



1943 Waldeck  
144-154 East Woodruff  
181 West 8th

# THE OHIO GAMMA RED DOOR

HONOR THE PAST ~ CELEBRATE THE PRESENT ~ CREATE THE FUTURE

## ALUMNI & VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE (AVC)

<b>Executive Director</b> John Waggoner '70	<b>Chapter Advisor</b> Rob Jech '15
<b>President</b> Mike Repasky '08	<b>President Emeritus</b> Bob Barnett '71
<b>Treasurer</b> Paul Kirkendall '11	<b>Faculty Fellow</b> Dr. Matt Stoltzfus '02
<b>Secretary</b> Tom Vetter '10	<b>Balanced Man Steward</b> Jonathon Ogland-Hand '14
<b>Housing</b> George Smith '63	<b>Alumni Relations</b> Mike Lockwood '66
<b>Treasurer Emeritus</b> Ken Butler '70	

## MENTORS:

**President:** Mike Repasky '08  
**Advisor Emeritus:** Dr. Don Stenta '02  
**Campus Engagement:** Open  
**Chaplain:** Dr. Matt Stoltzfus '02  
**Communication:** Kevin Marginian '09  
**Development:** Jonathon Ogland-Hand '14  
**Finance:** Paul Kirkendall '11  
**Programming:** Open  
**Recruitment:** Graham Wood '15  
**RLC:** Kenton Reason '17  
**Resident Scholar:** Nick O'Dell '10  
 Aaron Fisher '12      Austin Stewart '16  
 Pat Goth '16      John Tannous '12  
 Ryan Shaw '16

## CHAPTER ADVISORS:

**District Governor:** Scott Phillips '05  
**Alumni Relations:** Tom McLaughlin '69  
**Alumni Relations:** Matt Lehrer '13  
**Alumni Relations:** Sean Mittelman '09  
**Communications:** Gary Ryan '67  
**IT:** Brad Griffith '04  
**Law School:** Saar Mahna '10; Brandon Pauley '07  
**Medical:** Adam Goldberg '10; Ty Miller '10  
**Social Media:** Christopher John '15  
**Wardrobe:** Toshi Shoji '08

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

Matt Littman '14      Steve Engelhaupt '11  
 Jeff Odenwald '69      John Waggoner '70  
 Jim Crossley '17      Bob Barnett '71  
 Rob Nicholson '09      Gabe Lockhart '09

## HOUSING COMMITTEE:

George Smith '63 (Chairman)      Andy Latham '67  
 Chris Maskevich '14      John Barta '70  
 Michael Maistros '00      Ryan Dressler '08  
 John Waggoner '70      Tom Vetter '10



Balanced Man Founders

## 2018 HALL OF FAME

2018 is our 110th anniversary as a chapter at OSU and we want to adjust our Hall of Fame event to recognize the accomplishments of our chapter. Accordingly the **Founders of our Balanced Man Chapter** will be our special guests for the evening.

The Balanced Man chapter, as we know it today with all our accomplishments, came about from the hard work of the men, and women, who were initiated from January 25, 2001 to November 2, 2002



Kay Robinson

when we received our new charter.

One of the women who was key to our early success as a chapter is **Kay Robinson**, our 2018 Bob Barnett Outstanding Alumni Service honoree. In 2002, Kay was our Balanced Man Steward and Assistant Director of Campus Activities. In 2003 she became our House Director and served in that position for 4 years while also holding the roles of

Balanced Man Steward and Resident Scholar.

Our 2018 George E. Smith Distinguished Alumni is **Jeff Odenwald**. Jeff had a distinguished



Jeff Odenwald

and colorful career as an executive in Major League Baseball. We have asked Jeff to speak about his career which includes two World Series rings with the Cincinnati Reds during the days of the "Big Red Machine" with Pete Rose and Johnny Bench. He served as an executive with multiple MLB teams including a time with the Detroit Tigers under the leadership of "Bo" Schembechler, the famous football coach of "that team up north".

