

Sylvan P. Stein, SMA '39, of Washington, D.C. died July 10, 2003 at his home. Mr. Stein was the former owner of a men's clothing store in downtown Washington.

A native of the District of Columbia, he attended Roosevelt High School and graduated from SMA in 1939. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mr. Stein served in the U.S. Army Air Forces as a B-26 rear gunner in Europe. His honors included 11 Distinguished Flying Crosses.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Mary Sue Meyers "Soo-z" Stein of Washington, D.C.; two children, Steven Stein of Falls Church, Virginia and Sherry Stein of Silver Spring, Maryland, and three grandchildren.

Patrick J. Parent, SMA '52, died in March 1986. He was educated at SMA, Goddard College in Vermont, the University of Maine at Orono, and Central Technical Institute in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Parent moved to the Boothbay region in 1965 and owned the Sears Catalog Store there for 10 years.

Editor's Note: This obituary was provided by Waldo Keister, SMA '52.

Fred F. Pollard, SMA '54, of Greenville, North Carolina, died June 28, 2003. Mr. Pollard, a lifelong resident of Pitt County and Martin County, attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and East Carolina

He served in the U.S. Army and was later employed as a supervisor with Carolina Leaf Tobacco Co.

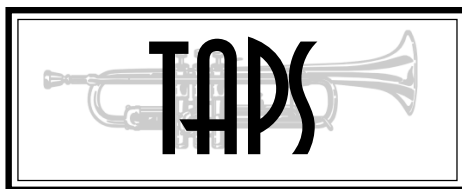
Mr. Pollard is survived by his wife of 40 years, Gray S. Pollard, two daughters and a son, a brother, and grandchildren.

Editor's Note: This obituary was provided by Cleon W. Sanders, SMA '54, of Raleigh, North Carolina.

Harry E. Fusselman, SMA '44, of Avon Lake, Ohio, died June 6, 2003 after a long illness.

Raised in Youngstown, Ohio, Mr. Fusselman joined the U.S. Navy immediately following his graduation from SMA.

After World War II, he attended Kent State University and graduated with honorable mention in 1950. Mr. Fusselman worked for 25 years as a transportation agent with the Ford



The SMA Alumni Association regrets to announce the passing of these alumni. SMAAA and its members extend their sincere condolences.

Motor Co. in Lorain, Ohio, retiring in 1982.

Mr. Fusselman was a Master Mason, 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and York Rite Mason. He was a member of Al Koran Shrine and the Lorain Senior Fellowship Club.

In addition to helping to raise funding for the Lorain County Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the Lorain YMCA, Mr. Fusselman also raised funds for Shrine Children's Hospitals.

While attending SMA, Mr. Fusselman was co-captain of the state championship swimming team, was a company commander and senior class secretary.

Mr. Fusselman enjoyed figure skating, competition archery, water skiing, alpine skiing and stunt kite flying. He won the Mayor's Trophy twice in Avon Lake for sailing.

During World War II, Mr. Fusselman was a Fireman First Class on a destroyer, the USS Heerman, a ship that was awarded nine battle stars and a Presidential Unit Citation for action in Leyte Gulf, where it was nearly sunk.

Subsequently, Mr. Fusselman earned three battle stars for action in Iwo Jima, Okinawa and the Empire raids on Japan.

Mr. Fusselman is survived by his wife of 55 years, Bertha Browne Fusselman; daughters Heidi Fusselman and Rebecca Compton; a son, David; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Henry Ralph Emerson, SMA '54, of Rochester, New York, died June 28, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Mary, a brother, William; and a sister, Betty Jane McMath. No further details are available at this time.

Jeff Zwicker, SMA '55, of Lockport, New York, died October 4, 2001.

Larry Marks, a longtime friend and former classmate at SMA and University of North Carolina, attended the services along with Henry Emerson, SMA '54 (see obituary this page).

"I had remained friends with Jeff all through the years," Marks said, noting that he and Mr. Zwicker attended University of North Carolina together and were on the swim team there and belonged to the same fraternity.

"Jeff got his Masters in Personnel Management and went into the corporate world for about 20 years", Marks recalled, adding that Mr. Zwicker rose to vice president of human resources.

Marks noted that Mr. Zwicker returned to the aquatic world and opened the Zwicker Swim Center in Lockport, teaching and coaching many collegian and Olympic swimmers over the years, including several world record holders. Mr. Zwicker sold the business in 1999 and retired.

