



# Nutley

HALL OF FAME

*Two Thousand Twenty Five*

*Induction*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Nutley Public Library  
93 Booth Drive, Nutley, New Jersey

[www.nutleyhalloffame.org](http://www.nutleyhalloffame.org)







## *Introduction*

The people honored in these pages all have had a close association with Nutley through birth, long-time residence, or graduation from our high school or a combination of these criteria. Inclusion in the Nutley Hall of Fame is based on outstanding accomplishments beyond our borders on a statewide, national or international level. The achievements of the honorees make us, as Nutley citizens, proud of their association with Nutley. They serve as inspirational examples for our young people to emulate. Each of the honorees presents us with a great American success story, where opportunity beckons to all regardless of the obstacles that may have to be overcome.

*- The Nutley Hall of Fame Committee*

## *2025 Inductees*

Franz Fazakas

Larry Hunt

Charles Nunzio

Tommy Petillo

George Philhower

Paul Raines

James Van Etten

Richard Whitley





# Program

## WELCOME

Wayne D. Greenfeder, President of the Board of Trustees, Nutley Public Library

## OPENING REMARKS

### INTRODUCTION OF INDUCTEES AND PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Pat Ritacco, Chairperson, Nutley Hall of Fame Committee

### AWARDS PRESENTED POSTHUMOUSLY:

Franz Fazakas  
Charles Nunzio  
George Philhower  
James Van Etten

### CONTEMPORARY AWARDS:

Larry Hunt  
Tommy Petillo  
Paul Raines  
Richard Whitley

### OFFICIAL INSTALLATION OF INDUCTEES

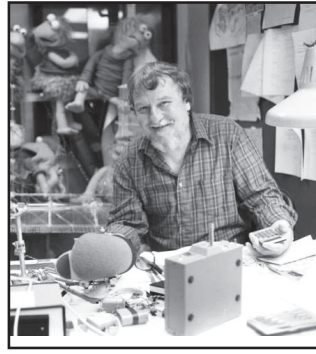
### CLOSING REMARKS

Michelle Salimbene Albert, Nutley Hall of Fame Committee Member  
and Director of the Nutley Public Library

### NARRATOR

Joanne Cocchiola





# Franz "Faz" Fazakas

(1918–2013)

**PUPPETEER • ENGINEER • SPECIAL EFFECTS DESIGNER • INNOVATOR**

Franz "Faz" Fazakas (1918–2013) was a puppeteer, engineer, and special effects designer best known for his work with the Muppets. Fozzie Bear was named after him, since Faz designed the bear's signature ear-wiggling. He also created the electronic inner workings of Big Bird and served as director of electronic and mechanical design for Fraggle Rock.

Faz developed the Henson Performance Control System, a radio-control technology that freed Muppets from hand manipulation. The system, which won a 1992 Scientific and Engineering Academy Award, enabled scenes like Kermit riding a bicycle and Emmet Otter rowing a boat, and was used in *Labyrinth* and *The Dark Crystal*. Jim Henson once called Fazakas "one of the true geniuses of the world."

Born in East Orange, New Jersey, Franz was the son of Arpad Edward Fazakas, a pipe organ builder, and Donelda Krotz Fazakas, a church organist and educator. He left high school early to work with his father building and installing organs, first in Orange and later in Nutley. In 1941, they relocated John Ringling's massive Berkshire Valley organ to St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Allwood, where it remains.

While serving in the U.S. Army, Franz married Eleanor Louise Jewett of Nutley in 1944. They had two children, Matthew and Stephanie.

After World War II, with organ building in decline, Franz answered a newspaper ad for a puppeteer with the Berkeley Marionettes. He prepared for his audition with a crash lesson from Nutley friend Delmar Molarsky, whose family ran a traveling puppet show. That small step launched his show business career.

By the 1950s, Franz was performing with Bill Baird's renowned New York-based marionette company, creating and manipulating complex shows such as *Davy Jones' Locker*, *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*, and *L'Histoire du Soldat*. With Baird, he toured internationally as part of a

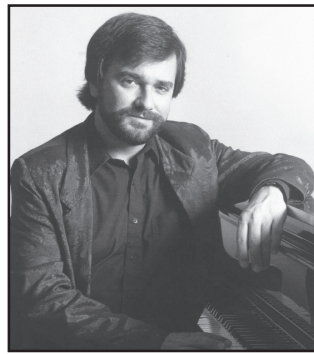
U.S. cultural exchange program in the early 1960s, performing in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the Soviet Union.

Faz joined the Muppets in the 1970s, beginning with the "Tales from Muppetland" specials. Soon recognized as a mechanical genius, he was appointed head of the Muppet Workshop's electromechanical department. Over the years, he devised eye mechanisms for Big Bird and

Sweetums, rod and cable systems for smaller characters like Rizzo the Rat and the Doozers, and radio-controlled facial mechanics for larger characters such as the Gorgs in *Fraggle Rock*.

