

NEWSBITS

UNISYS



Published Quarterly by the Unisys Retirees Group – Blue Bell, PA
Where old “bits” retire

GOODBYE, SO-LONG, FAREWELL

President’s Message



After 28 years, with this last issue of “NEWSBITS”, the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees’ Group (UBBRG) is also retiring. My sincerest thanks to the loyal members who have maintained their membership throughout the years. At the monthly meetings, I had the opportunity to meet past acquaintances and to make new ones. This was a most gratifying experience. I could not even begin to perform the duties as President without the officers who gave unselflessly of their time and effort. Without them UBBRG could not exist.

Bill Ridge took over as Membership Chair, succeeding long time member Jerry Feldscher. Bill keeps record of dues paid and personnel information for 630 members.

Alan Powell, without previous experience, took over as Webmaster. To view his work, go to UBBRG.ORG. The website will remain active until April 17, 2017 with the latest news.

Al Rollin, as Treasurer, deposited dues, paid bills, and kept the financial

record. Also, many times his assistance to me has been an invaluable aid.

Jack Staub, as NEWSBITS editor, turned the publication into a professional bulletin. This was a personal connection to the worldwide membership.

In October 2016, over 100 members and guests attended a buffet lunch. I was overwhelmed by the response and had many requests to hold another lunch in 2017.

All officers have volunteered to help in any way necessary’ Local members will be notified by email. Remember to keep your email up to date.

In an effort to keep a UNISYS connection, I am recommending that you join the “VIP CLUB” in Roseville. Go to their website at:

<http://vipclubmn.org>. At the top of screen select number 5 (membership). Print the application and mail it with a check to the address shown on the application.

I also suggest a visit to a computer museum located in WALL, NJ. It features Unisys and many other early computers.

We will send UBBRG information to be stored in their archives. They are the VINTAGE COMPUTER FEDERATION, a national group.

Full details and directions are on their

web site www.vcfed.org.

For the many that I have never met and for those that I hope to see in 2017, I wish all a Joyous Holiday and good health in the New Year.

President, *Joe LaViola*

IMPORTANT UNISYS RETIREES CONTACT NUMBERS

401K Investments:

FIDELITY Phone # 1-800-600-4015

Internet: 401k.fidelity.com

Pension and H.R Concerns:

HEWITT Phone # 1-877-864-7972

Internet: re-sources.hewitt.com/Unisys

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Editorial

Twelve years ago in response to an article in NEWSBITS asking for volunteers to edit and publish NEWSBITS, I met with four executive committee members of UBBRG; we met at the Limerick Diner. They of course wanted to know my background in order to determine if I was qualified (I was senior information analyst/writer for Unisys Customer Engineering before I retired); since there were no other volunteers I got the job by default and the rest is history.

The type of information and look of NEWSBITS has changed over the years. Because of lack of interest or participation there no longer is information on Unisys ham operator clubs, golf leagues, tennis associations, softball leagues, or Spring and Fall Dances, etc. Instead, I added more detail on guest speaker presentations, pensions, taxes, veteran affairs, benefits and any other possible useful information.

In doing so, my goal was to be objective and not bias, non political, nor offensive.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as editor and publisher of NEWSBITS. Thank you. *Jack Staub*

Letters to the Editor

From Stanley J. Pezely -

Jack, In response to your request appearing in the September 2016 issue of NEWSBITS for articles "for this last issue", I am submitting the enclosed item. I hope you can use it.

Here is a "best kept secret" type of story about local **Burroughs'** major contribution to the early computer age and space age (late 1950s, early 1960s).

Remember the Atlas rocket? It was under development in the 1950s as part of a national weapons system, highly classified, and so the public knew little about it until launches began at Cape Canaveral in the late 1950s. The computer that controlled (or "steered") the Atlas into its desired trajectory was a large ground-based solid-state computer developed at the Burroughs Great Valley Labs (Swedesford Road just east of Route 29) in Paoli Pennsylvania. But who ever knew that? There were no public announcements, no publicity. The Atlas made news each time it carried our first astronauts into space. But never any mention of Burroughs participation. In 1965 the Smithsonian Museum of History and Technology (it is no longer called that) put on display an early model of the computer. Museum visitors may have been the first to learn its history.