**Our Hall of Fame event will be held October 5, 2018 in the Cartoon Room at the Ohio Union. Mark your calendar now!**

# CLAYTON-DOUD

## PRESENTED TO TWO UNDERGRADS FROM OHIO GAMMA



Ryan Bixler



Conner Foster

Ryan Bixler '16 and Conner Foster '16 were honored at Conclave with the Clayton Doud Award for their leadership in developing the legislation for the full adoption of the Balanced Man Program in all chapters. This legislation, which was passed at Conclave in 2015, led Sig Ep to be the first national fraternity to abolish pledging.

At Ohio Gamma, we implemented the Balanced Man model in 2002 but at that time it was voluntary and other chapters continued with the pledge model.

In 2014, the death toll from fraternity related incidents had reached the double digits. Many of the tragedies were hazing-related. Universities began temporarily or permanently shutting down their fraternity systems. In response, several Sig Ep chapters approached the Fraternity's National Directors and Headquarters staff wanting to lead

change. Their hope was to help every SigEp chapter implement the Fraternity's pledging-free and nationally acclaimed Balanced Man Program.

From 8 schools, the coalition of 10 chapter leaders emerged. In April 2015, they met in Columbus, Ohio, along with chapter volunteers to draft Conclave legislation and discuss potential objections to their effort. They continued to meet weekly by conference calls until they had a draft of a far-reaching proposal to align all chapters behind the Balanced Man Program.

To gather support for the legislation, the brothers placed calls to chapter leaders across the country. When their resolution reached the legislative floor, 140 chapters had already weighed in to voice support.

The final resolution called for full adoption of the Balanced Man Program as

well as additional staff support and resources-including a mobile and desktop app-required to effectively implement the program at all chapters. The August 15 vote was decisive and made SigEp the first national fraternity to abolish pledging with an undergraduate vote.

Our thanks to brothers Bixler and Foster for leading the way in this historic change!

**Note:** At our 2017 Conclave, our undergrads passed another resolution to make all chapters substance free by 2020.

## 2018 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

We were pleased to award 41 scholarships, totaling \$22,225, to our undergrads at the annual Balanced Man recruitment event held at the Ohio Union on January 7, 2018. In addition to the undergrad scholarships listed below, a total of \$5,000 Balanced Man scholarships were awarded to potential recruits in attendance at this event. Many of the recruits will join the chapter next week but the Balanced Man scholarships are awarded to the best candidates whether the awardee joins the chapter or not. This event is one of our premier events held annually to include recruits and their parents and is an excellent event to assist in our recruitment process.

Everyone living in the chapter house receives at least a \$250 scholarship as long as they achieve at least a 3.25 GPA and complete our Sound Body challenge. \$1000 is always awarded to those in the house with a 4.0 GPA. This year, thanks to our alumni generosity, we were able to award

much more than \$250 to those in the house.

This past fall semester our undergrads broke their own record with a 3.615 GPA. They set a goal this year to break both the old mark and the 3.6 barrier and were quite successful. The fall GPA is based on 127 men in the chapter. Recruitment at OSU is now in the beginning of winter semester as opposed to fall recruitment some alumni may remember. In all there were 15 men who achieved a 4.0 GPA.

Of our 127 members, 35 are studying engineering, 52 in business and 17 in arts and sciences, representing 104 of the 127 members. The GPA's break down as follows:

Engineering.....	3.52
Business.....	3.598
Arts & Sciences.....	3.710

Some of us recall the days when a 2.7 was a great GPA! Only 7 of the 127 men had a fall GPA below 3.0, with the lowest a

2.1. But all 7 had cumulative GPA's no lower than 2.7. So while the Chaplain will work with these brothers below a 3.0, no one is even close to flunking out!

Thanks to all who participate in our scholarship program! I recently had a discussion with an undergrad who told me he was not planning to join a fraternity and his parents were completely against it. But when he attended the January Balanced Man event and saw the program as well as the scholarships awarded to undergrads, both the undergrad and his parents changed their mind.

This is a comment I have often heard and it explains how valuable it is for our alumni to show their support through scholarships and how much it helps to recruit these high quality men. Much like OSU football, we don't just wait for candidates to apply, we are actively going after the 4 and 5 star recruits!