Despite his technical brilliance, Faz was remembered by friends and colleagues as a gifted storyteller, mentor, and charmer. Puppeteer Rob Mills described him as "an avid piano player and a bottomless pit of stories," recalling hours in the workshop watching him build, tinker, joke, and explain how his intricate designs came alive only in the puppeteer's hands: "And that's when the magic happens. Sometimes."

To many, Franz Fazakas remained a kind of Peter Pan figure—a boy who never quite grew up. Long after he left Nutley for New York City, locals still shared stories of the inimitable Faz.



# Larry Hunt

**PERFORMER • COMPOSER • MUSICOLOGIST**

Larry Hunt, formerly Lawrence Phillip Hoogerhyde, started his musical career at age five when he performed on the piano during a school assembly program. After that initial performance, School Principal Agnes Kelly insisted that Larry, now a recognized prodigy, play piano at assemblies and programs throughout his years at Lincoln Elementary School in Nutley.

At age eight he won a year's worth of piano lessons at The DeJon Studios of the Creative Arts in Nutley. At age nine he performed a piano arrangement of The Star-Spangled Banner at a meeting of The Women's City Club of New York City. By age ten he was performing by memory adult-level piano pieces by Chopin and other classical composers. Before age twelve he completed all eight grades of the very demanding Trinity College of Music of London England for young classical pianists, all with honors.

Larry progressed through the Nutley school system and was the main piano accompanist for Director Raymond Kohere and Dr. Ernest Ersfeld for six years. During his teen years, he was invited to join The Amalgamated Musicians Union, a local eight-piece rock covers band of Nutley High School alumni with a horn section. This ensemble won all the local New Jersey "Battle of the Bands" competitions for three years. Larry wrote original songs and arrangements for them at age sixteen, culminating in the band recording a soundtrack for the feature film "Fall Line" at legendary MediaSound Studios in New York City.

After high school Larry attended The Manhattan School of Music in New York City, partly funded by five local Nutley scholarships, including one from the Nutley Music Boosters Association. After two years of being a classical piano major, with a minor in voice/singing, Larry went on the road performing while mastering nearly every style of piano playing and singing: All styles and eras of jazz, classical, rock, blues, Latino, and country music. He is a composer, lyricist, entertainer, singer, song stylist, music arranger, comedian, storyteller, musicologist, conductor, band leader, and a very powerful solo performer.

Larry has performed professionally in over two thousand venues both in the United States, seven European countries, and onboard twenty-three cruise ships, with a total of over six thousand lifetime professional gigs. He spent three and a half years touring as a keyboardist for the beloved Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Performers and "kids of all ages" enjoyed a magical musical experience.



While in Norway and later Florida, Larry recorded eight original songs that were released in a critically acclaimed 1996 CD "Soul Survivor". Tracks from this album have been played on Blues Public Radio in Ireland, Norway, Finland, Florida and Boston, Massachusetts. Nutley Hall of Famer Raphael Rudd wrote the liner notes on the CD which state: "Besides being a master of Blues, Rockabilly, and Funk, as demonstrated on this album, Larry Hunt is also a first-rate Jazz and Classical pianist and composer. He also has written some excellent Pop/Rock songs. He inspired me enormously when I was a teenager, previous to recording with Pete Townshend and Phil Collins, and to what I am doing today as a composer and recording artist."

Larry is currently the music director at Grace United Church of Christ in Allentown, Pennsylvania. He teaches private piano students, and performs concerts and gigs in New York City, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.



# *Charles Nunzio*

(1912 - 2010)

**ACCORDIONIST • EDUCATOR • COMPOSER • INNOVATOR**

Born in Sicily, Charles Nunzio came to the U.S. at the age of 8 with his mother in 1921. His father, Giovanni, had come to the U.S. five years earlier to earn enough to bring his family here. They settled in Newark. The passport photo of 8-year-old Charles and his mother shows Charles beaming with a big smile. Most likely, Charles was anticipating being reunited with his father. His mom, on the other hand, had a sour expression; she probably realized the 26-day voyage to America would be stormy and difficult. Charles became a world-famous accordion artist, teacher, composer, and arranger.

He had music studios in Newark, New York, and later in Nutley — the Nunzio Music Centre, at 401 Franklin Avenue. There he trained many champion accordionists who became successful professional artists in the 1950s and 60s, sold instruments and records, and sustained a busy performing schedule. He managed to compose accordion pieces and wrote hundreds of arrangements for popular and classical music. He was a busy guy! Even in his 90s, he was teaching students. One young accordionist traveled from Rhode Island to receive coaching from Charles. That young man won national and international championships. One advanced student found that many of his arrangements served as great instructional aids as well as additions to his repertoire.