Coincidentally, in the same general time frame that Burroughs was developing the Atlas Guidance Computer, the University of Manchester, England, was developing a high-performance computer they referred to as the Ferranti Atlas Computer. There is no connection at all between the two. But in some of the Atlas computer material put out by

the Smithsonian, there is a photo of the Burroughs system, with credit given to the University of Manchester. I have brought this to their attention. More information on both computers is available online: via Google see "Burroughs Guidance Computer Historical Summary" and "Memories of the Ferranti Atlas computer."

I am very proud to have been a member of the Burroughs Atlas Guidance Computer design team. I retired from Burroughs in 1986, the year of the **Burroughs-Sperry** merger. I had 31 good years there.

Sincerely, *Stan Pezely*

From Sperry Romig -

Jack, I seem to be the bearer of bad news.

I just discovered that a person that I reported to for many years has died. Bettye Scott died September 4, 2015. I know this is well after the fact but I just discovered that she had passed away. Bettye worked for RCA and came to Univac/Unisys when we acquired RCA in the early 70's. I reported to her for a number of years when I was manager of RPG software. Both of us were transferred to Tredyffrin in the early 90's. I can't remember when she retired but it must have been in 1991 - 1994. She was a senior programmer when Univac acquired RCA so I'm guessing her RCA-Univac-Unisys time must have exceeded 30 years. She lived in New Jersey so it was not practical for her to belong to the Blue Bell retirees group. Many will be interested in her passing so I think she should be listed in the "In Remembrance" section. (See Obituaries, page 9).

Lupe Robles

I just wanted to thank you and the whole retirement staff for the many years of service to Unisys and NEWSBITS. I retired from Unisys after more then 40 years of service to a great company. There were ups and downs but all in all, I am very happy and proud to have served with a great many wonderful people who still feel part of Unisys thru NEWSBITS. I was an active member of the retirement committee while I lived in PA and when I read NEWSBITS, I feel like I am back with you all again in PA. It's a shame that UBBRG will be dissolved soon since I think that many local and remote members enjoy staying in touch with brothers and sisters of this great company thru NEWSBITS. You have provided good and bad news to its members and it keeps alive the feeling of fellowship to all. Losing UBBRG is like losing a great friend who visits you once a month who keeps you abreast of the family. I wish that you who bear the burden of work of NEWSBITS would continue your work if even on a smaller scale to keep this family together. If not, you all deserve a great big hug and thanks from all of us who benefit from your work.

(continued on page 3)

29 October 2016

Dear Jack Staub:

5 Bowes Lane Reading, P A 19606

Attached are two sheets of my work experiences thru to Unisys. Perhaps our readers will find it of interest and someone may find out that they know me.

Over the years I have enjoyed NEWSBITS all the hard work everyone put into publishing it. It has provided me with info of friends here and then. Thank you,

Ted Schoblocher 6654 Cammer Ave North Port, FL 34291 , 941-426-9249

From: "T. Schoblocher" <tpscho@juno.com>

My Trek to Unisys

Started at the Philadelphia branch (RCA) on "G" street servicing TV's. Next secured a job with Field Engineering Cherry Hill, N.J. I was assigned to Engineering Group Moorestown N.J. Wrote all installation and test procedures of Talos Sub System Equipment. Left Moorestown, and went to White Sands, WSPG, for the installation test and actual firing of Talos missiles. Our first shot we downed a B 17. I was assigned to work with the Analog Computer System group.

Back to Cherry Hill and worked on the Atlas program writing sub-assembly test procedures.

