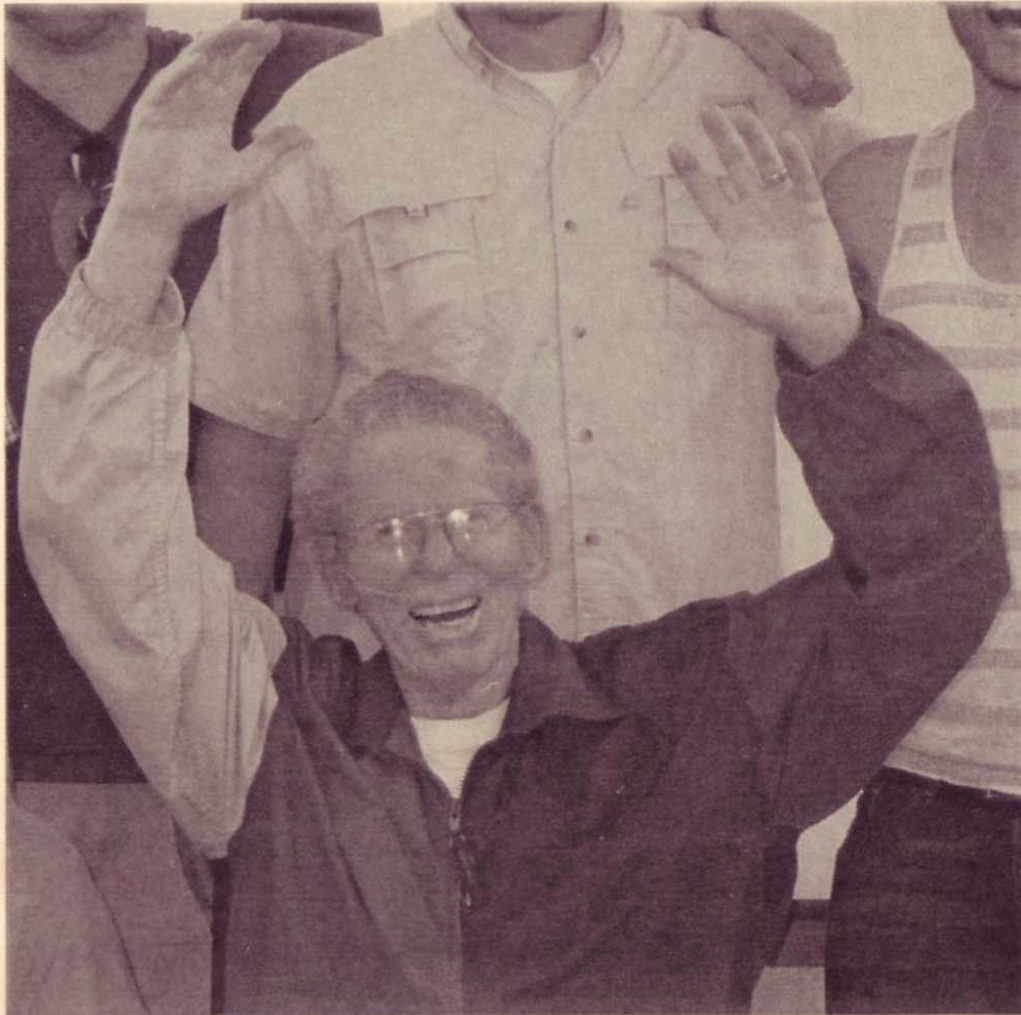


CHARLES VAN SYMONS



APRIL 15, 1932-FEBRUARY 17, 2015

IBM Executive
and
Founder of the "Committee to Promote Square Dancing"

CHARLES VAN SYMONS

(from the memorial service brochure)

Charles Van Symons passed away February 17, 2015 at the age of 83 at their home in Folsom, CA. His wife, son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter were at his side. Van was a man who loved life and lived it to the fullest.

He was born April 15, 1932 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to his parents Louis and Mary Symons. They soon moved to Philadelphia where, as a youth, he organized baseball leagues, and entered and won dance contests. He met his wife, Anna May, when they both worked at Standard Press Steel in Philadelphia. After high school he joined the army and liked to brag that he protected New Jersey during the Korean War. He married Anna May, the love of his life, on July 3, 1954. They had three children Van, Linda, and Jeff. In 1966 he moved the family to San Jose, California. He worked as a manager for IBM for over 30 years. During his 30-year career at IBM he won the most prestigious award within IBM – the IBM president's award. He moved to The Villages in 1988 and retired in 1990. During his retirement he enjoyed snow skiing, square dancing, traveling, golf, and tennis. For his 65th birthday he went on a weeklong rafting trip down the Grand Canyon. When he turned 70 he went skydiving.

Van is survived by his wife, Anna May and his children: Van, Linda and Jeff. He has nine grandchildren: Jeff, Scott, Kaitlyn, Patrick, Nick, Ian, Matt, Ashley and Rachel. He has four great grandchildren: Andrew, Payton, Conner and Anna.

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