Charles married Helen Vitiello in 1941, and they lived on Oakley Terrace for almost three decades. They had two sons, John and Charles. Helen taught English in the Newark public schools for about 30 years, interrupted during World War II, when she managed the Music Centre for Charles, who was serving in the U.S. Navy.

Charles made his professional debut in a recital at Town Hall, NYC, in 1933, and an appearance in Carnegie Hall the following year. In 1937 he was a consultant to an accordion manufacturer, where he toured their facilities in Italy and suggested design features for new models suited to the professional artist. While there, he performed at many venues for goodwill. There is a photo of Charles playing the accordion in a gondola on a Venice canal. In 1938 he became a founding Board member of the American Accordionists Association along with other renowned musicians, such as Pietro Frosini, Anthony Galla-Rini, Charles Magnante, Pietro Deiro, and John Gart.



In the late 1930s, he was doing an average of 35 radio shows a week on WOR, NBC, CBS, and making commercial recordings for Decca, Victor, and Columbia. His 40-piece accordion orchestra won first prize at the 1939 New York World's Fair. He also performed with Guy Lombardo, Rudy Vallee, and Lester Lanin. He occasionally played on the original Rambling with Gambling WOR radio broadcast. Radio had live music in those days. In August of 1942, he showed up at the broadcast at 5 a.m. wearing bedroom slippers — he hadn't time to put on shoes because he had taken Helen to the hospital to give birth to their first son, John.

Charles helped the WWII effort by performing programs for the Veterans Administration and defense plant workers. Later, he served in the U.S. Navy as Musician 2nd Class Petty Officer, where he performed on coast-to-coast programs with the "Blue Jackets." Later, stationed at Bunker Hill Naval Air Station in Peru, Indiana, he assembled a six-piece orchestra, the "Melody Mates." They played three radio broadcasts weekly and all the dances for the Navy personnel. Charles tested so well on pitch recognition that, at first, the Navy wanted him to be a sonar operator on a submarine. But at 6 feet 2 inches and 220 pounds, this was not a good fit for him. And on a cramped submarine — where would he put his accordion?

A consummate performer, he received many awards. In 2002, the American Accordion Musicological Society (AAMS) honored Charles at their annual event. The plaque he was awarded summarized his 70-year career:

"Presented to The Legendary Charles Nunzio in recognition of your contributions in developing the accordion's American Evolution as artist, teacher, composer, and innovator, and as an inspiring idol to so many accordionists. The impact of your contributions will forever be felt."

Charles, at 89 years young, performed his arrangement of El Cumbanchero, complete with bellow-shakes, at the award ceremony. He received a standing ovation.

A memorial concert was held in his memory in 2011 by the Accordion Pops Orchestra for the benefit of the Alzheimer's Association.

One of his last students praised his musicianship and teaching when offering condolences on Charles' passing in 2010. He recalled that Mr. Nunzio would advise, "Don't look down at the keyboard. They'll think you're asleep—or crying. Look up and smile." But the greatest lesson was shown through his love for the instrument, its music, and the dignity he gave to it.



# Thomas "Tommy" Petillo

**SINGER • ENTERTAINER • VETERAN • HUMANITARIAN**

Born in 1950 as Thomas Salvatore Petillo in Newark's Ironbound section, Tommy was the son of Caroline and David Petillo, both second-generation Italian Americans from Naples. Named after uncles from both sides of his family, Tommy grew up in a warm, music-filled household that reflected his Italian roots.

He attended Wilson Avenue School through seventh grade before his family moved to Nutley in 1964. After attending Franklin Junior High, Tommy graduated from Nutley High School in 1969, then enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving honorably in the Military Police attached to the 267th Ordnance in Naha, Okinawa, until 1972.

Music was always Tommy's passion. In 1972, he formed the group Parkway, performing throughout New Jersey until 1977. His big break came in 1978 when he was invited to become lead singer of The Duprees, the legendary vocal group famous for romantic classics like *You Belong to Me* and *Have You Heard*. His voice and charisma revitalized the group, leading to a decades-long career that continues today.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, Tommy balanced his musical career with professional work in the painting industry. He served as a foreman and estimator for A-Del Painting before becoming president and owner of American Walcraft, specializing in commercial and industrial wallcoverings. In 1995, he joined the Township of Nutley Department of Public Works, where he worked for 25 years until his retirement in 2020. A proud public servant, Tommy also graduated from fire school in 1997 and became a Nutley volunteer firefighter.

