# WE REMEMBER

May 1, 2026

*In honor of those Rotarians who passed away since the last District Conference. These individuals have demonstrated the power of "Service above Self!"*

Rotary
Club of Lenoir

# *Evelyn was involved in a wide variety of civic service organizations*

**Evelyn Beam – Rotary Club of Lenoir**

July 19, 2025

- Stay-at-home mother, elementary school teacher, travel agent
- Served in Lenoir Service League, Yokefellow, Habitat for Humanity, Lenoir Music Club, Lenoir Arts Council, Community in Schools, Garden Clubs
- Organist at St. James Episcopal Church in Lenoir almost 50 years; active in the church choir
- Voracious reader, belonged to numerous book clubs
- She enjoyed traveling the world
- Survived by her children : Ed, Mary Frances, and their families, grandchildren, and great grandchildren

Rotary
Club of Denver
Lake Norman

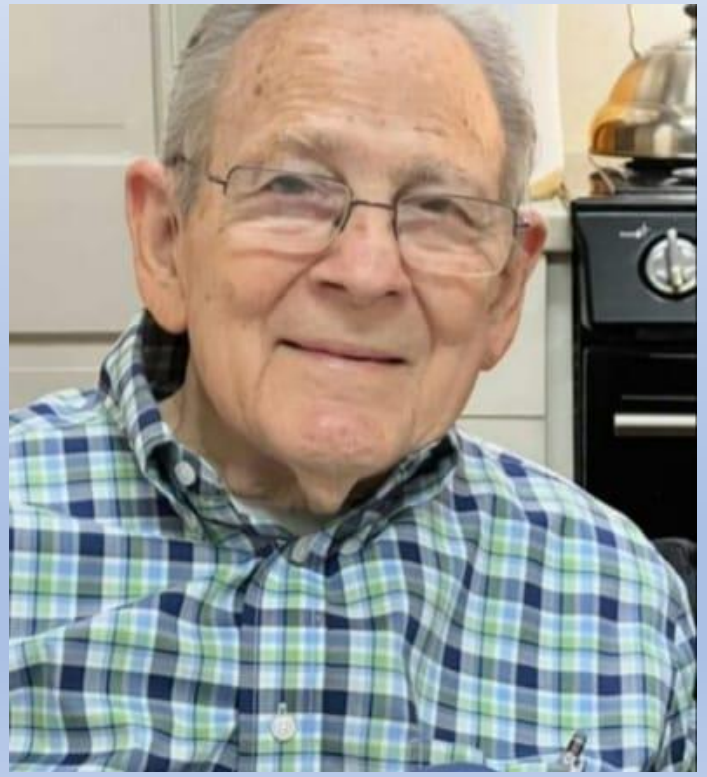
*Beloved Rotarian who exemplified*
*"Service above Self"*

**Ronald Bost – Rotary Club of Denver Lake Norman**
August 23, 2025

Rotary
Club of Lincolnton

*Beloved family man, doctor, community servant, volunteer, avid sports fan, dedicated church member*

**Maurice Canady – Rotary Club of Lincolnton**
March 16, 2025



- Served as a doctor at England Air Force Base in Alexandria, La.
- Set up Lincoln Family Practice. Served as Chief of Staff for Lincoln County Hospital
- Served in many urgent care facilities of Carolina Medical Centers
- Served as a deacon, teacher, and sang in the choir at First Baptist Church of Lincolnton, NC
- Served as a volunteer for the North Carolina Symphony and as a member of the Shepherd's Way Drug Abuse Board of Directors
- Survived by daughter : Carla, Son : Maurice, their families, grandchildren, and great grandchildren

Rotary
Club of Asheville
Breakfast

*Carl was recognized as one of the greatest beekeeping minds in the world. He was a true visionary ahead of his time.*