Then I documented the wiring vault. I worked at Vandenberg AFB a time. Continued on this project and moved out to Van Nuys, Calif. Contract was completed. I worked on various RCA projects at Convair San Diego, Pt. Magu, China Lake and several others. Back to Cherry Hill.

I was assigned to the Minuteman writing test procedures. From there and into Nuclear and Scientific Dept. Worked on R&D on Solar simulation equipment. In the three plus years I worked here took me to Ames Research center in California., RCA Hightstown and Princeton, Langley Field and others. We did the Solar Simulation project at the Johnson Space Center at Clear Lake, TX. I was proud of this job. I received- a recognition award from NASA for participation in and the Successful first landing of first man on the moon, the Apollo 11 Flight. Designed the carbon rod position sensor used on all burner modules.

Contract completed, went back to Cherry Hill and got transferred to RCA's Computer Systems Div. Wrote all the products Installation procedures and wrote the Spectra70 manual's from the data collected. We-then formed a new group called "Installation Planning" for the purpose of providing sales assistance to the sales reps. and customers, providing an installation plan and layouts and templates with complete A/C, Power, and Arrangement requirements to the customer. We provided regional Seminars to field groups in New Jersey, LA, Chicago and Atlanta. Wrote all the products Installation procedures and wrote the Spectra70 manual's from the data collected. I went to West Palm Beach plant several times to gather engineering data for the manual. Wrote a Field Engineering Technical Manual on many subjects to cover what a tech. needs to know for the job. RCA became Univac and I was out of work, not part of the package. My family was always with me during all the moves we made.

Was out of work for a year. We took my Mother to East Germany to visit her youngest brother and see her Mother that she hadn't seen in 50 years. She last saw her in 1920 when she and my dad left Yugoslavia to come to America. While we were in north Germany we drove down to Salzburg, Austria and visited my mother's sister. Then off to Vienna to visit her brother. Oops! Got off the subject. We are now up to 1971 and back looking for a job.

I got a call from Univac asking that I come in for a interview to head up a computer parts repair operation in Cherry Hill Industrial Park. I was supervisor for a year then promoted to Manager, electro-mechanical parts repair. Univac had taken on the name Sperry/Univac and eventually just Sperry.

Unisys asked me to go to Toledo, Ohio to head up their repair operation. They really needed the repair intellect brought in because they had very little. We gave up the house I built and loved to do this job and move to Ohio. This house had some very fond and sad memories. My oldest boy Ted Jr. was killed in 1982 on a motorcycle. So I thought it best and got Thelma away from that dark day. I worked in Toledo for two years when they came out with an Early Out offer. I met the requirements of the offer so I took it. April 1st, 1989 I was retired and on my own. Seventeen years with each company.

(continued on page 7)

Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group Luncheon—Held at St. Helena’s Empress Room

October 26, 2016 (Photos by Arnold Winkler)

The buffet luncheon included - Hand Carved Roast Beef, Grilled Salmon, and Chicken. It was served with a Caesar Salad, rolls, butter, mixed vegetables, and potatoes. Dessert was Cheese Cake w/ Fruit Topping. The luncheon, a huge success, was free to all 104 attendees.



Letters to the Editor (continued from page 3)

From Art Abrams -

Remembering the first Blue Bell Retirees Group NEWS-LETTER:

- Volume 1, Number 1, December 1982
- President - Al Tonik
- Vice President—Al Hammer
- Secretary - Shirley Abrams
- Treasurer - Vi MacPhee
- Assistant Treasurer - Nan Marshall

The first Newsletter went out December 1982. There were 159 members. Sam Sherman volunteered to handle membership information. In February 1988, Jerry Feldscher became membership chairman till March 2014 (30 years). It has been wonderful years for the newsletter (NEWSBITS) since 1982. I remember all the newsletters that went out. I still enjoy every bit of it. Working with the Unisys Retirees Group was great and fun. It is sad to see it end. Connie Wells and Shirley Abrams started the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group rolling in December 1982.