Tommy gave back to the community in other ways as well. From 1993 to 1995, he produced and hosted more than 100 episodes of *The Jersey Music & Video Spotlight* from Orecchio Broadcasting in Nutley. In 1995, he organized *From Doo Wop with Love*, the first and only concert held at the Nutley Park Oval, featuring national artists and raising funds to help two local families in need.

As the voice of The Duprees, Tommy has performed for over five decades at major venues including Radio City Music Hall, Bergen PAC, and theaters across Pennsylvania, Florida, Massachusetts, South Carolina, California, and Iowa, where he appeared at the "Winter Dance Party" honoring Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and The Big Bopper. The Duprees continue to tour nationally, record new albums, and bring their signature harmonies to audiences worldwide.

In 2001, during a trip to Italy, Tommy wrote *We Need More Love Songs: Doo Wop, The Duprees & Me*, a memoir of his musical journey. In 2005, he and The Duprees appeared in the PBS special *My Music: Doo Wop 50*, which continues to air nationally, introducing their timeless sound to new generations.

In 2019, Tommy founded the East Coast Music Hall of Fame (ECMHOF), dedicated to honoring and preserving the music and artists of the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. Its inaugural gala featured legends like Tony Orlando, Ronnie Spector, Freddie Paris, and members of The Rascals, celebrating a golden age of American music.

In 2023, Tommy and The Duprees received a Lifetime Achievement Award from LaGuardia Entertainment of New Jersey for excellence and contribution to music. Over his 50-year career, Tommy has shared the stage with musical icons such as Bobby Rydell, Connie Francis, Johnny Maestro, and Cousin Brucie.

Today, Tommy Petillo & The Duprees are recognized as "New Jersey's Ambassadors of Love Songs." Their devoted fan community spans more than 50,000 followers worldwide, reflecting generations of listeners who continue to cherish their music.

Tommy credits his success to his spiritual faith, his loving wife, sons, family, and friends. "I could never have dreamed of such an honor," he says of his induction into the Nutley Hall of Fame. "I am deeply grateful to everyone who believed in me and supported me along the way."



# *George Bronson Philhower, MD*

(1862 - 1923)

## **PHYSICIAN • HUMANITARIAN • EDUCATOR • CIVIC LEADER**

Considered an expert in pneumonia and other respiratory illnesses, Dr. George Bronson Philhower saved many lives during and after the 1918 flu epidemic in a pre-vaccine era. He attended to many injuries from horse accidents, quarry work, trolley cars, and construction mishaps. A brilliant medical detective, he solved many mysteries using his farm upbringing and extensive education. Hundreds of childbirths are attributed to his natal care skills used during in-home deliveries. During World War I he developed first aid courses to train families on how to care for injured military members returning home.

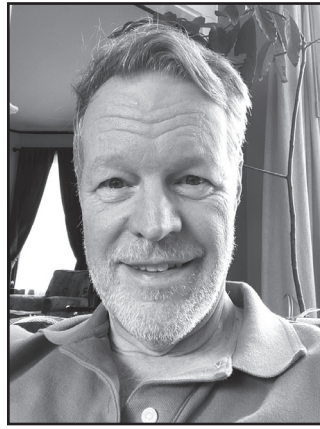
His knowledge was shared among many medical groups including Passaic City Medical Society, Essex County Medical Society, New Jersey State Medical Association, American Medical Association, New Jersey Tuberculosis Association, New Jersey State Health Board, and at a Texas Medical Society conference. An alumnus of New York University Medical School, he stayed active as a presenter of case-studies and treatments and was considered the "Dean" of local doctors.

Dr. Philhower's career stretched from 1886-1935 as Nutley's population grew from two thousand to over twenty thousand. His local contributions to Nutley history and its growth were extraordinary.

While running his family medical practice, he served twenty-three years on the Health Board as town physician and nine years on the Board of Education, two as president. He was appointed to the Franklin to Nutley Township name change committee, was a charter member of the Library Board with ten years as board president during Carnegie Grant construction and fulfilled leadership roles in numerous other civic and service groups. During Dr. Philhower's twenty-six years as Board of Trustees President at Vincent Methodist Church he spearheaded a massive educational wing expansion project, in which the chapel was named in his honor.

Dr. Philhower joins his good friends Annie Oakley, Arthur Hoeber, and Henry Cuyler Bunner as a fellow inductee into the Hall of Fame. He was a gifted orator called on to speak at many family reunions, dedications, school events, banquets, and more. An avid baseball fan, he also enjoyed the outdoors, boating, bicycle riding, and social events. Self-described as an "old-fashioned man" he could be short-tempered and somewhat intolerant, but was also kindly, scholarly, generous, and patriotic.