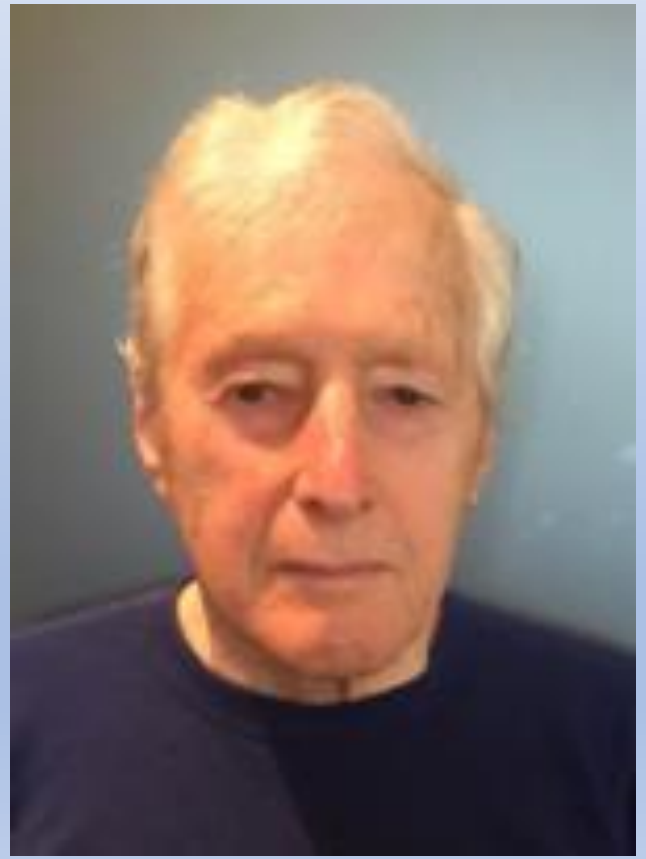
**Carl Chesick – Rotary Club of Asheville Breakfast**
June 18, 2025

- Originally from New Orleans; graduate of LSU
- Partner in a small farm in West Asheville; Director of 501-C (3) Center for Honeybee Research.
- He and his wife, Joan, purchased 14 acres, where they did organic farming
- Installed hearing-assisted loop systems for churches and public venues

Rotary

Club of Asheville

*A prominent lawyer in New York for many years, Bruce is survived by his wife of 59 years, Judith. He is remembered for his Rotary service in New York and Asheville.*



**Bruce Clark – Rotary Club of Asheville**

February 2, 2026

- Beloved husband, father, grandfather
- Graduated from Columbia Law School. Went on to become a prominent lawyer in New York, practicing in all five boroughs, Long Island, and Westchester.
- Represented high-profile clients including the estate of Andy Warhol
- Remembered for his Rotary service in New York and Asheville

Rotary

Club of Highlands

*Education, Career success, Innovation, Devotion to Family, "Service Above Self." This describes Jodie Cook.*

**Jodie Cook – Rotary Club of Highlands**

February 2, 2026

- Beloved husband, father, grandfather
- Served as Rotary Club President the year Highlands was named the "Best Large Club" in the district, Started Highlands Rotary Bingo, Served as Assistant Governor two years, District Publicity Chair and District Project Development Chair
- Received a degree in Chemistry at Georgia Tech; worked for several chemical companies.
- Started Highlands Chemical Company and BioCat Solutions
- Served on the Blue Ridge Dental Clinic Board and helped start the Upper Cullasaja Water Association
- Taught and coached a neighborhood swim team; tutored students at Highlands School in college subjects

Rotary

Asheville-Biltmore

*Alan will be remembered most for the way he made people feel. His warmth, kindness, and deep empathy touched everyone he met.*

**Alan Davis – Asheville-Biltmore Rotary Club**

November 22, 2025

- Attended UNC Chapel Hill and Mercer University School of Pharmacy
- Lifelong entrepreneur: Read's Drugs which became Read's Uniform Center in Winston-Salem; Founder of Novare Biologistics in New York City
- A proud Rotarian, Alan was named social chairman of his club
- One of the most respected and beloved leaders in the Deerfield Community: serving on the Resident Council and chairing several resident committees
- Alan was deeply engaged in the Asheville community, mentoring members of the UNC Asheville women's basketball team, reading to elementary school students, delivering Meals on Wheels, and volunteering with his therapy dog, Charlie.