"The church in Lockport was full as a testament to Jeff's contribution to his community," Marks said, noting that Mr. Zwicker "supported the SMA Alumni Association and all its efforts and served on the SMAAA board for a while."

"I'm going to miss my friend of almost 50 years," Marks said. "We had planned to attend our 50th SMA at the reunion in '05."

Editor's Note: Our thanks to Larry Marks for this in-depth look at the life of Jeff Zwicker.

It is with great sadness....

that one third of this issue of *The Kablegram* is devoted to the publishing of obituaries of SMA alumni. However, we believe these notices, and in some cases testimonials, speak volumes about the alumni who have passed on. We feel it is important to remember those we spent our early lives with, remembering them for their accomplishments.

Colonel Edward L. Dodge, SMA '42



Colonel Dodge as Headmaster

Edward Lowell Dodge, 80, a 1942 graduate of SMA and a former faculty member at SMA, died May 16 at his home in Staunton, Virginia.

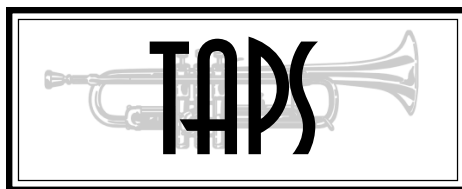
He was born February 15, 1923 at Arlington, Massachusetts to Arthur and Charlotte (Lowell) Dodge.

Mr. Dodge was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Douglas McKay (Goode) Dodge; and a sister, Mary. Survivors include two sons, Randolph Lowell Dodge and Steven Goode Dodge, both of Massachusetts; and a daughter, Debra Hutcheson, Orlean, Virginia. Also surviving are six grandchildren. One grandson, Rev. Christopher Dodge, officiated at the May 18 memorial service.

Memorial services were conducted May 18 at First Presbyterian Church in Staunton. Burial was private.

Honorary pallbearers were SMA Swim Team alumni: Thornton "Doc" Saffer, SMA '57; Barry Goldwater, Jr., SMA '57; John Dean, SMA '57; Lary Marks, SMA '55; Lee Lawrence, SMA '56; Arthur Stern, SMA '57; George Snyder, SMA '54; and Larry Steel, SMA '61.

Mr. Dodge served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He completed his college education at the University of Virginia and returned to SMA where he served as teacher, coach, Commandant and Headmaster. In 1973, he accepted a position in the City of Staunton School System as teacher and assistant principal at



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"Bebo" Dodge at the 2002 reunion

Shelburne Junior High School until his retirement in 1988

After retirement, Mr. Dodge remained active as a dispatcher for the Staunton Augusta Rescue Squad and maintained the flower beds at First Presbyterian Church, where he also served as a deacon and a member of the Board of Elders.

Mr. Dodge acquired the nickname "Bebo" when in earlier years his sister tried to say "big boy" in referencing her brother. What came out was "Bebo", and the nickname stuck with Dodge for the remainder of his life.

A memorial web page has been posted on the associations's website — www.sma-alumni.org/id100.htm. Alumni who wish to add comments to this memorial should e-mail them to WebMaster@sma-alumni.org.



Robert C. Bowman, SMA '38, of Wilcox, Arizona, died November 22, 2002. In a letter to SMA Alumni Association, Mrs. Bowman, his wife of 59 years, said that Mr. Bowman had been hospitalized since September.

"He loved the academy," Mrs. Bowman recounted, "and talked about it all the time."

Mr. Bowman joined the U.S. Army in 1941 and in 1943 was transferred to the Air Force.

"We had a wonderful life and I always enjoyed the tales of the time he was in Staunton Military Academy," Mrs. Bowman said.

"Bob encouraged many young people to join one of the services. It was wonderful to have them come back so we could see what they had accomplished," she added.

"Sorry for the scribbling," she wrote in closing, "...just thought you would like to hear of another successful student."

John Coleman, SMA '40, a land developer and New Orleans honorary ambassador to Honduras, died January 12, 2003 in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. He was 79.

Mr. Coleman was born in San Pedro Sula and moved to New Orleans in the late 1920s. He attended Rudby Academy and in 1937 entered SMA, leaving in 1940. He subsequently graduated from Isidore Newman School and attended Tulane University.

Mr. Coleman founded The American School in San Pedro Sula in 1953 and served as its president.