The fifteen years as president of the Memorial Parkway Inc. was one of his most beloved achievements, visiting the park every day to ensure the plans were followed. Plants, shrubs, and trees were to him as sacred as the patients of his profession. He strove to make the park an enduring place where the elderly can rest and meditate, lovers can walk together, the young can play, and we can honor those who served in the military. He sought to plant an abiding love of the park in the minds of everyone, and to inspire our town to cherish and ensure its longevity. His care for people as a doctor, service to his community, and esthetic taste helped make this world a better place.



## *Paul Raines*

### **AWARD WINNING PIONEER IN INTERNATIONAL CYBER DEFENSE**

Prior to retiring, Paul Raines was the Chief Information Security Officer for the United Nations Development Programme. In that capacity he was responsible for managing the cyber-security and disaster recovery planning for the Organization's 177 locations around the world. His unit was the first and only United Nations unit to be ISO 9001, ISO 20000 and ISO 27001 certified.

His information security unit won international awards for outstanding performance including an Honors Laureate award from Computer World magazine in 2013 and a 7-time winner of the CSO50 award from CSO magazine—more than any other organization since the award was established. The CSO award honors the top 50 cybersecurity organizations in the world for business value and thought leadership. In 2020 his unit won a Future Edge 50 award from CIO magazine for technological innovation in developing an incident response and threat hunting platform. Finally, Computer World magazine has twice selected Mr. Raines for its Premier 100 award for being among the 100 most influential IT leaders in the world.

Prior to UNDP, Mr. Raines worked for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) where he, as well as other members of the organization, was a joint recipient of the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize. Prior to working for the United Nations, he was the Chief Information Security Officer for Bloomberg LP, Barclays Capital and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Mr. Raines is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. A former Nutley resident, he and his wife, Rebecca, lived in Nutley, New Jersey for 15 years, where they were active members of the community before relocating to the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia. Married for 41 years, they have one daughter. For relaxation, he enjoys opera, Shakespearean plays, French wine, and quiet mornings spent in a café with an espresso, pain au chocolat, and a good book on Roman history.



# *James P. Van Etten*

(1922 - 2015)

**COMMANDER U.S. COAST GUARD • WORLD WAR II VETERAN • ANTARCTIC NAVIGATOR  
MIT-TRAINED ELECTRICAL ENGINEER • GLOBAL NAVIGATION SYSTEM DEVELOPER  
AND INVENTOR • ACTIVE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER • DEVOTED HUSBAND AND  
FATHER OF SEVEN**

James P. Van Etten, Jim to those who knew him, lived a life of service to his country, his family and church, and his beloved community of Nutley, NJ, where he lived for over 40 years. In all phases of his life, Jim was admired for his kindness, dignity, and intelligence and ability to find common ground with people. His work spanned 14 years of active duty with the U. S. Coast Guard (USCG) during and after World War II (WW2), an advanced degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a 26-year career at International Telephone and Telegraph in Nutley, where he led development of the long-range navigation technology (notably including LORAN), volunteer work in education, and, closest to his heart, working for individuals with special needs.

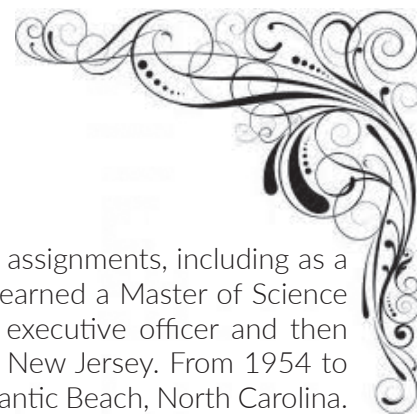
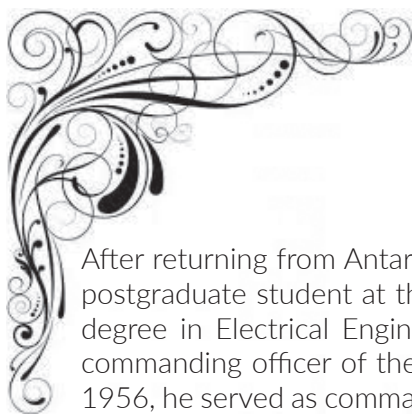
Jim was born in Perry, NY, the youngest of three boys, and spent most of his youth in Seneca Falls, NY. He became the valedictorian of Mynderse Academy in Seneca Falls and attended the U. S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, where he became the valedictorian of the class of 1944. This class graduated in 1943 under an accelerated program designed to assist the war effort, and upon graduation Jim was immediately commissioned in the USCG.

## **Military Service**

During WW2, Jim served on the icebreaker *Eastwind*, which patrolled in the North Atlantic. Like many veterans of WW2, Jim rarely spoke about wartime experiences, but one tale made it into the public domain. In October 1944, the *Eastwind* was patrolling off the northeast coast of Greenland when a surveillance seaplane identified a weather station set up by the Germans on Little Koldeway Island.