Rotary
Club of Asheville

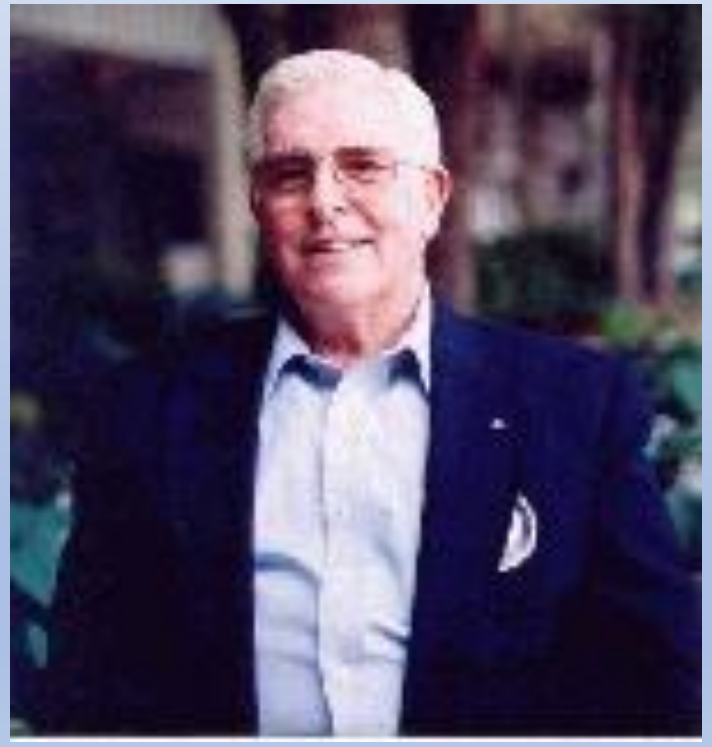
# *She truly enjoyed volunteering for community and church functions*

**Janet Davis – Rotary Club of Asheville**
March 20, 2026

- Born and raised in LA County, Ca; attended college in San Diego
- Earned a teaching credential, then transitioned into a career as an insurance claims adjustor.
- She and her husband fell in love with western NC while visiting her brother
- Served as a cub scout leader, leader of her daughter's girl scout troop, and was the PTO President at her children's elementary school

Rotary
Club of
Waynesville

*Neil's life was a testament to dedication: to his family, his profession, his community, and his faith*



**Neal Ensley – Rotary Club of Waynesville**
August 24, 2025

- Neal cherished his family. He & his wife of 58 years, Barbara, built a life rooted in faith, service, and love in Haywood County.
- Active in the Waynesville Rotary Club, he was chair of the Rotary Foundation, providing scholarships for local students
- Served on Haywood County School Board: 10 years
- Longtime trustee at Haywood Community College
- Gave time and leadership - 20 years – to the Boy Scouts of America – was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award

**Rotary**
**Club of Newton-Conover**

*Pat leaves behind a legacy of helping others. She asked that everyone be kind to one another and help those in need.*

**Patricia (Pat) Gibson – Rotary Club of Newton-Conover**
March 27, 2026

- Spent her life and career in education. Over 53 years, she was a teacher, principal, and associate superintendent for Newton-Conover City Schools.
- She won numerous awards and honors, including the North Carolina Principal of the Year in 1985
- Pat was the first female member of the Rotary Club of Newton-Conover
- The three things she loved most were her family, church, and helping others.

**Rotary**
**Club of Morganton**

# Waits was a servant to the community

**Waits Gordon – Rotary Club of Morganton**
March 28, 2026

- Veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps
- Beloved husband, father, grandfather
- Active member of First United Methodist Church serving with the backpack ministry, finance committee, prison ministries, and staff parish
- Served on the boards of Burke United Christian Ministries, Burke County Hist Museum, and J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center
- Member of the Morganton Planning and Zoning Committee
- 2008 Morganton Rotary Man of the Year

Rotary
Club of Denver
Lake Norman

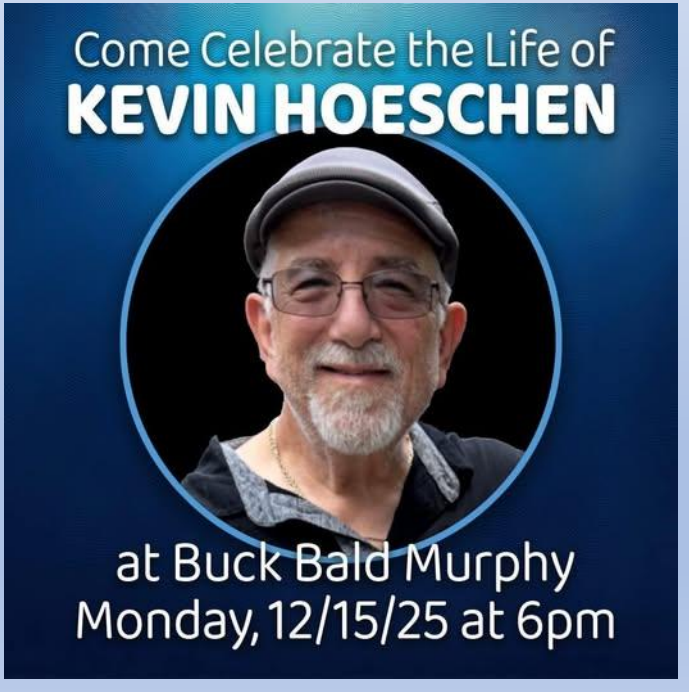
# *Beloved Rotarian who exemplified "Service above Self"*