- John Waggoner '70

# GIVING BACK

## SIGEP SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY GIVING DONORS

DONOR	CLASS YEAR	AMOUNT	UNDERGRAD AWARDEE	GPA
<b>ENDOWED BROTHERS LIVING IN CHAPTER HOUSE</b>				
George Smith	1964	\$1,000	Andrew Benvenuto	4.00
George Smith	1964	\$1,000	Ryan Leeper	4.00
S. Ray	1970	\$1,000	Rohan Makhijani	4.00
S. Ray	1970	\$1,000	Andy Miller	3.976
<b>LEADERSHIP AWARDS</b>				
Ryan Fournier Campus Engagement Award	2008	\$1,000	Jordan Moseley	3.94
Jim Allhouse Balanced MOY Award	1976	\$1,000	Matthew Gottshall	3.67
<b>ANNUAL DONORS-BASED ON GPA - LIVING IN CHAPTER HOUSE</b>				
Ray Fahrmeier	1964	\$1,000	Jordan Moseley	3.94
Jim Burkhard	1964	\$1,000	Zachary Meder	3.925
Joe Jarvis	2010	\$1,000	John Robson	3.92
Terry Schieber	1969	\$750	Jake Reece	3.886
Matt Potts	2006	\$750	Jacob Barsala	3.86
Dave Cessna/Kay Robinson	1964/2008	\$750	Jack Reifenberg	3.8
Gordon Kresheck	1953	\$500	Matthew Inniger	3.793
Jeff DuBois	1966	\$500	Curtis Yohman	3.775
Jim Crossley	1970	\$500	Eric Greenwood	3.75
Rich Potts	1989	\$500	Dalton Rowell	3.74
Nathan Robson	1993	\$500	Theodor Coman	3.7
Mark Stevens	1971	\$500	Simon Turner	3.693
John Conkie	1971	\$500	Callum Henderson	3.62
Matt Stoltzfus	2002	\$500	Stetson Miller	3.575
Mike Zion	2004	\$500	Michael Von Der	3.568
Wade Guzdanski	2005	\$500	Ethan Warner	3.5
Mike Repasky	2008	\$500	Jason Littman	3.47
Eric Zernich	2012	\$500	Austin Gewecke	3.47
Nick Fisher	2013	\$400	Jacob Mason	3.42
Ryan Dressler	2008	\$400	Wiatt Hanlin	3.4
Chris Burk	2000	\$375	Ryan Welage	3.317
Dick Walters	1957	\$300	Garrett Robinson	3.253
<b>NEED BASED</b>				
Ohio Gamma AVC		\$500	Nick Valin	3.568
<b>BROTHERS NOT IN CHAPTER HOUSE</b>				
Newell Yaple	1954	\$250	Neil Makhijani	4.00
Pete Stroup	1960	\$250	Nicholas Berry	4.00
Jim Griesen	1963	\$250	Michael Collins	4.00
Jim Weider	1965	\$250	Nicholas Moynihan	4.00
Andrew Latham	1967	\$250	Remy Powell	4.00
Mike Roberts	1971	\$250	Stephen Rudolph	4.00
Steve Stanford	1971	\$250	Anthony Paolucci	4.00
Bradley Brinzo	1988	\$250	Nicholas Pappa	4.00
John Tannous	2012	\$250	Thomas Solarek	4.00
Don Kender	1970	\$250	Mason White	4.00
AVC		\$250	Hussam Alkhalaileh	4.00
Chris Maskevich	2014	\$250	Sterling Winter	4.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$22,225</b>		



Watercolor by Janet Waggoner

## 2017 FUNDRAISING RESULTS

2017 proved again to be a successful year in fundraising for scholarships. We received just over \$40,000! This year we implemented a new endowment fund with OSU, transferring \$50,000 from our current use fund to establish the endowment thanks to previous contributions from brothers Jim Pfeifer and George Smith. New donations quickly followed and our endowed fund with OSU stands at \$74,631. We set a goal to build this fund to \$150,000 in 5 years, so we are well on our way. We also have an endowed fund at Sig Ep Headquarters (SPEEF) with over \$100,000.

## SPECIAL FUNDS

As part of the drive for endowed funds, groups of brothers are getting together to establish specific funds for specific purposes. The concept is to create a special endowment with donations raised over a 5 year period.