Two days later, a landing party from the *Eastwind* captured the twelve Germans stationed there without a shot being fired and shut down the station. A few days later, the *Eastwind* also captured a German freighter, *Externsteine*, that had been trapped in the ice nearby. The German ship surrendered after the *Eastwind* fired three salvos (one short, one long, and one across its bow). The crew renamed the captured ship *Eastbreeze* and the USCG put it to use in its operations for several months before taking it to Boston harbor.

In 1946, Jim was assigned as a navigator on the secret Antarctic Development Project led by Admiral Richard E. Byrd known as "Operation HIGHJUMP". This was the largest single Antarctic expedition ever launched, with 13 ships, 23 aircraft and over 4700 men. Though it was summer, the weather in Antarctica was extreme. Jim was one of the navigators on the only icebreaker on the mission, guiding ships through treacherous ice. He often needed to go up in a helicopter or seaplane to survey the ice-scape to determine the best approach. This expedition is chronicled in the film "The Secret Land" and is further described in the book titled "ICE is where you find it" by Captain Charles W. Thomas.



After returning from Antarctica, Jim served the USCG in a number of domestic assignments, including as a postgraduate student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he earned a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1950. From 1950 to 1954 he served as executive officer and then commanding officer of the USCG electronics engineering center in Cape May, New Jersey. From 1954 to 1956, he served as commanding officer of the USCG cutter Conifer, based in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina. From 1956 to 1958 he served in the navigation branch of the USCG headquarters in Washington, DC with focus on development of the more advanced LORAN-C system. In 1958, he transitioned to the Ready Reserves, ultimately attaining the rank of Commander.

### **ITT Career**

In 1958, Jim began his 26-year career at ITT Avionics Laboratories in Nutley, where he became a leader in navigation engineering, largely concentrating on LORAN technologies.

What is LORAN, and why does it matter? LORAN stands for LOng Range Navigation. It is “long range” because its receivers get radio signals from transmitters that may be over 1,000 miles away. LORAN requires transmitters that send the signals as well as receivers that read and analyze them. ITT worked in the manufacture of receivers as well as the development and maintenance of transmitting stations. LORAN provided jobs and meaningful work to many residents of Nutley, Clifton and beyond.

After WW2, LORAN was adopted by the USCG to enhance marine navigation. Newer versions of LORAN were developed under Jim’s leadership. LORAN-C provided greater range and more precise accuracy. In 1974, the U.S. government selected LORAN-C as its national radio navigation system within the coastal confluence region of the U.S. LORAN-D was a tactical portable version designed for short-range service.

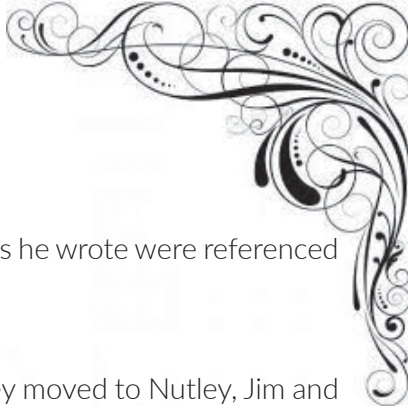
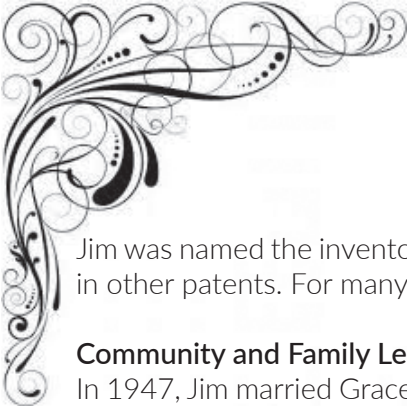
LORAN began during World War II as an aid to the navigation of allied aircraft and ship convoys and became one of the most significant technological developments of that era and beyond. With the newer versions, what once could be accurately located within tens of miles, could now be pinpointed to within tens of feet, an enormous advantage to both military and civil aircraft and ships.

During the Vietnam war, pilots using LORAN-D found it had shortcomings. To investigate, Jim went to Vietnam and flew on missions as an observer to assess the problem. It turned out there were failures under extreme conditions such as flying upside down or undertaking steep dives or climbs. Jim solved the problem by developing a “feedback loop” that would recognize and account for the extreme conditions.

While at ITT, Jim served as a member of the newly formed USCG Science Advisory Committee from 1969 to 1973. He received a Public Service Commendation for his service on this committee.