**Harry Hawkins – Rotary Club of Denver Lake Norman**
August 23, 2025

**Rotary**
**Club of Murphy**

# *Kevin was recognized by the Rotary Club of Murphy as "The Spirit of Rotary"*

**Kevin Hoeschen – Rotary Club of Murphy**
December 10, 2025




- A native of Milwaukee, Wi., he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1971 where he trained as a nuclear electronics technician
- He earned his submarine qualification; and served aboard five different submarines before retiring in 1994 as a Master Chief Petty Officer
- Beloved husband, father, grandfather
- Following his navy service, he found his calling in water treatment. This took him around the world where he installed, trained, and maintained water systems.

**Rotary**
**Club of Marion**

*Steve will be remembered for his respect for everyone he met, his genuine friendship, and his ability to never know a stranger.*

**Steve Hunter – Rotary Club of Marion**
January 27, 2026

- Beloved husband, father, grandfather, Rotarian, and friend
- While attending UNC Chapel Hill, he played on the golf team and earned degrees in Biology and Chemistry
- Steve began his career at Baxter Healthcare in 1977 - eventually transitioning to information technology which allowed him to travel the world
- In retirement, Steve devoted himself wholeheartedly into community service: shuttling patients at McDowell Hospital, delivering meals to seniors, and supporting food insecurity efforts.

Rotary
Club of Boone
Sunrise

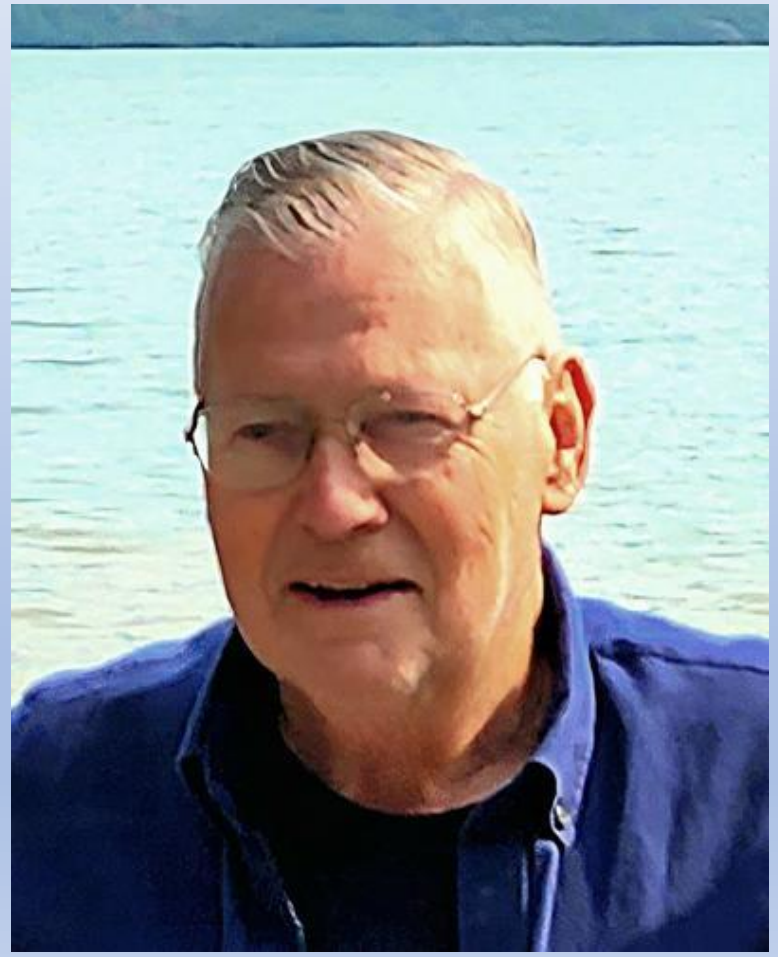
*Dave will be remembered as a kind and generous man with a true love for life.*

