina 1952, and the Olympic Games Oslo 1956.

He worked at the Wood Motor Company, then Bertelsons. Billy also was an Eau Claire County Clerk, City Finance Director of Eau Claire, City Finance Director of Medford, Oregon, Controller of Luther Hospital and City Finance Director of Banning, California where he retired.

He was also married to Shirley Jenson, from Eau Claire. Outliving both his wives, he married Roberta (Maxwell) Olson.

Billy is survived by his daughter, Nancy Hanson (Ray), and their daughter and his three great grandchildren; daughter, Kathy Strauch and her children, Derek, and Erin; wife, Roberta; brothers, Don, Mike, and Dick; stepson, Mark Jenson, and wife Dawn. Billy was also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Billy was preceded in death by brothers George and Bob and his sister Joyce.

Mark Pavelich
(ice hockey, 1980)

Mark Pavelich died on Mar. 4, 2021, at the age of 63.

Mark was an American hockey hero. He is famously remembered for the pass that set up Mike Eruzione’s game-winning goal against the heavily favored Soviet Union for the 1980 gold medal USA hockey team. But hockey isn’t what defined his life. He was a son, a husband, a brother, a grandfather, and a dad. He never tried to capitalize on his hockey fame. After a successful NHL career, he settled happily into retirement in his beloved northern Minnesota home near Lutsen.

He was an accomplished outdoorsman and lover of nature. His favorite past time was spending time with his wife Kara, daughter Tarja and other family and friends. His friends knew him not for his hockey exploits, but as a down to earth no-frills guy who loved playing practical jokes almost as much as he loved fishing. He would put in long hours on the lake and still find excuses to stay out longer.

His wife Kara was a perfect match. She would work on her art while he fished. He loved his dogs, and he brought them everywhere. His dogs would go fishing, camping or on a family run to the store. Mark also loved cooking, and his food was amazing. Favorite meals included handpicked blueberries from the Gunflint Trail or salmon caught from Lake Superior. To be honest, he usually left behind the
biggest possible mess. His culinary work reflected who he was: simple, natural, and made with love.

His hockey style also reflected who he was. He started skating on his backyard lake in Eveleth, Minnesota, and went on to play for the high school team at Eveleth and then for the University of Minnesota-Duluth Bulldogs. He always focused on stick handling, passing, and skating, like his childhood idol Bobby Orr. Mark’s style of play was a perfect match for coach Herb Brooks, at first, they were opponents, with Brooks at the University of Minnesota and Pavelich at UMD. But they joined forces to help their USA team win the gold medal in the Olympic Games Lake Placid 1980, and later with the NHL New York Rangers. The two always shared a close bond.

Mark is preceded in death by his wife Kara Pavelich; his father Tom Pavelich; brother Michael Pavelich and brother-in-law Larry Gevick. Mark is survived by his mother Anne Pavelich; daughter Tarja; son-in-law John and grandchildren Jackson and Elina; sisters Jean Gevich and Caroline DeCenzo; and brother Dave Pavelich.

Clark “Todd” Scully Jr.
(track and field, 1976, 1980)

Clark “Todd” Scully Jr. died on Sept. 6, 2021, at the age of 72.

At the time of his death, Todd was one week away from celebrating his 73rd birthday. He was born in Princeton, New Jersey and attended Somerville New Jersey High School and Lynchburg College in Virginia. He joined the Shore Athletic Club of New Jersey in his high school days, first competing in the club’s famed Lake Takanassee Summer Series and remained a loyal member of the club for the balance of his competitive career. The club has produced an array of Olympians.

One of America’s greatest stars in the racewalking discipline of track and field, Todd, as he was known to all in his sport excelled at all distances from 1 mile to 50 kilometers (31.1 miles) but is often best recognized as “the Roger Bannister of racewalking,” for his historic feat of walking one mile in 5:55.8 at the 1979 Millrose Games at New York’s Madison Square Garden.

Just as no runner had ever broken the four-minute barrier before Britain’s Dr. Bannister ran 3:59.4 at Oxford in 1954, no racewalker had ever covered the mile in official circumstances under 6 minutes before Todd did it that epic night at “The Garden.” And he did this shod in his famed trademark “Hush Puppies,” ultra-light street shoes.