Jim was also an active participant in leading industry organizations and received a number of awards for his contributions. Notably:

- While a senior member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers (IEEE), Jim was named a Fellow of the IEEE “for contributions to the development of the LORAN radio navigation system” in 1991.
- He was a Member of the Institute of Navigation, which is the world’s premier, nonprofit professional society, advancing the art and science of positioning, navigation, and timing.
- He was a Founding Director of the Wild Goose Association (WGA), later known as the International LORAN Association; he served as a director from its inception in 1972 through 1991, and was its president from 1974 through 1976.
- He was a member of the Association of Old Crows, which is an international nonprofit professional organization, specializing in electronic warfare, tactical, information, operations, and associated disciplines.



Jim was named the inventor on patents relating to LORAN technology, and papers he wrote were referenced in other patents. For many years, Jim's NJ license plate was "LORANC".

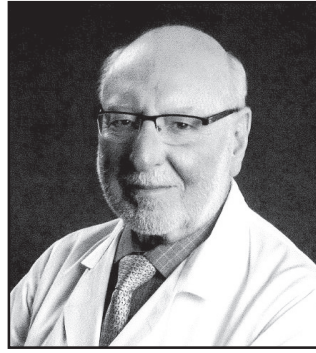
### **Community and Family Legacy**

In 1947, Jim married Grace Lavelle in Scranton, Pennsylvania. By 1958, when they moved to Nutley, Jim and Grace had five children. Two more children, Joan and Paul, and 21 grandchildren were born while they lived in Nutley at 230 Rutgers Place.

In 1964, when Jim and Grace were blessed with a son, Paul, born with Down Syndrome, Jim became a forceful advocate to break societal barriers. At a time when many special needs children were hidden, he fought for equal access to services and housing for all special needs individuals.

Jim was known as "One of Nutley's Finest". He was deeply involved in his community and church. He served for several years as president of the St. Mary's Board of Education, including through the challenging years as enrollments declined and costs increased. Jim loved Nutley and its beautiful parks. He and Grace rode their bikes around town and together with Paul took long walks. Grace often said "it was Paul who really made us a family." Jim led by example, not only in his proud care of Paul, but in ordinary behaviors. Reflecting his quiet commitment to civic pride, he frequently carried a trash bag on his walks around town, setting a personal example of stewardship by picking up any litter he encountered.

James P Van Etten died at home in 2015 at the age of 93, leaving behind a profound legacy of intelligence, dignity and kindness—a life of service to his family, community and country.



# *Richard J. Whitley, MD*

**AWARD WINNING VIROLOGIST • RESEARCHER • SCHOLAR • INNOVATOR • HUMANITARIAN**

Dr. Richard Whitley is a Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, Vice Chairman for Research in the Department of Pediatrics and Co-Division Director of Pediatric Infectious Diseases at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. He also holds the titles of Loeb Eminent Scholar Chair in Pediatrics; Professor of Microbiology, Medicine, & Neurosurgery; Senior Scientist, Department of Gene Therapy; Co-Founder, Alabama Drug Discovery Alliance; and Associate Director, Drug Discovery and Development, Comprehensive Cancer Center.

While growing up in Nutley, New Jersey, Dr. Whitley was an active member of St. Paul's Congregational Church and graduated from Nutley High School in 1963. He then attended Duke University, where he received his B.A. in Chemistry in 1967, followed by earning his medical degree from George Washington University School of Medicine in 1971.

After attaining his medical degree, Dr. Whitley completed his pediatric internship/residency and fellowship in infectious disease and virology at UAB from 1971 to 1976. He currently resides in Alabama, where he has spent his career at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Children's of Alabama, continuing to advance lifesaving antiviral therapies.

An expert on how antiviral therapies fight infections in children and adults, Dr. Whitley's research spans four decades, during which he has published 401 scholarly articles on pediatric infectious diseases. In 2019, Dr. Whitley was appointed by Dr. Anthony Fauci to chair the NIH-NIAID COVID-19 Data Safety and Monitoring Board. Today, he continues to serve as a member of the Steering Committee for the NIH Long COVID-RECOVER initiative.

Dr. Whitley's honors are numerous and his professional organization involvement extensive, including NIAID AIDS Task Force membership; NIAID DSMB Clinical Trials Committee (Chairman); Associate Editor, *Journal of Infectious Diseases* (2005–Present); President, International Society for Antiviral Research (1988–1990); AAP Award for Excellence in Pediatric Research (1991); Elion Award, International Society for Antiviral Research (2004); Chair, BSC, CCID, CDC (2005–2010); UAB President's Medal (2007); NIH National Adv Allergy and Infectious Disease Council (2008–2012); and President, Infectious Diseases Society of America (2009). In 2013, he was named as the inaugural recipient of the Distinguished Clinical Research Scholar and Educator in Residence at the NIH Clinical Center.