- **1965/66 Era Fund** led by Mike Lockwood and Dave Wilson. This fund has raised \$4500 to create a scholarship from the brothers of that era.
- **1969/70 Era Fund** led by John Waggoner. This fund will also create a specific scholarship from the brothers of that era and has raised \$2745.

- **The James D. Allshouse Fund** led by Mark Hallam. With Jim's death in 2017, the brothers from 1970 to 1980 are building a scholarship in Jim's name to be awarded each year to the undergrad named as the Balanced Man of the Year. The fund has raised \$5225.

With similar levels of donations over the next 5 years, each of these special funds will create a significant endowment for our chapter scholarships.

We want to thank all who contributed so generously. **If you would like to contribute you can go to [ohiogamma.org](http://ohiogamma.org) and click on donate now.**



# HONORED BROTHERS

**Quite by accident we became aware of brother Hirose who graduated OSU in 1948 and was a member of Ohio Gamma. Our Thanks to Mindi Seidel of our headquarters staff for finding this article. This is really an interesting story of a brother most of us would not have known.**

## **Swimmer Takashi "Halo" Hirose Inducted into ISHOF; First Japanese-American to Swim for the USA**

The International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) announced today that Takashi "Halo" Hirose will become one of seventeen (17) honorees to enter the International Swimming Hall of Fame as the Class of 2017. Hirose is the fifth individual to be named for ceremonies to be held August 25-27, in Fort Lauderdale. Previously, swimmer Wu Chuanyu (CHN), diver Zhang



*Pictured (L-R): Keo Nakama, Coach Soichi Sakamoto, Takashi "Halo" Hirose  
Photo Courtesy: ISHOF*

Xiuwei (CHN), long distance swimmer Walter Poenisch (USA) and photojournalist Heinz Kluetmeier have been announced. Hirose will enter the Hall of Fame in the Pioneer category. The Pioneer category was created to honor great achievements that have been overlooked by the fog of time

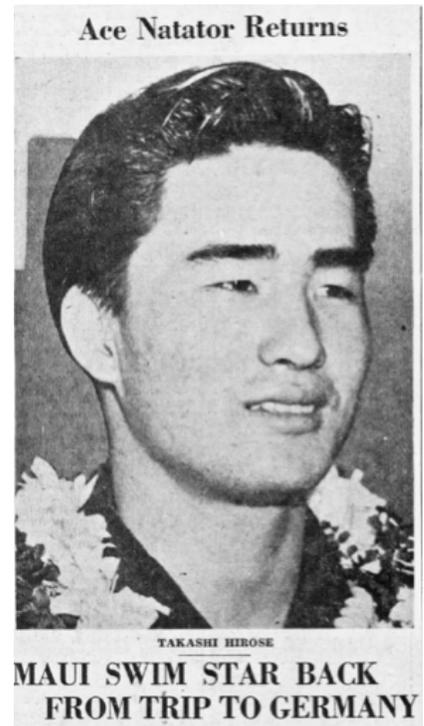
or special circumstances that interfered with their careers, such as accidents, war or politics.

"It's about time," says Richard "Sonny" Tanabe, a member of the 1956 US Olympic team and past president of the Hawaiian Swimming Hall of Fame. "Halo made a tremendous contribution not only to Hawaiian swimming, but international Swimming as well."

"A fitting and deserving tribute," says Olympic gold medalist Steve Clark. "In his day, 'Halo' was one of the fastest swimmers in the world, and thanks to Julie Checkoway, author of the best selling book, 'The Three Year Swim Club: The Untold Story of Maui's Sugar Ditch Kids and Their Quest for Olympic Glory', and now this... his amazing story is being remembered."

Like many poor, Japanese-Americans kids whose parents worked as laborers on Hawaiian island of Maui's Pu'unene's sugar plantation, he began by swimming in irrigation ditches for fun, before joining Soichi Sakamoto's famed "Three Year Swim Club" in 1937. It was Sakamoto's dream to have some of his swimmers represent the United States, in the home of their ancestors, at the Olympic Games in Tokyo, in 1940.

