

Donald R. Kennedy
1470 Montclair Place
Los Altos, CA 94024-6726
(415) 968-7727

May 9, 1994

Dear Mrs. Wallace;

This is in response to your flyer for information on Pre-50's Alumni. Incidentally, I did not receive the 1993 flier because my address was unknown to SDSU.

Name: Donald Reid Kennedy, Class of June 1948, Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in General Engineering, With Honors, and With Distinction in Engineering. Member of Ocoatl, Xolotl, Kappa Sigma charter class (previously Eta Omega Delta- "HOD"), Sigma Pi Sigma (Physics), Delta Kappa (Chemistry), and SAE. One of first to go through SDS completely on the GI Bill, Feb 45-Jun 48. Had "gone to war" with San Diego's 251st CA, (AA) in September 1940, and participated in anti-aircraft defense of Pearl Harbor on 19th birthday, Dec. 7, 1941.

Married 1949-1965 to Jacqueline Harbarger of San Diego, 3 sons and 1 daughter, and Wilma Relaford of Pueblo CO, 1966-date, one daughter. Wife and Daughter (now an RN) are active in raising guide dogs for the blind and both are group leaders. Wife is also Santa Clara County volunteer coordinator for the Guide Dogs for the Blind, San Rafael, CA. Have raised 14 dogs.

Career History: (note: am not retired)

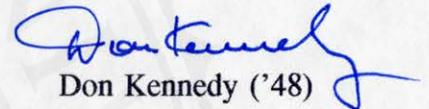
Joined Convair Missile Flight Test group week after SDS graduation for "summer job" before continuing education leading to MChE. By summer's end was "hooked", had learned to count backwards from ten, involved in flight tests of MX774 vehicle, the predecessor of ATLAS, from White Sands. So much fun, never looked back, didn't return to formal schooling. Left San Diego when engineering depression hit aircraft business in Apr 1949, joined staff of Rockets and Explosives Department, U.S. NOTS, China Lake as Scientific Staff Assistant. Was among the first to fight and win battle with U.S. Civil Service that SDS BA was equivalent to a BS. In 1950 was assigned to do research in rocket/missile warhead systems. Am still at it as one of the World's most widely experienced technical experts in the field of practical terminal ballistics. Co-founder of Aerojet Ordnance Division Jun 1953, and FMC Defense Technology Laboratories, Jan 1965. Held position at both Aerojet and FMC as Senior Technical Specialist and Head of Advanced Design. Formed own consulting firm, D.R.Kennedy & Associates Inc., May 1978. An innovator, designer of non-nuclear ordnance systems (warhead/safe/arm/fuze) for many missiles, torpedoes, artillery, and personnel arms (e.g., Claymore Mine), payloads for Maverick, Hellfire, MRLS rockets and tube artillery, and on counter side, special armor and combat vehicle technology. Have worked anti-ballistic missile technology since 1951.

Awarded American Defense Preparedness Association (ADPA) Bronze Medal for "Exceptional Munitions Research" 1984, ADPA Air Armaments Section Award for Outstanding Contributions to The Technology (1989), and the U.S. Artillery Association's "Order of St. Barbara" for innovative research leading to the present standard military payloads (1983). A frequent contributor/presenter to technical symposia and literature. Recent contributions include: author of book "History of the Shaped Charge" published by Los Alamos 1991, author of Perspectives

Chapter of American Institute of Astronautics and Aeronautics 1993 book: "Tactical Missile Warheads", articles in January 1993 issue of "ARMY", and December 1993 issue of "National Defense", and paper in 12th (1990) and 14th (1993) "Proceedings of International Symposia on Ballistics". Am also a principal designer/advocate of design methodology for combat vehicle survivability. Initiated mid-1980's Bradley Vehicle fight to improve crew survival. Won!

Mrs. Wallace, I realize that the above is so different from the standard resume's I have seen in the Alumni special edition, that you may not wish to publish it as it stands, and I will certainly understand why. It's a dirty job in many peoples eyes, but unfortunately it has to be done by someone, and I became one of the experts on "our" side. For contrast, as a youngster, I was the second young person to work for the San Diego Zoo (1935-1940). I suppose it was presence at the slaughter at Pearl Harbor that help to set my life's principal occupation. That, and the sheer joy of working at the leading edge of a technology for so many years was and is the motivation! What ever one does, one should try to be the best there is. I have no regrets.

Sincerely,


Don Kennedy ('48)