**Dave Parks – Rotary Club of Boone Sunrise**
June 15, 2025

- An amazing husband and father; survived by his wife of 62 years: Patricia
- Earned a Doctorate in Veterinarian Medicine from Oklahoma State University
- Started the Animal Hospital of Statesville which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary
- He taught the principles of fairness, tolerance, empathy, and forgiveness
- Growing up he was a horseman and had dreams of being a rodeo cowboy before education and caring for animals took over. Later he found alpine skiing which became his passion – with frequent trips to Colorado, Utah, and Montana.
- He was a wonderful veterinarian who provided compassionate care to thousands of animals and their families

**Rotary**
**Club of Burke-Sunrise**

*"Woody was known as one of those rare individuals who never met a stranger"*



**Woodrow (Woody) Poor – Rotary Club of Burke-Sunrise**
August 3, 2025

- Born in Juneau, Alaska; raised in Douglas, Alaska
- Beloved husband, father, grandfather
- Served in the U.S. Air Force four years; retired as Captain in the Medical Corps
- A devoted member of the Valdese First United Methodist Church; serving on numerous committees
- He delivered Meals of Wheels, served on the board of the Agape Retirement Home, and was active in the Burke-Sunrise Rotary Club

**Rotary**
**Club of Murphy**

*"Anne's heart for service showed up in so many quiet but meaningful ways throughout our club and our community"*

**Anne Rose – Rotary Club of Murphy**
April 27, 2026

- Involved in several signature Rotary projects including Rotary Reads, Nourish for Hope, and the CART Fund
- She supported literacy for young students, serving meals to neighbors, supported Alzheimer's research
- She was always willing to step in where she was needed
- She impacted individuals and their families in her profession by helping them understand their insurance needs
- She was active in her church and participated in many mission trips

**Rotary**
**Club of Madison County**

*O'Neal was very active in his community, and loved to give back to the people who had an influence on his life.*

**O'Neal Shelton – Rotary Club of Madison County**
December 5, 2025

- Educated in Madison County from first grade through Mars Hill College
- NC Highway Patrolman stationed on Ashe County. Transitioned to Northwestern Bank. Ended up in sales with KenPak Medical Packaging selling medical packaging
- President of Rotary Club of Madison County; Assistant Governor for Rotary District 7670
- President of Madison County Chamber of Commerce
- Loved music. Had great respect for musicians in the region. Treasure his time with the Turkey Branch Junction Band, performing across the region and recording a CD in Nashville.

**Rotary**
**Club of Murphy**

*Larry will be remembered for his faith, his love of the water and music, his fearless spirit, and the compassion he showed to others*

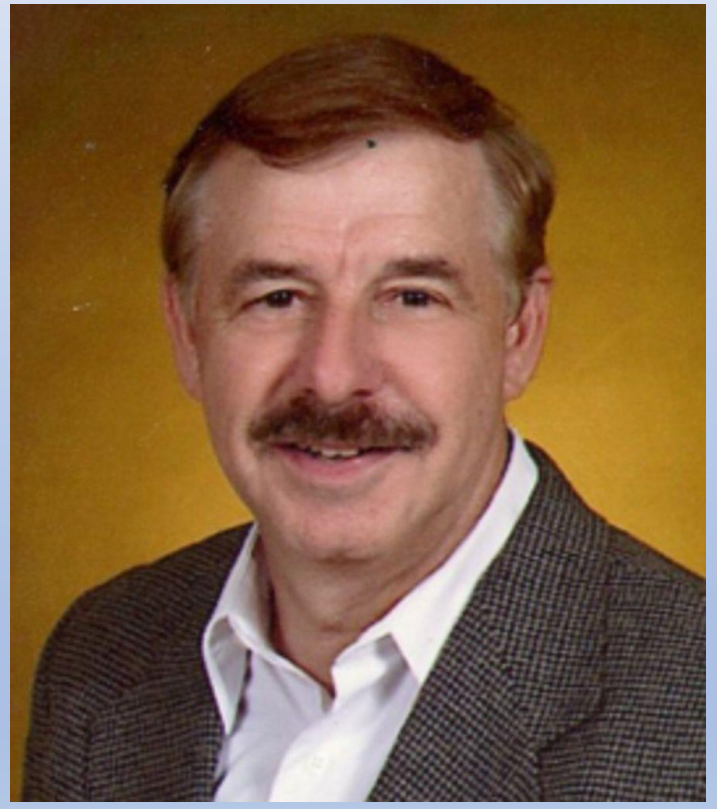
## Larry Shoeman – Rotary Club of Murphy