Richard T. Doty, SMA '59, died April 25, 2003 in an automobile accident. Doty and his wife, Loretta resided in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Ernest Maas, SMA '30, died February 27, 1995, according to an e-mail message from his daughter, Melinda Maas Goodwin.

Mr. Maas was predeceased by his wife of 50 years, Mary Virginia. In reporting his passing, his daughter said: "I still have his Staunton ring and will cherish it always, as did he."

George Jester Merritt, SMA '59, address unknown, died in 2002. Notification to SMAAA was made by his brother, Albert S. Merritt of Waynesboro, Virginia.

Emerson R. "Bud" Miller, SMA '46

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 died July 27, 2002 of a heart attack. Following graduation from SMA, he attended The Citadel. He was retired from Modern Plastics and lived in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Marvin Jackson Null, SMA '43, a post-graduate student who went on to a distinguished coaching career, died May 8 after suffering complications from an aneurysm. He was 78.

Mr. Null attended Robert E. Lee High School in Staunton and SMA. Following graduation, he graduated from the University of Richmond (UR) in 1947 as a three-sport athlete. He then joined the UR staff as a freshman coach for football, basketball and baseball.

He later held coaching positions at SMA and Virginia Military Institute (VMI). While his passion for athletics never waned, it was in the real estate business and volunteer service where he made his mark.

Establishing his own firm, Jack Null and Company, in 1964, he rose to be a leader in real estate as a director of the Virginia Association of Realtors (VAR), the Richmond Multiple Listing Service (MLS) and the Richmond Association of Realtors.

Mr. Null was named "Realtor of the Year" in 1987 and was the first chairman of PRO, a group of real estate companies in Richmond.



The SMA Alumni Association regrets to announce the passing of these alumni. SMAAA and its members extend their sincere condolences.

Mr. Null was described by associates and peers as "a guiding light for so many decades" and "one of the benchmarks that other realtors used to judge their own professionalism."

Mr. Null was a long time CARITAS program coordinator at the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral. He also established youth softball and basketball teams at the church.

A founding member of the Richmond Sports Backers, he was a former director of the SMA Foundation and the Children's Miracle Network Telethon, and served as a board member of the Richmond Chapter of the American Cancer Society.

Mr. Null is survived by five children and seven grandchildren.

Editor's Note: Excerpts of this obituary were taken from a Richmond Times-Dispatch article written by Jenifer V. Buckman and published in the newspaper's May 10, 2003 edition.

D. Lamar Pickett, SMA '29, one of the oldest living SMA alumnus, died March 28, 2003. He had been a long time resident of Africa, and had recently returned to America and settled in Florida.



D. Lamar Pickett

Following SMA, Dr. Pickett graduated from college in 1935, earning a Doctorate in Chemistry with a minor in Physics.

During World War II, Dr. Pickett was employed by the Department of the Navy as a research chemist in the Naval Research Lab. An inventor, he has many patents to his credit. These patents enabled Lamar to retire at a relatively young age. Lamar traveled extensively. Through his readings of South Africa, he became infatuated with the country.

By age fifty his travels found him in Durbin, South Africa, where he fell in love with a horse he named Von Reign and bought a small holding farm. He spent the next 30 years in Africa, returning to America for short visits with his family. Eventually he relocated his parents and his sister to Durbin. They each preceded him in death. Africa became their final resting place.

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Order your "Walk of Honor" bricks today!

As part of the SMA Legacy Projects, a paved brick "Walk of Honor" has been added in front of the SMA Memorial Wall. The purchase of individually inscribed commemorative bricks is a way to not only support your association but also to honor and recognize SMA alumni, former faculty members, teachers, coaches, staff, graduating classes and SMA friends and supporters. The blank bricks on the existing walkway will be replaced with each 100 orders of inscribed bricks. Each 4" x 8" brick costs \$50.00 and can be purchased with a tax-deductible contribution to the SMA Foundation, Inc.

Name: _____ SMA Class Year: _____
 Address: _____ City, _____ State _____
 ZIP: _____
 Telephone: Home: (____) _____ Work: (____) _____
 E-mail: _____

Inscription information (please print)

Line 1: _____
 Line 2: _____
 Line 3: _____

Inscriptions may be up to three lines (maximum of 20 characters per line). Punctuation marks count as characters. If multiple bricks are being purchased, please make copies of this form to submit orders for the additional bricks.