Arthur Abrams

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Dating Florida Style

'The Villages' Dating Ads

Dating Ads for Seniors, found in a Florida Newspaper. You can say what you want about Florida, but you never hear of anyone retiring and moving north. These are actual ads seen in "The Villages" Florida newspaper.

FOXY LADY:

Sexy, fashion-conscious blue-haired beauty, 80's, slim, 5'4" (used to be 5'6"), Searching for sharp-looking, sharp-dressing companion. Matching white shoes and belt a plus.

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

Recent widow who has just buried fourth husband, Looking for someone to round out a six-unit plot. Dizziness, fainting, shortness of breath, not a problem.

SERENITY NOW

I am into solitude, long walks, sunrises, the ocean, yoga, and meditation. If you are the silent type, let's get together, take our hearing aids out and enjoy quiet times.

WINNING SMILE

Active grandmother with original teeth seeking a dedicated flosser to share rare steaks, corn on the cob and caramel candy.

BEATLES OR STONES?

I still like to rock, still like to cruise in my Camaro on Saturday nights and still like to play the guitar. If you were a groovy chick, or are now a groovy hen, let's get together and listen to my eight-track tapes.

MEMORIES

I can usually remember Monday through Thursday. If you can remember Friday, Saturday and Sunday, let's put our two heads together.

MINT CONDITION:

Male, 1932 model, high mileage, good condition, some hair, many new parts including hip, knee, cornea, valves. Isn't in running condition, but walks well.

-AND FINALLY,

A lady in the Villages in Florida (a senior retirement community), was sitting on a bench, near another bench with a gentleman sitting on the bench. She asked him if he was new to the community and he said "no, I have owned a condo here for 20 years". She then said " I have been here for 15 years and I have never seen you around!". He then said " I have been in prison for the last 17 years!". She was stunned and finally asked him what he had done. He said that he had murdered his first wife! She was stunned again and after a long pause she said.....So you're SINGLE???

He's My Brother

Two young boys walked into a pharmacy one day, picked out a box of tampons and proceeded to the checkout counter.

The pharmacist at the counter asked the older boy, "Son, how old are you?" 'Eight', the boy replied.

The man continued, "Do you know what these are used for?" The boy replied, 'Not exactly, but they aren't for me. They're for him. He's my brother. He's four.'

"Oh, really?" the pharmacist replied with a grin.

"Yes." the boy said. "We saw on TV that if you use these, you would be able to swim, play tennis and ride a bike. Right now, he can't do none of those."

Great Truths About Growing Old

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

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Obituaries

HUBBARD COZART TURNER JR.

Of Leesburg, VA was 86 when he passed peacefully on Monday, May 16, 2016 at the Adler Center for Caring in Aldie, Virginia. Born on September 29, 1929 in Greenville, SC he was the son of the late Dr. Hubbard C. Turner and Irene Bomar Turner. Hub attended high school in Greenville, SC and continued on to Clemson College where he graduated in 1951 in the Air Force ROTC program with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. Hub served in the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant during the Korean conflict. His service continued as a reserve officer, rising to the rank of Captain until his honorable discharge in 1962.

He used his training as an electrical engineer to build his career in the defense industry that spanned over 30 years of service.

Hubbard worked at *Sperry Gyroscope* in the late 50's and 60's and also for *Unisys* in Reston VA from the 1970's until his retirement in the late 80's. He did a brief stint with Ford Aerospace in Columbia MD before returning to Unisys.

During retirement, Hub enjoyed the challenge of golf, his grandchildren and home improvement projects. Neighbors will remember Hub as the friendly and helpful go-to-guy for advice on how to fix anything.

He was predeceased by his wife of 54 years, Theresa (Terry) Turner, and is survived by daughters Lisa Turner Honshul (Gregory) of Leesburg, VA, Valerie M. Sepple (Jack) of Highlands Ranch, CO, grandchildren Jessica Sepple and Jack T. Sepple, also of Highlands Ranch, CO and a number of nieces and nephews. Hub, along with his wife, were active members and contributors of St. John the Apostle Catholic Church in Leesburg for over 40 years.