March 12, 2026

- A sailor at heart, Larry always had a boat and was happiest on the water
- Larry lived a life full of adventure.  He was a world-record high diver.
- Professionally, Larry dedicated much of his life to serving others: he worked as an executive director of for multiple Public Housing Authorities, where he found purpose in helping underprivileged individuals find stability.
- Larry had a deep love for music.  He was rarely without a guitar in his hands and loved singing whenever he had the opportunity.
- Larry enjoyed entertaining others through music, sharing joy, laughter, and faith

**Rotary**
**Club of Franklin**

*Gary was an active Rotarian for over 30 years.*
*He served as President and Assistant Governor.*
*He worked on Rotary projects in several countries*

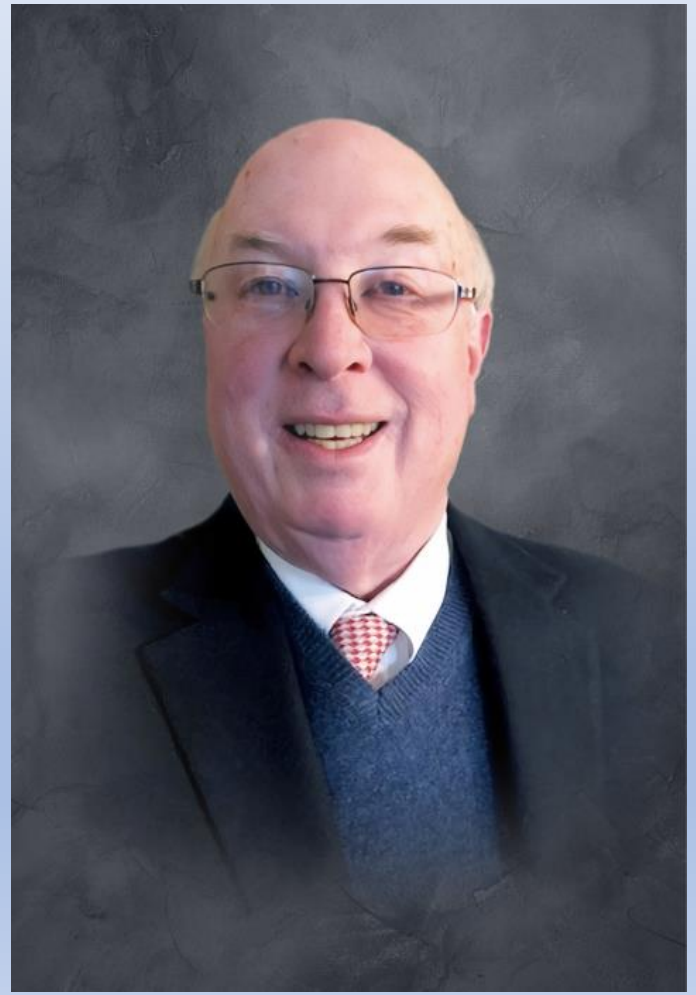


**Gary St. Arnauld – Rotary Club of Franklin**

July 13, 2025

- Born in Plymouth, NH, he was a three-sport athlete, playing on teams that won state championships in three sports
- Served the NH Department of Safety as a driver license examiner, the joined the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, then transitioned to an adjuster and claims manager for Progressive Insurance
- Gary retired in 2015. He & his wife Judi moved to the Blue Ridge Mountains in western NC.
- Gary & Judi particularly enjoyed traveling to NH to visit family and friends, as well as many cruises to the Caribbean.
- Gary loved to travel and visited all 50 states. He attended Rotary International Conventions on three continents.