Todd’s greatest racewalking successes were at these sprints but he went on to place 29th in the 20K walk at the Olympic Games Montreal 1976, after staying up with the lead pack much of the way. He was named to the 20K team at the 1980 Olympic Trials but was not awarded the opportunity to compete at the Olympic Games Moscow 1908 due to the United States boycott.

He also competed for the All-Army team and Team USA in multiple international events. He earned National AAU individual gold medals eight times, at distances from 1 mile to 40 kilometers. He place fifth at the 1975 Pan American Games and third at the 1979 Pan American Games. Beyond all that, he represented his nation at five editions of racewalking’s World Cup global team championship event.

After his competition days, Todd was a highly successful coach at Virginia Tech University. In his later years, he worked the Big Island farm he’d acquired four decades earlier. For many years, Shore AC hosted the Reilly-Scully Day Road Races in Long Branch, New Jersey, honoring both Todd and Bill Reilly, the Long Branch High School alumnus and 1968 USA 3,000-meter steeplechase Olympian.

“To be certain, Todd was one of the greatest of Shore AC athletes, and we’ve had a lot of great ones, in all branches of track and field,” said Ray Funkhouser, the former Shore AC president and himself a national champion racewalker. “We’ve been totally saddened to hear of his passing.”

“Rest in peace, dear teammate Todd.”

RaNae Bair Seaman
(track and field, 1964, 1968)

RaNae Bair Seaman died on Jan. 23, 2021, at the age of 77.

RaNae was an all-star track and field athlete at Mission Bay High School, graduating in 1961. She pursued the javelin and won many accolades, including numerous medals, setting and shattering U.S. records and going on to compete for the United States in the Olympic Games Tokyo 1964 and the Olympic Games Mexico City 1968.

RaNae attended San Diego State University where she obtained her undergraduate and master’s degree. She coached and taught at Mission Bay High School in San Diego from 1971-2003 and was also athletic director there as well. She loved to read, cross stitch, and play volleyball every week. RaNae enjoyed the outdoors and was continually serving those she met. She found joy in spending time with her friends and family.
and many nieces and nephews.

RaNae was born in 1943 to the late Glen and Melba Bair. She was the eldest of four and is survived by siblings, Sandy (Terry) Risley, Don (Linda) Bair; and Rick (Judy) Bair.

James “Jim” W. Sedin
(ice hockey, 1952)

James “Jim” Sedin died on Feb. 23, 2021, at the age of 90.

Jim was born in St. Paul, Minnesota to Walter Sedin and Svea Davidson. He earned his B.S. in physics from the University of Minnesota in 1951, where he also served as captain of the Golden Gophers hockey team. Jim was thrilled when his grandson, Will, followed in his footsteps to attend the University of Minnesota in 2020.

One of Jim’s most impressive accomplishments was at 21-years-old when he was selected as the youngest member to join the U.S. Olympic Hockey Team. The team played for two months throughout Europe in preparation for the Olympic Games Oslo 1952. During the final game against Canada, Jim scored the game-tying goal, securing Team USA’s second place podium spot and a silver medal.

Despite his many amazing lifetime accomplishments, no position was more important to him than his role as a husband and father. Jim met his soulmate, Mary Louise of Half Moon Bay. They married in 1965 and were happily married for 55 years. Together they raised five children, Brad, Joseph, Andrea, Elisabeth, and Stephanie. The only thing Jim loved more than dessert, skiing and golf shirts was his family. He will be remembered as a great dad and husband.

One fond memory of Jim’s dedication to his family was loading all five kids in the Travelall for ski trips to Tahoe at 4:30 a.m. In the middle of coordinating tickets and adjusting skis, Jim would be lucky to get one full run in, even after a seven-hour day. At 85 years old, he was finally able to get in as many runs as he wanted, uninterrupted, on his homemade backyard cross-country ski track.

If it were up to Jim, you’d never hear of all he accomplished. His humility, generosity, honesty, kindness, and quiet confidence were his trademark qualities known by everyone he met. His discipline and drive serve as everlasting examples for the generations after him.