Mail this order form and your check (payable to **SMA Foundation, Inc./Brick Paver**) to:
 SMA Foundation, Inc. • Attn: SMA Walk of Honor • P. O. Box 958 Woodrum Station • Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958

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A true renaissance man, Dr. Pickett, like the gems he cut, was many faceted. Due to his interest in lapidary, he became quite skilled at gem stone cutting. Also included in his many interests was falconry, and wood carving. He also enjoyed time as a ham radio operator during his time in Africa. His decision to return to America brought much sadness to those he was leaving behind. On the eve of his departure, he celebrated his 80th birthday. A party hosted by his friends included among other things, a cake with candles that stayed lit no matter how hard he blew on them. He returned home to America in 1990, settling in Dunnellon, Florida.

The computer age was expanding, and Dr. Pickett was not to be left out. The computer opened up a whole new world for Dr. Pickett. Not only could he stay in contact with his friends in Africa, but he enjoyed the fascination of meeting and making new friends..Several of these friends made trips to meet and spend real time with him.

An excellent cook, he was best known for his bathtub fudge. A gifted storyteller, Dr. Pickett regaled his friends with stories of his incredible experiences.

Dr. Pickett is survived by Tommy Thompson, Dunnellon, Florida; Bernadine Laws, South Africa; Jennifer Lawrence, Ventura, California; Louise Starr, Tucson, Arizona; and Dee Dee Murry, Centralia, Washington.

Editor's Note: The information for this detail obituary was provided by Jennifer Lawrence of Ventura, California. Much on the content is her own writing. SMAAA is grateful for this generous assistance in relating the story of Dr. Pickett's life.

Samuel Redman, Jr., SMA '33, of Silver Spring, Maryland, died June 29, 2002 at age 87. A banker all of his life, he retired as a vice president of Riggs National Bank of Washington, D.C. He was married to Frances Redman, his wife of 62 years.

Robert Nelson Rodgers, SMA '52, Staunton, Virginia, died November 13, 2002. Mr. Rodgers was retired from Smith Transfer, where he had been Director of Construction.



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Charles H. Ruth, Jr., SMA '30 died in February 1963.

Thomas H. Saffer, SMA '52, of Bass Lake, California, died March 9, 2003. He was 68.

A native of Middleburg, Virginia, he first came to California in 1957 after being posted to Camp Pendleton as a Marine Second Lieutenant. He graduated in 1952 from Staunton Military Academy. Saffer attended Virginia Military Institute, graduating in 1956.

He wrote a best seller, *Countdown Zero*, an account of his and other Marines experiences as soldiers in the atomic testing in Nevada. His activism and congressional testimony as a result of the book were instrumental in gaining benefits for atomic veterans.

He moved to Bass Lake from Orange County in 1994 where he and his wife, Barbara, operated a wholesale computer hardware business.

Saffer was a member of the Oakhurst Sierra Rotary Club, and was involved in many of their community activities. He especially enjoyed reading to the elementary school children. Saffer entered the SMA Junior School in 1947. In his senior year he was a Cadet Captain and commander of Company "E". He participated in junior varsity football and basketball, was a member of the Howie Rifles, secretary of the senior class, and vice president of the Cotillion Club. Saffer was also a member of the SMA Honor Committee.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by stepsons Scott McGuffin of Costa Mesa, California and Mike McGuffin of Paso Robles, California, a sister, Claudia Young of Middleburg, Virginia and two brothers, Thornton (SMA '57), also of Middleburg and Stuart of Laguna Beach, California.

Memorial services were held Saturday March 15, 2003 at St. Raphael Episcopal Church, Bass Lake.

James S. Simmons, III, SMA '41, died December 25, 2001.

Lawrence G. Smith, SMA '47, died several years ago according to an obituary notice received from Donald Stuart, SMA '43.

Mr. Smith died in the crash of a China Airlines plane Taipei.

Mr. Smith was a veteran of the Korean War, after which he worked for a number of New England firms. He founded Princeton Corp. in 1984.

Joel Shannon Timberlake, SMA '74 died of cancer December 15, 2002. His brother, **John Minor Timberlake, SMA '68** died unexpectedly February 16, 2003. Both were brothers of Stephen V. Timberlake, SMA '67. Both deceased brothers were from the Staunton area.

William G. Welsh, Jr., SMA '71, died at the home of his parents in Martinsburg, West Virginia on April 29, 2003. At the time of his death, Mr. Welsh was working on his parent's farm in Jefferson County. He was a member of the National Skydivers Association and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

Arthur Weinraub, SMA '50 died on January 4, 2003.