One year after joining the club, at the age 15, Hirose placed second in the 200-meter freestyle, just inches behind future Hall of Famer and 1936 Olympic Champion Adolph Kiefer, and fourth in the 100 free at the US National AAU meet. His performance earned him a spot on a US team that toured Europe and he was a member of the United States' 400-meter freestyle relay team that set a world record in Germany. Halo thus became the first AJA (American Japanese Asian) to represent the USA in international competition.



*Photo Courtesy: ISHOF*

In 1939 he was selected for the US team that toured South America. He was a shoe-in for the 1940 Olympic team, but his and Sakamoto's dreams were dashed by cancellation of the Games. It was a small consolation that he, along with his Maui teammates Keo Nakama and Fujiko Katsutani were selected for the USA's Olympic Swimming Teams that never got to compete in 1940.

After winning the US National 100m title in 1941 came Pearl Harbor and once Japanese Americans were permitted, he volunteered to fight in Europe as a member of the 442nd "Nisei" Regimental Combat Team. On the battlefield he gained almost as many honors as he had in swimming events in Hawaii, the USA, South America, Germany, Austria and Hungary. A member

*Story continued on page 6.*



*Members of the U.S. Champion relay from Maui Swim Club. Pictured (L-R): Jose Balmores, Takashi "Halo" Hirose, William Neunzig, and Keo Nakama - Photo Courtesy: ISHOF*

of a machine gun platoon through some of the heaviest fighting in France and Italy, Hirose received five battle stars, the combat

infantry badge and a Presidential Unit Citation. In November of 1944, he contracted "trench foot" during deployment in France and was paralyzed from the hips down. It was feared that he might lose his feet. Although he recovered the use of his legs after six months in rehabilitation, he would feel the effects of "trench foot" for the remainder of his life. After the war, Hirose followed his Maui teammate, Keo Nakama to the Ohio State University where he became a three-time All-American for the Buckeyes. Although he was an NCAA champion in the 100 free and helped Ohio State win Big Ten, NCAA and AAU team titles, Hirose

was denied his opportunity to swim in the Olympic Games in 1940 and 1944, and his war injuries no doubt affected his chances to make the US team in 1948.

The story of Halo and the The Three-Year Swim Club has been optioned for possible film development. Along with Keo Nakama, Bill Smith, Jose Balmores, James Tanaka, Charlie Oda, Fujiko Katsutani and others who trained under Sakamoto, and used swimming to "get away from the plantations," Halo Hirose brought national and international acclaim to Hawai'i swimming. Takeshi "Halo" Hirose passed away at the age of 79, on August 24, 2002. He is survived by his daughter, Sono Hirose Hulbert, who will receive his award in August.

# BROTHERS IN THE NEWS

In the last 2 issues of the OSU Alumni magazine we were pleased to see articles about Ohio Gamma brothers. Information about brother John Crawford's passing has been previously announced but we thought this article was so good we would pass it along. Please click on the link in red below.



## *"We were the lucky ones."*

*Letter from the editor, Mary Alice Casey*

The second article featuring one of our own is about undergrad Austin Hilvert. This exciting article will give you a glimpse of the quality and depth of our undergrad brothers! (See article on page 7.)



## Neuroscience major Austin Hilvert isn't choosing which of his interests he'll pursue. He plans to do them all.

Austin Hilvert already knows he wants to be a doctor. And if his first year of college is any indication, he's on the right path. In just two semesters as a Buckeye, the 19-year-old from Bartlett, Illinois, declared neuroscience as his major, began volunteering at Ohio State's James Cancer Hospital and a campus research lab, helped start a health care club, became editor of the university's undergraduate research journal and joined a neuroscience honorary. And in his spare time, he took part in student government.

"That's typical me," he says. "I want to get involved in everything I possibly can."

That ambition — and the accomplishments Hilvert has to match — made him a great scholarship candidate for Ohio State's Chicago Alumni Club. The club granted him one of its three scholarships for incoming freshmen last year. It is increasing that number to four this year, says President Julianna Paterra '12, "given the competitive and outstanding applicant pool we have."