Jim is survived by his wife, Mary Louise; sons, Brad (Carla) and Joseph (Brenda); daughters, Andrea, Elisabeth English, and Stephanie Durran (Dave); grandchildren, Rachel, Jacquie, Samson, Robert, Marielle, Will and Alex; four great-grandchildren; and many friends, who will always be inspired by his legacy and love.

William “Bill” Spencer
(biathlon, 1964, 1968)

William “Bill” Spencer died on Dec. 3, 2020, at the age of 84.

On a crisp winter morning, a life that began in a small southern town and was filled with adventure and achievement came to a close at his home in Sandy, Utah. Although ten years of dementia stole the vibrant man he was and took his memories, he remained the gentle, caring person. Truly, an officer and a gentleman.

Bill was born in Russellville, Alabama to Elsie Josephine Martin and Thomas Aubrey Spencer. His father’s work brought the family to Utah where he attended Lincoln Jr. High, South High, Class of 1954, and the University of Utah, graduating in 1961. At the U., he was a member of Sigma Pi Fraternity and the U. Ski Team, earning the Alf Engen Sportsmanship Trophy and All-American honors in 1959. While at the U., he met Judith Aspden. They married at First Presbyterian Church, Salt Lake City.

As a member of the Utah National Guard’s 19th Special Forces, Bill competed locally and nationally with the Guard Rifle Team. Combining his marksmanship and skiing skills, he was recruited by the Army in 1963 for the U.S. Biathlon Team stationed at Ft. Richardson, Alaska. His athletic achievements include competing at the Olympic Games Innsbruck 1964 and the Olympic Games Grenoble 1968; U.S.
ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)


Following his competitive years, he served as an Infantry Officer, including two tours to Vietnam, retiring in 1984 as a Lieutenant Colonel. Military honors include three Army Commendation Medals, two Bronze Stars, a Bronze Star with Valor, two Air Medals, and an Air Medal with Valor.

Things he loved: a raging river to run, a mountain peak to climb, a marathon to race, birds at the window feeders, the deer that visit daily, a motorhome trip anywhere, National Parks, Alaska, powder snow on a ski run, a stream to cast a fly on, the Utes and Jazz, ice cream (any kind, any time), Cheez-its, Dr. Pepper, and people. Bill’s life was fully lived from gliding across the snow on his skis and traveling the world, to heroism in battle, and grace on a dance floor, to sitting on the floor in an airport - a spit-polished Army Officer in dress blues - coloring with his two little girls.

Bill served as the U.S. representative on the International Biathlon Union (IBU) Technical Committee from 1973 to 2002, officiating at numerous world championships, World University Games, world cups, and Olympic Games. He was inducted into the Hall of Fames of U.S. Biathlon in 2000, Utah Sports in 2003, ice cream (any kind, any time), Cheez-its, Dr. Pepper, and people. Bill’s life was fully lived from gliding across the snow on his skis and traveling the world, to heroism in battle, and grace on a dance floor, to sitting on the floor in an airport - a spit-polished Army Officer in dress blues - coloring with his two little girls.

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Bill is survived by Judy, his wife of 60 years and their three children and spouses: Bill Jr. and Eva Bertram, Susan and Samuel Reckford, and Connie and Guy Adams; grandchildren Spencer, Samantha, and Molly Reckford and Eric Spencer; brother Thomas Martin Spencer and wife Emmy, and their son Christian Juen.

The family sincerely thanks Dr. Tiffany Volden and the staff at the VA Hospital and Clinic along with CNS Home Health Care and Hospice, especially Katherine, Jill, and Susan, for their compassionate care that allowed Bill to remain at home.

U.S. Biathlon has established a memorial fund in Bill’s name - The Bill Spencer Fund for Developing Athletes, recognizing his lifelong contribution to biathlon in America. Gifts in his honor may be made to U. S. Biathlon, 49 Pineland Drive, Suite 301 A, New Gloucester, ME 04260, or at www. teamusa.org/us-biathlon.

As a tribute to Bill’s memory, please take someone you love out for ice cream!

Curtis Stone (track & field, 1948, 1952, 1956)

Curtis Stone died on Jul. 30, 2021, at the age of 98.