Obituary Policy

Obituaries of alumni who have passed away, regardless of when they died, are published in *The Kablegram*. We prefer to have the information transmitted electronically, but will accept newspaper clippings and similar articles. If you submit an obituary electronically, please send it by e-mail to:

kablegram@sma-alumni.org

or to

cdlsma58@aol.com

Photos of deceased alumni are welcomed. However, these photos must be either digital images sent with the e-mail or actual photos mailed to the SMA Alumni Office. An e-mailed digital image should be a medium or high resolution JPEG file. Actual photos submitted will be immediately scanned and returned to the sender. Newspaper clipping photos and photocopies cannot be used. Should you choose to send a copy, you may wish to have the photo copied at a local photo shop prior to submitting it to *The Kablegram* for publication.



Baseball Caps

Several items have been added to the Cadet Store inventory and others have been replenished. Pictured here are a few items that have become available since the last issue of *The Kablegram*. Use the convenient order form on this page to request items and mail it to the SMA/VWIL Museum at the address shown below. Be sure to enclose your check with your order. You may also contact the store by e-mail, as shown below.



Golf Shirts



Sweat Shirts



Belt Buckles and Shoulder Patches

(Gold belt buckle not currently available)

Mail to:
 SMA-VWIL Museum
 P. O. Box 958 Woodrum Station
 Staunton, Virginia 24402-0958
 or FAX this order form to (540) 885-1366
 or e-mail your order to
 SMAOffice@sma-alumni.org

Cadet Store Order Form

QUAN.	ITEM	EACH	TOTAL
_____	Baseball Cap	\$10.00	\$_____
	Navy blue with gold "Staunton Military Academy"		
_____	Baseball Cap	\$10.00	\$_____
	Blue with green bill with "SMA-VWIL Museum" in gold lettering with crossed rifles.		
_____	SMA-VWIL Video	\$50.00	\$_____
_____	T-Shirt with shield	\$15.00	\$_____
	Sizes M to XXL		
_____	Sweatshirt (blue with gold hat shield)		
	M to XXL	\$25.00	\$_____
	XXXL	\$30.00	\$_____
_____	Golf Shirts	\$30.00	\$_____
	(Not a stock item. To be filled on request.) Blue with maze color and sleeve trim with "Staunton Military Academy" in gold lettering, or optional lettering of "SMA/VWIL Museum."		
_____	Old Boys buckle (silver)	\$20.00	\$_____
_____	Leather Belt	\$15.00	\$_____
	Sizes 28, 32, 36 and 38 available		
_____	Car Window Decal	\$ 3.50	\$_____
	"SMA Alumni"		
_____	Postcards	\$ 2.00	\$_____
_____	SMA Shoulder Patches	\$ 2.00	\$_____
_____	Coffee Mugs	\$ 5.00	\$_____
_____	Rank Insignia	\$ 1.00	\$_____
	S/Sgt. and PFC available		
_____	Blue Book (reprint)	\$10.00	\$_____
_____	Artist Sketch	\$ 5.00	\$_____
	(Asphalt with South and North Barracks, Mess Hall)		
_____	Artist Sketch	\$ 5.00	\$_____
	Two available: [1] a 17" x 7¼" sketch of South Barracks, Administration Building, Mess Hall, Kable Hall and North Barracks, or [2] a 14" x 9" sketch of the Asphalt, Memorial Hall, Kable Hall and North Barracks.		
Shipping charges must be added:			
	\$ 0.00 to \$30.00	\$ 5.25	\$_____
	\$31.00 to \$70.00	\$ 6.75	\$_____
	\$71.00 and above	\$ 7.95	\$_____

		Total:	\$_____

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SMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP DUES

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

- Dues (\$50.00) will be credited for fiscal year September 1, 2003 - August 31, 2004).
- Dues are not tax deductible. Please make checks payable to: SMA Alumni Association.
- Funds are used to maintain the office, publish newsletters, and help support the annual Reunion.

SMA FOUNDATION, INC. ANNUAL FUND

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

- Contributions are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to SMA Foundation, Inc./Annual Fund
- Donations are used for the SMA museum and scholarships, and related expenses.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ E-mail: _____



Complete this form, include your check(s) and mail to SMAAA. Your support and involvement are critical to the continued success of the association and the activities and programs that have been developed and implemented in the memory of Staunton Military Academy, the Corps of Cadets and staff.



SMA Alumni Association

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