Hubbard was a member of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group.

JAMES GROVER GRAY JR.

James G. Gray, Jr. of Bristol, TN died October 26, 2016 at Wellmont Bristol Regional Medical Center. He was a member of First United Methodist Church. He was a WWII veteran, serving as a tail-gunner with 53 missions for the 15th Air Force in Europe, a member of Bristol VFW Post 6975, and a retiree from *Unisys Corporation*, in 1986. Preceding him in death were his parents Sarah Elizabeth and James G. Gray, Sr., two sisters Sylvia G. Francisco and husband Fred H. Francisco of Gray, TN and Virginia H. Gray of Nickelsville, VA. Surviving are his wife Madge R. Gray and daughter K. Lisa Gray of Bristol, TN, niece Nancy F. Mitchell and husband James of Alexandria, VA and nephew Wade A. Francisco and wife Pennie of Gray, TN.

James was a member of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group.

RITA ANN (BENAVIDEZ) CAMPBELL

Rita Ann (Benavidez) Campbell passed away on February 12, 2016 at Penrose Hospital with her family at her side. Rita was a native of Trinidad, Colorado. She worked as a telephone operator and a clerk at Kress in Trinidad and a proofreader for a law book publishing firm in St. Paul, Minnesota. In retirement Rita spent 27 years volunteering at Sutter Hospital in Roseville, California.

She married Regan in 1953, at the age of 23, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Regan and Rita had no children but were blessed with a large family of siblings, nieces, nephews, and cousins. The couple traveled extensively, visiting five continents and numerous countries.

Rita is survived by her sister, Patricia (Mosher) (Skip) Grubelnik; sister-in-law, Veronica Mosher; and brothers-in-law: Richard (Joe) Gomez, John Buttram, and Ronald Campbell. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 62 years, Regan Campbell, Jr.; parents: Orlando and Lucia (Petrucci) Benavidez; sisters: Gloria Mae :Benavidez, Florence (Mosher) Buttram, and Geraldine (Barros) Gomez; and also her brother, Richard Mosher.

Regan and Rita will be deeply missed by their family and friends.

Rita was a member of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group.

REGAN CAMPBELL JR.

Regan Campbell Jr. passed from this life on Sunday, January 17, 2016 at Roseville Care Center in Roseville, Col He was 85 years old. Regan and Rita had been residents of Roseville for the past 39 years.

Regan was in the Army for 8 years, and left the military as a 1st Lieutenant in 1962. He worked for *UNIVAC* as a computer analyst and traveled the world extensively in that capacity, visiting five continents, and numerous countries.

Regan was an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved animals, especially cats. He fed any wild animal that wandered into his backyard, much to the chagrin of his neighbors.

Regan and Rita were married for sixty-two years. Regan is survived by his brother Ronald Campbell, Sister in law Patricia Mosher) (Skip) Grubelnik; Veronica Sebastiani Mosher, and brothers-in-law: Richard (Joe) Gomez, John Buttram, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents Regan Sr. and Mable Campbell, brother, John Campbell, sisters in law Florence (Mosher) Buttram, Geraldine (Barros) Gomez, and brother in law Richard Mosher.

Regan was a member of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group.

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Obituaries (continued from page 8)

EDMUND J. CROSSEN

Edmund J. Crossen, "Jay" of Norristown, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 11, 2016 at Abington Lansdale Hospital. He was 83. Jay was born on Jan. 13, 1933 to the late Francis J. and Bessie C. (nee Jaycox) Crossen in McKeesport PA. He served honorably in the United States Air Force as a Radio Operator and then graduated from LaSalle College in 1968 with a Bachelor's Degree in Electronics Physics. Jay retired as an Electrical Engineer from Unisys in a career that lasted 33 years. While at Unisys, he had developed and patented many computer parts for his company. He also enjoyed cars and working on them as well as taking a trip every year to Sea Isle City with his family.