Curtis was born in Brooklyn, Pennsylvania, to Benjamin and Ethel (Palmiter) Stone. He grew up in Brooklyn and graduated from Brooklyn Vocational High School as Salutatorian in 1940. During high school he worked on the school newspaper and yearbook and competed in County and District track meets, thus beginning a long career as an athlete, writer, historian, and educator. He enrolled at Penn State University in 1940 where he was a member of the track and cross-country teams. He won his first Intercollegiate IC4A championship in 1943 before entering military service that year. After attending finance school, he clerked in the Finance Office of the U.S. Army Air Force 95th Bomb Group near Horham, England. He continued his athletic training while at the base and won the 8th Air Force 1-mile championship and the 3rd Air Division 2-mile championship.

He returned to Penn State in 1946, graduating with a degree in journalism in 1947. He continued training with Penn State athletes while in graduate school, as well as working for the Centre Daily Times newspaper. In 1952 he married Margaret Lewis Stone of Hop Bottom, Pennsylvania. They had one daughter, Sara. He taught history, civics and English for eight years in Smethport, Pennsylvania, and received a master’s degree in education in 1955.

Curtis was one of the premier distance runners in the United States in the 1940s and 50s and made many tours on athletic teams to Europe and South America. He won 14 National Amateur Athletic Union Championships in various races including 3 miles, 5000-meters, 3000-meters steeplechase, 6 miles, 10,000-meters and cross-country. He won two gold medals in the Pan American Games for 3000-meters steeplechase and 10,000-meters. He was a member of the Olympic Games London 1948, Olympic Games Helsinki 1952, and Olympic Games Melbourne 1956, with his best being sixth place in the 5000-meters in the 1948.

Curtis was inducted into the Helms Foundation Hall of Fame, the New York Athletic Club Hall of Fame, The Road Runners Club of America Hall of Fame, and the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame among others.

He received a doctorate in history and secondary education in 1963 from Penn State University, and then taught in the Department of Secondary Education at Kent State University until his retirement in 1985.
An amateur musician, he sang in church choirs, the Kent Chorus, the Montrose Harmony Men, and in The Blossom Festival Chorus (the summer chorus of the Cleveland Orchestra), along with Margaret and Sara. He also returned to playing the violin in his retirement.

Curtis became a member of Harford Lodge #445 of the 15th Masonic District in 1950, and later became a 32nd degree Mason. In October of 2019 he was awarded his 70th year membership pin. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Kent, Ohio, and Montrose, Pennsylvania, and most recently attended the First Universalist Church of Brooklyn, Pennsylvania, his childhood church.

During his retirement in Brooklyn, Pennsylvania, Curtis enjoyed traveling, researching local history, puttering in the barn or workshop, and helping Margaret with her garden. He and Margaret helped found the Brooklyn Historical Society and published three books on local history. He volunteered with track and field officiating in the Mountain View School System and received a Distinguished Alumni award from Mountain View. A life-long Penn State fan, he and Margaret attended almost all Penn State home football games from 1985 until 2008. In 2019 he was one of several Penn State Olympians honored at half-time of the Penn State-Michigan game.

Curtis is survived by his daughter Sara (Terry) Miller; step-granddaughters Sonia (Robert) Srichai, and Esther (Bob) Thatcher; five step great-grandchildren; nephews Andrew (Tracey) Stone, Ralph Lewis, and James (Melody) Lewis; nieces Holly Stone and Heather (Todd) Dunkerly; many great-nephews and nieces, and a host of friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, uncle and stepfather Dan B. Stone and his brothers Bryce L. and Dan C. (Judy) Stone.

Janet Moreau Stone
(track & field, 1952)


Janet is the first native of Rhode Island to win a gold medal at the Olympic Games. She was the beloved wife of the late Raymond W. Stone. Born in Pawtucket, a daughter of the late Arthur Moreau Sr. and Elizabeth (Beauchamp) Moreau, she lived in Barrington since 1955.

She was a physical education teacher in the Barrington School system for 36 years before retiring in 1986.

Janet was a graduate of Boston University Class of 1952 earning a Bachelor of Science, T.O.P. (Third Order Dominican) degree in education. She was also a graduate of the Diocese of Providence- Ministry Institute, two years Pastoral Care Study, RI Hospital and Women & Infants Hospital and was a Certified Catholic Chaplin N.A.C.C.