"I was impressed by the strength of his high school transcript," adds recruitment committee co-chair Katie Lowe '07. "He took an incredible amount of advanced placement and honors courses. What impressed me more was how well-rounded of a student he was." (He also was senior class president, an athlete and a community volunteer and held down a part-time job.)

So it's no surprise that Hilvert is sizing up careers with an eye toward variety.

"I really like the research side of medicine, but I also really want to be a doctor," he says. "So there's this MD/PhD program where you can get both degrees, but it's condensed. I just want to find something where I can help people, where I feel intellectually challenged every day and where I can get the people side of medicine while being able to do research."

Hilvert is grateful for the support he's received from the Chicago Alumni Club as well as from the university, which awarded him one of about 300 Morrill scholarships that went to freshmen last year.

"I like feeling like I'm a part of something here," Hilvert says. "The school spirit is incredible. I'm so proud to be a Buckeye."

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW...

### George Fox '68

George lives in Holbrook, NY on Long Island. He has had a few careers over his lifetime. He started in cancer research and clinical microbiology. Later, he transferred to teaching on the college level and eventually finished out teaching science and health in high school. A lacrosse player in his OSU days, George has coached lacrosse at all levels and continues to do so.

### Brian Buchholz '92

Brian has been employed through the years as an Agricultural Sales Representative for the Cooperative system. He is currently with Land O'Lakes and lives in Wooster, Ohio. He has a 16 year old daughter and a 21 year old son. His wife was a Chi Omega he met during Greek Week in 1990 and they have been happily married since 1994.

### Jim Seward '74 and Chris Case '72

It's a small world in Chattanooga TN! Both Seward and Case both noticed each other wearing OSU clothing and struck up a conversation. It did not take long for them to realize they were in school together. Jim Seward served as our House Director from 1970 to 1974 while working on his PhD and Chris Case was completing his undergrad degree. Chris is now retired after 42 years with Komatsu Engineering and lives in

Chattanooga when not visiting with children and grandchildren in Bellville, OH! Jim joined the faculty of St. John Fisher College (Rochester NY) in 1982, and retired in 2011 as Chair of the Communication/Journalism Department. In 2012, the College's Board of Trustees voted him the honor of Professor Emeritus.



Jim Seward '74, right  
Chris Case '72, left

## IN MEMORIAM...

*We received word that 2 brothers have passed away recently:*

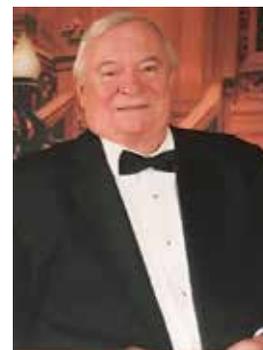
**Paul Ross Freshwater** of Eagle Harbor, Michigan and Avila Beach, California passed away on December 31st at Aspirus Hospital in Laurium Michigan at age 76 after eight rich years with donated kidneys. He was born in Columbus, Ohio on August 16, 1941 to Fayne and Lillian (Ross) Freshwater. He grew up in the Clintonville neighborhood where he attended North High School. As a youth he enjoyed summers with his mother's family in Canada, activities at the Indianola Presbyterian Church, became an Eagle Scout at 14, won a city piano competition at 15, and enrolled nearby at The Ohio State University at 16. There he studied German, music and general subjects for one year, then Architecture for five years in the school from which his father

graduated in 1930. His college activities included piano accompanist for the 300-voice University Chorus and the Naval ROTC Glee Club, editor-in-chief of The Ohio State Engineer magazine, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, campus improvements chairman of Ohio Staters, Inc., and several councils and honorary organizations. At age 18 he met his beloved partner for the rest of his life, Robertine Ann "Bobbie" Nekervis, then a senior at University High School.

Upon graduation in 1964, Paul married Bobbie and was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps where he served for two years early in the Vietnam Era supervising construction contracts at the New York Naval Shipyard in Brooklyn. There he

received a scholarship allowing two years of graduate study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School.

