

El Segundo High School Class of 1947

The Elder Eagle

July 2009



Classmate News

Guess who is the Bunny at this Easter Celebration photo. Answer at end of newsletter.



Richard Peterson's Obituary



Richard (Dick) Walter Peterson
April 8, 1930 – June 21, 2009

After a courageous three-year battle with stage IV brain cancer, Dick passed away at his home of fifty-six years in the town he loved, El Segundo, on a very fitting day for a very special man – Father's Day.

A California native and lifelong El Segundo resident Dick came into this world on April 8, 1930 as the youngest son of the late Dave & Mildred Peterson. His older brother, Jack Robert, predeceased him in 1934 after a childhood accident.

Dick lived life to the fullest while growing up in El Segundo. He was well known around town for his childhood pranks and his loud, fast cars. He graduated from El Segundo High School in 1947 where he was a

member of the Eagles swim and water polo teams. After high school he attended El Camino Jr. College and went to work at Nash Motors before joining his father at the Standard Oil refinery as a mechanic. Soon after marriage, Dick went to work for his father-in-law, the late William Squair at Squair Food Company on Newton St. in downtown Los Angeles. In a few years Dick became his own boss after purchasing the company with his new business partner and favorite brother-in-law the late Bill Squair. For 25 years Dick manufactured the famous tamales and chili for some of the most popular food eateries in Los Angeles; Pink's Hot Dogs, The Original Tommy's, Bob's Big Boy and the LA County Jail. After selling the company at the age of 49, Dick went on to enjoy 30 years of blissful retirement. After retirement Dick became a member of the El Segundo Historical Society, as he was literally a walking encyclopedia of El Segundo history.

Dick filled his retirement years by enjoying fun times with his family, many friends and numerous hobbies. He always loved to be outdoors and spent countless hours on the golf course with his many golf buddies. He could be found hanging out in the marina working and enjoying a glass of wine or two on his boat or sailing up and down the coast and over to Catalina Island. One of his great passions was fishing, whether it was standing in the middle of a stream in his waders casting a fly, hauling in salmon somewhere in Alaska or just trolling the ocean while sailing his boat, he loved fishing. Dick loved to work in his yard and hang out with his dog, Daisy. He was always planting flowers, tending to his many orchids, or just playing in the water while talking and waving to everyone who passed by his home. Dick also spent a lot of time with family and friends traveling through many states and numerous foreign countries experiencing the beauty, people and many cultures of this world.

He enjoyed a great life, and is deeply loved by his family and friends. His love, friendship, warm personality and love of life will be a great loss to all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

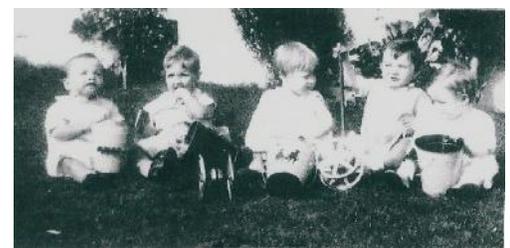
His loving and devoted family and many, many friends survive Dick. He was the beloved husband of Dolores (Dee) for 57 wonderful memory filled years. Dedicated father to three extremely lucky children and their spouses; Jim (Sherlene) Peterson of Huntington Beach, CA, Rick (Noelle) Peterson of El Segundo and Julie (Phill) Stolnack of El Segundo. And a proud, fun-filled grandfather of six; Jessica & Christopher Peterson; Andrew, Evan & Daniel Peterson and Cooper Stolnack. We will miss each day not spent with him, but we will always have our wonderful memories.

A memorial service and celebration of Dick's life will be held at the United Methodist Church of El Segundo on Thursday, July 2, 2009 at 10:00am; graveside service and reception will follow. Aloha shirts are encouraged as the dress of the day – It was Dick's favorite attire.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in his honor to Art of the Brain – A UCLA Foundation for Brain Cancer Research, (www.artofthebrain.org) and Roze Room Hospice (www.rozeroomhospice.org) or a favorite charity.

Yesteryear

Pictures of Classmates as 1 year olds. From the collection of Cecilia Morris



Richard Scales, Alice Cargill, Mildred Osborn, Julian Franklin, Cecelia Morris



You'll recognize the 1947 images,
(only Alice is deceased)
See the ultimate change at this year's
reunion.

Classmate Clippings

Julian Franklin continues under major repair, since his pacemaker last year. He just recently got a new knee. He is in rehab and is doing just fine and is feeling a lot better, having returned to work.

Gary Wallace has been laid up with a cancer operation on his ear. Hope all goes well Gary. As the result, he missed his usual trip to the hot air balloon festival in Albuquerque, NM.

Lost Classmates

We continue to strike out in finding some long lost classmates, but the list is getting shorter. Any clues will be followed up on. We are still looking for the following: **Marguerite Babcock, Don R. Berube, Virginia Coats Pederson, Marion Deloris Edwards, Duncan Ferguson, Willis E. Foersterling, Gary Hoefler**(new on list, last newsletter returned from his long time Playa del Ray address), **Doris Arlene Horn, Charlotte Kelly, Joan Stichka, Marilyn Lee, Charlene Kissell, Betty Jean Roberts, Donald Frederick Thompson II**

Email & Address Changes

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Reunion News Class of '47

The **Registration Form** for the **All 40s Reunion** being held in El Segundo is enclosed. Please fill it in and send it to me as soon as possible. Alumni from the Classes 1940 through 1949 are joining in this reunion so we will have an opportunity to meet and share some of our most memorable experiences with schoolmates we may not have seen since we graduated. We've even asked the Classes of the '30s to join us, which will make it even more fun.

A good turnout is indicated and there seems to be more excitement building by the day as more and more classes are deciding to join our classes in the festivities surrounding the 80th Anniversary of the First High School Graduating Class in 1929. These activities start Friday Afternoon at the High School, with the Class Registration, a Homecoming Parade, and first time concert by the All Alumni Band under the direction of Mr. Tash, who directed band at the High School for many years sometime after we graduated. Anyone interested in playing with this group can still contact Mr. Perry DeNisi, at 310-364-0039, for information.

On the Registration Form you can indicate the other activities that you intend to participate in. This will help in planning. Hope you will join me in making this an all weekend affair.

For those staying at the hotel, who expect to get the discounted daily room charge of \$109/day, should use the Code "**ESHS All 40s Reunion**" when making reservations. This fee includes a full, hot, breakfast and an evening Happy Hour. The daily fee does not include overnight parking in the garage, but there is adequate parking on the street in front of the hotel for those not wanting to pay the \$15 overnight fee. Those coming for the luncheon will not have to pay a fee to park that afternoon in the garage under the hotel. Elevators serve the lobby area from the garage parking.

Looking forward to seeing you in October

Alumni Association News

A card is enclosed with this letter to aid in transmitting donations to the El Segundo High School Alumni Association. Simply fill out the card and put it in an envelope with your check. The Association no longer charges dues, but intends to fund their needs with donations. It is hoped that our class will be generous contributors. The Association needs your financial help, right now. Under the leadership of Floyd Carr ('39), several faithful and devoted alumni meet regularly. It would be just great if one of our local classmates would join the meetings. Mr. Carr is retiring from the Association Chairmanship in October of this year

Other Classes

Roy Saari (63) died 30 December 2008 in Mammoth Lakes, CA. Roy became famous as a 1964 Olympic swimming gold medalist as well as many other swimming competitions from 1959-1969, and was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1976. He was a long time resident, planning commissioner, and real estate agent in Mammoth. Surviving are his wife Sheryl, daughter Joani, and son Jeff.

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That's right
Frank Armbruster the Easter Bunny