From 1949 to 1952 she was named four times to the All-America track team while attending Boston University. In 1951 as a member of the U.S. National Team, she won a gold medal in the Pan American Games, running a leg on the 4x100-meter relay team.

A year later, she won a gold medal at the Olympic Games Helsinki 1952 as a member of the relay team that set a world record in the event of 45.9 seconds. The same year, she won the national standing broad jump championship with an American record of 8’10”, which still stands today, she won the national indoor 220 title, the national indoor 50-yard dash championship and was the high point scorer in the National Indoor Championships. She was the National Junior Champion in the 100-meter, setting an American record at 11.8 seconds and completed a five-year sweep as New England champion in the 50, 100 and 220. Janet was a member of the Rhode Island All-State Swim team from 1947-1949 in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle setting records at Tolman High School.

Janet received honors including 1952 RI French Athlete of the Year, the 1952 Athlete of the Year Chosen by the Disabled American Veterans, the 1968 Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame, the 1979 Boston University Hall of Fame, the 1986 Pawtucket Hall of Fame as a charter member and the 1987 Rhode Island Aquatic Hall of Fame and the Rhode Island Hall of Fame. In 2008 she was chosen to serve as Team USA’s Lay Champlain in Beijing, China.

Janet was a communicant of St. Luke Church and served on the Parish Council for several years. She was the Director of Pastoral Care, Eucharistic Minister and Champlain at the Bay Spring Village, Barrington. She was a volunteer at Roger Williams Hospital as a Champlain in the Intensive and Maximum Care Units. She was also the founder and Director of the Barrington Service for Animals.

Janet is survived by a special niece, Nancy Moura and several other nieces and nephews. She was the sister of the late Arthur Moreau Jr, Gloria Moreau Paine, Norman Moreau, and Doris Moreau Venner.
Jerald Thompson
(track and field, 1948)

Jerald “Jerry” Thompson died on Aug. 26, 2021, at the age of 98.

Jerry was born to Harvey A. Thompson Sr. and Leona Stillwell Thompson, both deceased, in Bowie, Texas in 1923. Preceded by sisters, Mary Frances Thompson Eickman and Betty Sue Thompson Koepp, brothers Harvey Anderson Thompson, Jr. and Robert (Bob) Ray Thompson, and several nieces and nephews.

Jerry graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1941. He received his BBA from the University of Texas in 1949 and MBA from the City College of the City University of New York in 1964. He served in the Navy during WWII aboard the aircraft carrier Antietam (CV-36) in the Pacific Theater.

At the University of Texas, he was National Collegiate champion in the two-mile run in 1943 and 1947, and the 5,000-meter run in 1948. He was selected All American in the two-mile run in 1943, the one-mile run, and two-miles run in 1947, and the two-mile run in 1948. He was also Southwest Conference champion in cross country in 1942, 1943, 1946 and 1947. He was voted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in 1976 and is a member of the University of Texas Longhorn Hall of Honor, the Drake Relays Hall of Fame in 1976 and the TexStats Texas Running Hall of Fame.

Jerry competed at the Olympic Games London 1948 and was a member of the Dallas/Fort Worth Olympians and Paralympians chapter.

Richard K. Tomita
(weightlifting, 1948, 1952)

Richard K. Tomita died on Feb. 12, 2021, at the age of 93.

Richard was born on a farm in Honolulu. He represented the United States at the Olympic Games London 1948 and the Olympic Games Helsinki 1952.

Richard lived a full life. Weightlifting took him to all parts of the world, as well as earned him countless honors. Golf became a passion in his later years. Aside from his athletic accomplishments, he was an awesome husband, father, grandpa, and great grandpa.

Richard is predeceased by his loving wife Julia. He is survived by his children Derek Tomita, Jan Lemon and Craig Tomita, with their respective families.

Robert J. Tusa
(Para track and field, 1976, 1980, 1984)

Robert J. Tusa died on Jan. 31, 2021, at the age of 77.

Robert was born to the late Alfred and Beulah (Baker) Tusa in 1943 and was raised on the family farm. He was baptized, made his first communion, and confirmed in the Catholic Faith.