He has received numerous other awards and lectureships, including the 2016 UAB SOM Dean's Excellence Award in Research for Senior Faculty, the Department of Pediatrics Lifetime Achievement Award in Pediatric Healthcare in 2016, and Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, Irish Academy of Medicine in 2018. Dr. Whitley received the Alexander Fleming Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Infectious Diseases Society at their annual meeting in 2018. He received the 2020 National Foundation for Infectious Diseases John P. Utz Leadership Award for his work in the field of clinical virology in December 2020, and in 2022, he received the John Howland Award from the American Pediatric Society.



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# Nutley Hall of Fame

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### A

Richard A. Albanese (2015)

### B

Keith Thomas Banks (2009)  
Anthony Baratta Jr. (2013)  
Cathleen Benko (2011)  
Geri V. Bergen (2023)  
John Bergen (2019)  
Julian H. Bigelow (2019)  
Julian "Bud" Blake (2009)  
Carol Blazejewski (2005)  
Philip Miller Boffey (2007)  
Larry Brancaccio (2011)  
Hermanus Brown (2015)  
Henry Bunner (2017)  
Jane Grey Burgio (2007)

### C

William L. Callanan, Jr. (2023)  
Leonardo Capalbo (2017)  
James Carlin (2007)  
Tine M. Cervasio (2011)  
Angela Christiano (2011)  
Diane E. Citrino (2019)  
Ron Corio (2023)  
Angelica (Vitillo) Costa (2007)  
Phil Cuzzi (2017)

### D

Rena DeAngelo (2017)  
Nicholas L. DePace (2005)  
David DiFrancesco (2017)

### E

Gary Erbe (2019)  
Ken Eulo (2015)  
Tom Evans (2017)

### F

Steven Fastook (2007)  
Franz Fazakas (2025)  
Bernadette Ferraro (2015)  
Thomas Francisco (2015)  
Ronald Fraser (2005)  
Bevan M. French (2007)

### G

Daniel Geltrude (2019)  
David Gilbert (2017)  
Paul Goldberger (2005)  
Frances Goodrich (2005)  
Lloyd Goodrich (2011)

### H

Benjamin Hawkins (2009)  
Christine E. Haycock (2003)  
Michael Hirsch (2013)  
Faith Hochberg (2019)  
Arthur Hoeber (2019)  
Victor Hopkins (2009)  
John L. Huck (2003)  
Larry Hunt (2025)

### I

Anthony J. Iannarone (2013)  
Thomas P. Infusino (2003)

### J

Richard J. Jackson (2005)  
John R. Jannarone (2003)  
William J. Jernick (2009)

### K

John V. Kelly (2009)

### L

Anthony (Barry) LaForgia (2013)  
Adam LaReau (2017)  
Rita Lenihan (2009)  
Michael Lenson (2013)  
Frank R. Lautenberg (2011)

### M

Malcolm Marmorstein (2019)  
Reginald Marsh (2005)  
Virginius D. Mattia (2003)  
Silas Mountsier III (2023)  
James Murray IV (2019)

### N

Richard Nanes (2007)  
Susan Narucki (2015)  
Charles Nunzio (2025)

### O

Annie Oakley (2003)  
Carmen A. Orechio (2009)

### P

Jackie Paris (2015)  
Andrew L. Pecora (2005)  
Tommy Petillo (2025)  
Stephen Petronio (2007)  
George Philhower (2025)  
Eileen L. Poiani (2003)  
Steve Politi (2013)  
Eric N. Prystowsky (2007)  
Milton Prystowsky (2007)

### R

Mark Radice (2019)  
Paul Raines (2025)  
Eric Reeder (2011)  
Louis Riccardi (2023)  
Lawrence C. Roberts (2009)  
Raphael Rudd (2013)

### S

Richard Sarles (2009)  
Michael A. Sattarelli (2009)  
Joseph Luke Scarpa (2013)  
Ronald J. Scudato (2005)  
Linda Stamato (2011)  
Martha K. Stewart (2003)  
Frank R. Stockton (2003)  
Eaton Stone (2023)

### W

Al C. Wenofsky (2011)  
Richard Whitley (2025)

### V

James Van Etten (2025)  
David Verdi (2023)  
Geerat J. Vermeij (2003)  
Lynne Viola (2009)  
Michael Volpe (2023)



# *My Little Town*

Arose O' the breast in a fine virgin soil,  
such 'twas the fruit bore of arduous toil.  
For people came first, 'pon families so sound,  
thy passion embraced, in my little town.

We differ of name not essence of thought,  
afflatus in concert bestow what is wrought.  
Thy limit of mark, hath never known bound,  
so earnest a peace, in my little town.

Time is not stranger to my old abode,  
yon demons of mammon do wish to erode.  
So steadfast we are and perceived with renown,  
O' we are the envied, in my little town.