Jay is survived by his loving wife, Louise E. Crossen (nee Grimes) as well as his four children, Mary Schrack (Bruce), Audrey C. Matricardi (James), Mark Crossen, and Paul Crossen (Colleen). He also leaves to cherish his memory eleven grandchildren; Eric Crossen, Michael Crossen, Anastasia Crossen, Kimberly Crossen, Bruce Schrack, Jr., Christopher Schrack, Dana Schrack, Michael Schrack, James Crossen, Benjamin Crossen, and Michael Crossen. Jay is also survived by his sister, Virginia F. Meyers and predeceased by two brothers, Lawrence and Christopher Crossen.

Jay was a member of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group.

CHARLES H. EICHORN

Charles H. Eichorn passed away Friday, Sept. 9, 2016 at the Pine Run Health Center. He was 83.

Born in Philadelphia on April 12, 1933, Charles was the son of the late Charles and Gertrude Eichorn.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Elizabeth R. Eichorn.

Charles was a graduate of the Lincoln College Prep School and worked as a computer programmer for ARA and *Unisys Corporations*.

Charles was a proud U.S. Army veteran serving during the Korean War.

He enjoyed sailing and raced various sailboats over the years. He also enjoyed spending time in Ocean City, N.J. with family and friends. He was a tennis enthusiast and enjoyed playing into his late 70s.

Charles is survived by two sons, Charles Eichorn Jr. and David Eichorn (Maureen); a daughter, Joyce Holderer (Shane); eight grandchildren, Daniel Eichorn, Joshua Holderer, Sarah Eichorn, Joseph Eichorn, Justin Eichorn, Savannah Holderer, Zachary Eichorn and Benjamin Eichorn, and a sister, Janet Marchant.

Charles was not a member of the Unisys Blue Bell Retirees Group.

In Remembrance

GERALD J. ARLETH - December 3, 2016

JOHN M. ATKINS - December 13, 2014

REGAN CAMPBELL JR. - January 17, 2016

RITA ANN CAMPBELL February 12, 2016

EDMUND J. CROSSEN - December 11, 2016

ANTHONY DOLCI - October 31, 2016

DAVID T. DURRANT - UNKNOWN

CHARLES H. EICHORN - September 9, 2016

EDWARD ERNST JR. - October 24, 2016

MARY JANE FREAS - October 6, 2016

JAMES GROVER GRAY JR. - October 26, 2016

WILLIAM M. HENNESSEY - August 30, 2014

WALTER G. HEILMAN - November 24, 2016

DAVE G. HERRICK - November 25, 2016

EDWARD LAWRENCE - December 2, 2016

JOSEPH MAIELLO - September 16, 2016

JOHN MARTINI - September 11, 2016

DORCAS MCGRAW - October 31, 2016

THERESE MCDONNELL - September 25, 2016

BETTYE JACQUELNE BATES SCOTT - September 4, 2015

HUBBARD COZART TURNER JR. - May 16, 2016

Minnesota Club/Legacy website

"The Minnesota UNISYS retirees VIP Club web site [<http://vipclubmn.org>] has three pages with UNISYS Blue Bell relevance:

<http://vipclubmn.org/Newsletters.html> has archived the most recent UBBRG newsletters, see the top right section.

<http://vipclubmn.org/UNISYS.html> has a brief history of the formation of UNISYS.

<http://vipclubmn.org/BlueBell.html> has tidbits about ENIAC, UNIVAC I, II, ..., and some history stories from early EMCC/UNIVAC employees. "

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE (continued from page 7)

YOU SURELY WILL ENJOY THIS BIT OF HUMOR

A good one -- ENGLISH GRAMMER

COMPLETE and FINISHED

No English dictionary has been able to adequately explain the difference between these two words.

In a recent linguistic competition held in London and attended by supposedly the best in the world, Samdar Balgobin, a Guyanese man, was the clear winner with a standing ovation which lasted over 5 minutes.