He attended country school District 55, then high school, graduating from Jackson in the class of 1961. While in high school, he excelled in basketball and track, which lead him to Worthington Jr. College, where he broke the shotput record and starred in disc and high jump.

In 1964, he was involved in an automobile accident which left him wheelchair bound for the rest of his life. After a year of rehabilitation, he attended Jackson Vocational School and earned an Associate Degree as a draftsman landing him a job with HDR of Omaha. He returned home and then attended Southwest Minnesota State University at Marshall. In 1969, he was instrumental in organizing the first state wheelchair basketball tournaments at SMSU.


Robert is preceded in death by his parents, nephew; Travis Mier and his son; Elliot and Frank Slifka. Left to cherish Robert’s everlasting memory is his three sisters, Janet (Wayne) Fischer, Leah Kelloway, Jean (Robert) Ferguson, the love of his life, Jean Gross and many nieces and nephews.
Fawn Englash Washington
(Para track and field, 2016)

Fawn Washington died on July 5, 2021, at the age of 34.

Fawn was raised in Charleston, West Virginia, and at an early age, naturally gravitated to what would be the start of such an amazing athletic career. From playing in little leagues to becoming an Paralympian, Fawn’s talent was unmatched. She played volleyball, basketball, softball, and threw the shot put and discus. While attending Capital High School Fawn became a three-time state champion discus thrower. Not only was she an amazing athlete, but she also valued the importance of her education. Balancing both education and sports allowed Fawn to obtain a full track and field scholarship to the University of Charleston. She continued her athletic career at UC and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in secondary education. Fawn furthered her education by getting a master’s degree from the American College of Education. Even though Fawn had two leg amputations, she still had Olympian aspirations.

During that time, in her own words, “I could have stayed home and felt sorry for myself but I’m twenty-eight and can’t just sit here”. In 2015 Fawn became the No. 1 double amputee shot put discus thrower and javelin thrower in the world. She competed at the Paralympic Games Rio 2016. Throughout her life she was able to teach, mentor, and inspire many. Fawn was a natural with younger children and she truly loved to teach and coach her students in West Virginia and Las Vegas. Fawn moved to Las Vegas in 2017 to further her teaching career with better opportunities. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Fawn is preceded in death by her parents, Louis Pharr and Sherry Washington, and grandmothers, Elaine Washington and Freda Pharr. Fawn leaves behind her only sister, Joetta Hunter, and a host of cousins, aunts, uncles, and close friends.

Anthony L. Watson
(track and field, 1960)

Anthony L. Watson died on Mar. 9, 2021, at the age of 80.

Anthony was the longtime leader of the Health Insurance Plan of greater New York (HIP) and the first CEO of EmblemHealth. Known for his dedication to working families, his charismatic leadership, and his commitment to bringing high quality health care to New York’s underserved neighborhoods, Anthony led HIP for more than 30 years. He was instrumental in bringing together HIP and GHI to form EmblemHealth, creating one of the largest not for profit companies in the country.

Anthony lived a full life as a leader, family man, Olympian, and visionary. He made history as one of the first African American leaders of a major health care organization and played an important national leadership role in health care and beyond. Anthony was ever the crusader for social justice and equity. He was a founder of state and national efforts to initiate health planning and protect consumers by distributing resources efficiently and effectively. He was a member of President Clinton’s Bipartisan Medicare Reform Commission and was instrumental in the formation of America’s Health Insurance Plans national association, where he played a leadership role on its Board of Directors.

Anthony played an important role in reviving lower Manhattan by leading the Battery Park restoration efforts, as well as by working with the mayor and governor of New York to be among the first companies to move headquarters to lower Manhattan following the tragic event of 9/11 – a testament to his love of New York and belief in its future.

He was raised in Oklahoma and moved to New York in 1965 after earning a degree in political science. Unique in his background, Anthony had the distinction of competing in the long jump at the Olympic Games Rome 1960. He also served on the boards of a variety of corporate and community-based organizations where he left a legacy of service and accomplishment.

Anthony is survived by his wife Desiree; son Anthony Watson Junior; and daughters Alayjah and Sheridan.
A HOME FOR THOSE ETCHED IN ETERNITY.

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