**Rotary**
**Club of Highlands Mountaintop**



# *Career success, devotion to family, Christian values, leadership, and Service above Self defined Andy's life*

**Andrew Walker – Rotary Club of Highlands Mountaintop**

March 14, 2026

- Noted banker and prominent leader
- Held leadership positions, including President, in four Rotary Clubs: Highlands Mountaintop, Gainesville, Dalton, and Johns Creek.
- Serving his community wherever he was, Andy seemed to rise automatically to positions of leadership.
- A gracious and generous host, Andy shared his home with his many friends
- Sharing his home in Highlands with close friends, he founded "The Iron Men of Highlands"

Rotary
Club of
Lincolnton

*Bud served his community in many capacities: as a Rotarian for over 50 years, as a County Commissioner, and as a member of the School Board*

**Lawrence (Bud) Warlick – Rotary Club of Lincolnton**
December 27, 2025

- Beloved Husband, Father, Grandfather
- Rotary Club President
- Funeral Home Director
- County Commissioner
- School Board Member
- Supporter of Christian Ministry's LINC Meals Program

**Rotary**
**Club of Highlands**

*Everyone in Highlands who met Horst Winkler enjoyed his joyous nature, sense of style, and appreciation of community.*

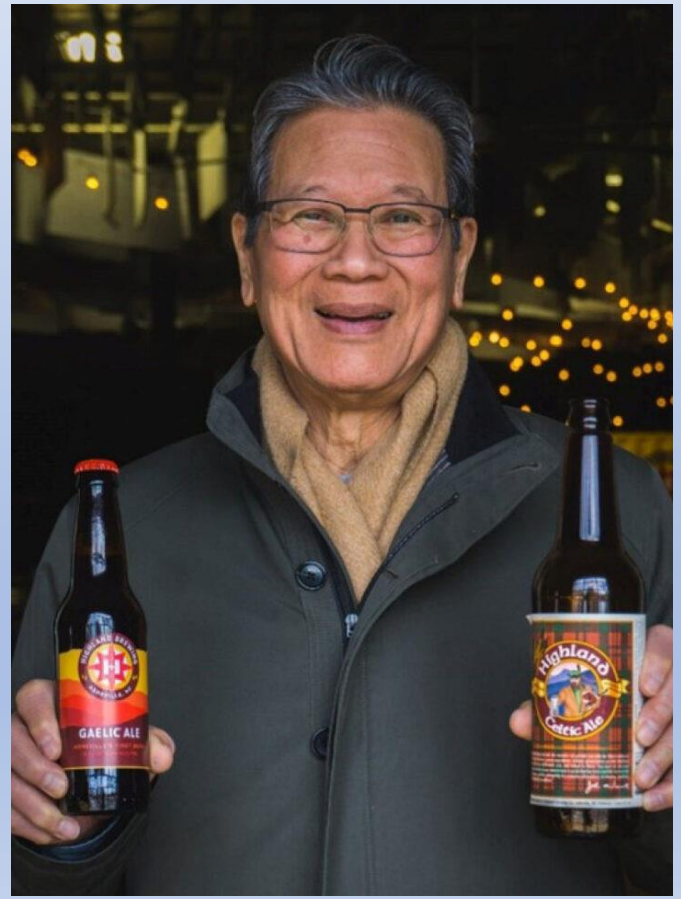
**Horst Winkler – Rotary Club of Highlands**
July 5, 2025

- Horst was born into the illustrious Shafenberger wine-making family. His father, Oscar, was a renowned German inventor and engineer.
- Horst grew up in the picturesque town of Heidelberg, Germany. He furthered his engineering education and met his wife, Margaret, at Heidelberg University, a marriage that lasted until her passing in 2015.
- In the 1960's Mercedes-Benz brought him to New York to expand the brand; he built a highly successful dealership in Indianapolis.
- He married Heather in 2024; they have been enthusiastic benefactors in the area.
- Horst remembers his grandmother teaching him about tithing, which he practiced throughout his lifetime to do good works.

Rotary
Club of Asheville

*Awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, North Carolina's highest honor, this meant less to Oscar than his deep commitment to community service.*

**Oscar Wong – Rotary Club of Asheville**
July 5, 2025




- Beloved husband, father, friend, mentor, and leader
- In 2012, named "Person of the Year" by the US Small Business Administration
- Longtime Rotarian, highlighted by eight trips to Honduras to assist with dental and vision health
- For 12 years, served as Board President of the ARC of Buncombe County, supporting individuals with disabilities
- Attended the University of Notre Dame. He enjoyed a career in engineering and started his own company
- He was always full of gratitude for a life experience that was better than he ever dreamed.

Rotary
District 7670
ROTARY
INTERNATIONAL
*May You Rest in Peace*
"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die." – **Thomas Campbell**