The final question was: How do you explain the difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED in a way that is easy to understand?

Some people say there is no difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED.

Here is his astute answer:

When you marry the right woman, you are COMPLETE.

When you marry the wrong woman, you are FINISHED.

And when the right one catches you with the wrong one, you are COMPLETELY FINISHED!!!

He won a trip around the world and a case of 25 year old Scotch!

PEANUTS

John is out with his friends and stops by his grandmother's house for a visit. There's a bowl of peanuts on the coffee table, and John and his friends start snacking on them.

When they're ready to leave, his friends say, "Nice to meet you, ma'am, and thank you for the peanuts." Grandma says, "You're welcome. Ever since I lost my dentures, all I can do is suck the chocolate off of them."

SENIOR DRIVING

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, 'Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 77. Please be careful!' 'Heck,' said Herman, 'It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!'

Unisys still stands at 30
BY JOSEPH N. DISTEFANO
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Unisys, founded 30 years ago to challenge IBM for global tech leadership, recently marked the anniversary at its Blue Bell, Montgomery County, headquarters with an ice cream party.

The low-profile festivities fit a company that, with 21,000 workers (mostly overseas) and \$3 billion in yearly sales, is a fraction of its earlier size, but continues to build cybersecurity, cloud-systems management and outsourcing services for longtime corporate, financial and government clients.

Philadelphia's 3-1-1 citizens' call system is among the quotidian services that run on Unisys.

"The brand is 30 years old, but our products are anything but," said Inder Singh, chief strategy and marketing officer. Unisys claims 90 of the Fortune Global 500 as clients.

Most "have been with us for decades, and we are now migrating them to the cloud, to help secure their futures," Singh added.

The company was formed from the merger of two of IBM's longtime hardware competitors: Sperry Univac (previously Philadelphia-based Eckert-Mauchly, whose founders had built the pioneering ENIAC computer at Penn), and business-machines

That was in 1986, back when Apple had fired Steve Jobs, Microsoft was about to go public and both were preparing to lead the new wave of well-funded West Coast tech firms that would capitalize on the shift in digital value, away from old-line hardware, to an exploding range of software, services, and devices.

Unisys began shrinking almost immediately, scrapping legacy products, and following more than leading, trends.

Sales dropped from \$10 billion in 1987, its first full year, to \$7 billion in 1997, \$6 billion in 2007 and half that now. Unisys' net profit margin has been under 5 percent in the past five years, compared with 15 percent to 20 percent at much-evolved IBM.

The stock has lately traded below \$10, down from \$15 to \$35 for most of 2008-15.

Analyst James E. Friedman, in a recent report to clients of Susquehanna Financial Group, the big Bala Cynwyd, Montgomery County-based investment firm, said Unisys has fallen to bargain levels: He sees strong sales of ClearPath Forward computer systems, and Unisys digital and mobile banking products, which are popular among Asian customers. He also sees potential in Unisys' Stealth-brand NSA-approved security systems.

Cash flow turned positive last spring, the company said. A cost-cutting program is "on track" to reduce expenses by \$200 million next year.

Pray....
and let GOD
Do the worry-
ing.

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Contributions to NEWSBITS should be sent to:

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The newsletter is distributed free of charge to members.
All members are invited to contribute any information
relevant to NEWSBITS.

We reserve the right to edit for clarity & brevity.

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----- -- FINAL ISSUE -----

Minnesota Club/Legacy Website

"The Minnesota UNISYS retirees VIP Club website [<http://vipclubmn.org>] has three pages with UNISYS Blue Bell relevance:

<http://vipclubmn.org/Newsletters.html> has archived the most recent UBBRG newsletters, see the top right section.

<http://vipclubmn.org/UNISYS.html> has a brief history of the formation of UNISYS.

<http://vipclubmn.org/BlueBell.html> has tidbits about ENIAC, UNIVAC I, II, ..., and some history stories from early EMCC/UNIVAC employees. "