Upon receiving his Master of Science in Management in 1968, Paul began a 29-year career with Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati that included executive positions in Advertising Brand Management, New Markets Analysis, and Government & Public Affairs. His professional activities included



**Paul Ross Freshwater**

*Story continued on page 9.*

*In Memorium continued from page 8.*

chairman of the Associate Members Group of the Southern States Energy Board in Atlanta, co-founder and vice chairman of the Southern States Waste Management Coalition in Atlanta, co-founder of the Ohio Issues Scanning Network for state officials in Akron, and treasurer of The Film House, Inc. in Cincinnati.

Civic activities in Ohio included treasurer of the Ohio Alliance for the Environment in Columbus, president of Ohio Gamma Alumni Corp. of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity in Columbus, vice president of the Charter Committee of Greater Cincinnati (America's oldest municipal reform party, founded in 1924), chairman of the Kennedy Heights Community Council, co-founder of the Cincinnati Neighborhood Support Program Review Board, member of the Cincinnati Neighborhood Housing and Conservation Advisory Board, chairman of the High Adventure Exploring Cluster for Dan Beard Council of the Boy Scouts of America, chairman of Boy Scout Troop 6 and co-ed Sea Scout Ship 6 at Pleasant Ridge

Presbyterian Church, district supervisor of 50 youth baseball teams for the Knothole Club of Greater Cincinnati, and advertising chair for the Cincinnati Nature Center.

In 1997 Paul and Bobbie retired to their vacation cottage in Keweenaw's northernmost village of Eagle Harbor on Lake Superior where they later built a retirement home. There Paul became a trustee of the Keweenaw County Historical Society and since 2007 the editor of its award-winning Superior Signal quarterly magazine, a trustee of the neighboring Houghton County Historical Society, and a trustee of the two-county Keweenaw Community Foundation. Together Paul and Bobbie were sponsors of the Calumet Theatre, the Pine Mountain Music Festival, Historical Preservation endowments with the Keweenaw Community Foundation, and various wilderness conservation acquisitions in the Keweenaw. Soon after retiring, they also bought a winter home in Avila Beach, California near Bobbie's late parents.

Honors Paul received during and following his professional life included Who's Who in the World (1996), Who's Who in America (1995), Who's Who in the Midwest (1994), Who's Who in Finance and Industry (1994), Kennedy Heights Citizen of the Year (1977), Silver Beaver Award (1992) and William H. Spurgeon III Award (1997) from the National Boy Scout Council, the P&G Environmental Technology Council Award (1993), Keweenaw Community Foundation Bricks & Mortar Award (2010), and the Keweenaw County Historical Society Lauri W. Leskinen Memorial Award (2011).

Paul is survived by his soulmate and wife of 54 years Bobbie, son Ross Foley Freshwater and his wife Melissa Leigh Gibson (both PhDs) of Milwaukee, their children Anna Lorraine Freshwater and Rory Fayne Freshwater, niece Erin DuMars Nekervis of New York City, nephew Robert James Nekervis II of Columbus and his family.

## IN MEMORIAM...continued

**Ronald A. Vanke**, age 71, passed away Tuesday morning, January 2, 2018 at Riverside Hospital. Ronald was born in Barberton, Ohio, son of the late Hazel and Albert Vanke. Also preceded in death by his daughter Wendie Hogan. Ronald was a graduate of Barberton High School, class of 1964 and The Ohio State University where he obtained, with honors, a Bachelor's degree in business. While attending The Ohio State University, Ronald served in the Army ROTC and later served in the US Army. Ronald has been a CPA since graduating from OSU and found his true passion with private prac-

tice where he came to treat his clients as close friends. Ronald loved race cars as a member of the Sports Car Club of America, obtained a HAM radio operator's license at the age of 13 and has remained active with it (K8YAH), and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. Ronald was a lover of astronomy, an enthusiastic math tutor, an avid Boston Red Sox fan, and a respected accountant. Above all else, Ronald was a family man, a beloved great uncle, adoring husband, and loving father. Ronald will be greatly missed by his devoted wife, Mary; sons, Matthew and Douglas Biecker; brother, Dennis Vanke

(Gloria); nephews, Dennis Jr. and Jason (Margaret); grand-nephews, Liam and Braxton; his spoiled dogs, Milton and Lily; as well as countless friends and clients who respected his work ethic and selfless devotion to others.



**Ronald A. Vanke**