

REMEMBRANCES

Following the tradition established by previous editors, we remember our departed colleagues, active and standing members, whose deaths have been reported since publication of the 2011 *Proceedings*.

John Truesdale

Two things illustrate John Truesdale's standing in the field of labor relations: he was unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate as chairman of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), and he was admitted to the National Academy of Arbitrators within a year of becoming a full-time arbitrator. Both actions are virtually unheard of. In his case, both seemed almost inevitable.

John had a long, storied career with the NLRB, including service as a field examiner and, in the Washington office, two terms as executive secretary; four stints as a board member; and, following a brief retirement, three years as chairman. His chairmanship was noteworthy as a period of relative calm for the agency, during which he stressed improving the service levels for all of the parties. His ability to work with people of all ideological persuasions, his stress on collegiality, and his talent for identifying common ground were widely admired in an agency better known for confrontation.

John's arbitration career began in earnest at the age of 80, a late start even by Academy standards. He attended one annual meeting as an intern, and at the next he was a full member, admitted with the universal acknowledgment that his career and contributions meant more than numerical case load statistics. John took pride in his membership and regularly attended the meetings, playing an active part in the Academy's business. Even after he became ill, he would address the topics of the day on the unofficial mail list.

John Truesdale was brilliant, shrewd, and successful—all qualities that can be corrupting. However, when news spread of his death and tributes emanated from his colleagues, there was an

absolute consistency to the comments. As David Vaughn put it, he was a “decent, gentle and unassuming man.” That is an epitaph to aspire to. [Submitted by Dan Nielsen]

Milton Goldberg

Milton M. Goldberg, a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators for 53 years, died on August 31, 2011, shortly after his 100th birthday. He was born in Bayonne, New Jersey, and received his BA and MA degrees from Columbia University. He was a World War II veteran.

Milt started his career in the labor and employment field with the New York State Department of Labor. He moved on to full-time mediation of labor-management disputes with the New York State Mediation Board. This agency also made its staff mediators available for grievance arbitration, and Milt quickly developed a high degree of acceptability with the parties. Milt became director of the Buffalo office of the State Mediation Board in 1974 and entered (mandatory) retirement in 1981, after 28 years of service to the agency. He continued to arbitrate privately for some time after that. He was admitted to the Academy in 1958.

For much of his career, Milt was an extension instructor for Cornell University’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations, where he taught collective bargaining, contract administration, and arbitration. He was named “Citizen of the Year” in 1986 by the Industrial Relations Research Association for Western New York.

Milt was highly regarded by his friends and colleagues in Western New York as a consummate professional and a perfect gentleman. He was warm and affable to a fault, and even after his own health began to decline he never failed to show interest in the well-being of his colleagues and their families.

Milt is survived by his son, Warren Goldberg; his daughter, Martha Goldberg Maharg; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. His wife, Dorothy, who sometimes accompanied him to NAA meetings, died in 2004. [Submitted by Howard Foster]

Charles T. (Ted) Schmidt, Jr.

Ted Schmidt was born in Taunton, Massachusetts. He is survived by his beloved wife, Phyllis, a son and three daughters, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. He earned his undergraduate degree at UMass-Amherst, received an MBA

from Northeastern University, a Masters in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University, and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University.

In 1968, Ted came to the University of Rhode Island as an Associate Professor of Industrial Relations. In the mid 1970s, he took a three-year leave of absence from URI to serve as senior technical advisor and “expert” in Industrial Relations to the government of Zambia under the auspices of the International Labor Organization. In 1984, he became the founding director of the Labor Research Center at URI. Upon his retirement in 1998, the Center was renamed the “Schmidt Labor Research Center” in his honor. In establishing the Center, Ted gathered faculty members from many of the social and behavioral sciences with interests in, and dedication to, social justice, equity, conflict resolution, employee rights, and workplace safety.

Ted was a noted labor arbitrator and mediator who served on many panels in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. He wrote many articles and co-authored two books on public sector collective bargaining. In 1984 he was elected founding president of the Rhode Island Chapter of the Industrial Relations Research Association. In 1994, he was the recipient of the Director’s Award of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. Ted was the consummate scholar, teacher, and labor relations neutral. He unselfishly gave to help his students, colleagues, and friends while never asking, or expecting, anything in return. His mentorship is directly responsible for the success of a number of active URI faculty members, who are quick to point out that Ted was their most influential role model.

In addition to his professional and personal accomplishments, Ted was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox. He was the first governor of Red Sox Nation for the State of Rhode Island. When interviewed for this position, he surprised the team with box scores he had retained from the 1940s. Ted will be missed by all his friends and associates at the NAA. He so enjoyed attending our conferences and renewing old friendships. And we were happy he came. [Submitted by Mark Grossman]