

John W. Gahan

Rotterdam – John W. Gahan, 81, of Rotterdam, passed away unexpectedly at his home late Tuesday evening, June 29, 2010.

Born in Poughkeepsie, NY on April 29, 1929, he was the son of the late William J. and Margaret B. (nee: Roth) Gahan. He was raised and educated in Poughkeepsie, graduating from Poughkeepsie High School in 1947. John went on to attend RPI earning his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering in 1951 and was a member of Eta Kappa Nu and Tau Beta Pi honor societies. John began his employment with General electric Co. and entered a 3 year program for Advanced Engineering. He transferred to Fort Wayne 5 years, returning to Schenectady in 1961 where worked for many years until his retirement in 1987. He was a member of General Electric's Quarter Century Club and Elfun Society.

John was a longtime member of State Street Presbyterian Church in Schenectady and was on the Board of Trustees serving as treasurer for many years.

He was also a dedicated member of Schenectady Lodge #1174 F&AM, Sigma Bodies Valley of Schenectady AASR and Cyprus Shriners where he was active as Shrine clown. He enjoyed bowling, playing cards and traveling.

On May 1, 2001, John was predeceased by his wife, Eleanor Mae (nee: Lucas) Gahan whom he married on June 17, 1951. He was also

predeceased by a son, Jeffrey M. Gahan in 1999.

Survivors include his son John William Gahan Jr. and his wife, Denise, of Rotterdam; 3 grandchildren, Christina Eitelman and her husband Matthew of Delmar; Mark Gahan of Rotterdam and Ryan Gahan of Rotterdam.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 9 a.m. at State Street Presbyterian Church, located on the corner of State St. and Catherine St. in Schenectady followed by interment in Park View Cemetery, Schenectady. The family will receive relatives and friends on Friday evening from 6 until 8 p.m. at Baxter-Andrew Funeral Home, 1867 State St., Schenectady.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his memory to State Street Presbyterian Memorial Fund, State and Catherine Sts., Schenectady, NY 12307, Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew St. Springfield, MA, 01104-2330 or a charity of one's choice.

To express condolences visit www.scott-barbieri.com.

September 28, 1998

PC Wiz Henry elected "Master Scribe" by a majority. Both **Jack** and Henry called "PC Wiz". Subject of official monikers taken under advisement. (Hoffman House)

Agenda: May 26, 1999

Detailed report by the **Deliberator** concerning his computer crash (join the group!), loss of data and possible lessons for the computer-owning membership in the future. Account of the **Deliberator's** recent trip to South Carolina. (HH)

March 8, 2000

The **Deliberator** recounted his difficulties with receiving scans from **Geronimo**, which arrived as "MIME" instead of jpeg. While mulling over the problem, **Geronimo**, doubtless because of the influence of our scintillating company, realized a possible reason for the problem and announced a solution. Congrats! (HH)

May 31, 2000

While enjoying coffee and dessert the topic of **Deliberator's** new Terry Morris, 3.8 liter, leather upholstery Chrysler Town and Country minivan that he was "gently nudged" into purchasing was raised by **Geronimo**. He suggested that members should have the use of it for hauling when necessary. **Deliberator** slyly intimated "everything has a price" while **Shadow** was horrified that the vehicle might be dirtied and scratched by carrying lumber, etc.

July 26, 2000

PC reported watching an interview of George Will concerning the baseball finances panel he recently participated in. All members voiced their high approval and regard for Mr. Will while **Deliberator** mentioned the criticism that he has such a high level of sophistication that he is accused of elitist writing. **Shadow** thought readers should check their dictionaries for unknown words and improve their vocabularies – to which all agreed.

October 4, 2000

In the political section **Deliberator** felt Al Gore would most likely win Nationally, carry NY and possibly Hillary on his "coat tails". **Geronimo** thought it a "toss-up" nationally, all agreed the race is close.

December 6, 2000

Deliberator, a student of the process (the Electoral College), explained the procedure in which all electoral votes (1 for each Senator, 1 for each Congressman) go to the popular vote winner except in Maine and Alaska. In those states the two Senator electoral votes go to the State-wide winner while the Congress electors go by the results of each Congressional District.

March 14, 2001

Deliberator mentioned his grandson now has a license and can drive to work at McDonald's. This led to a discussion of ramifications to the cost of auto insurance and **Deliberator** outlined the facts – a reduced rate for driver education and the actual increase in price.

May 23, 2001

Deliberator was asked the agenda question concerning the long-awaited installation of his scanner. His direct pithy answer was “Of course not!”. We were somewhat mollified by his comment that he does dust the box regularly. The subject of bowling came up with **Geronimo** finding that older bowling balls had no value. A discussion of the new variable density balls ensued with **Deliberator** stating that grandson Mark owned three bowling balls for differing alley conditions.

August 22, 2001

Deliberator and **Geronimo** brought up the recent acquisition from the Philadelphia Flyers of Eric Lindros by the NY Rangers. **Shadow**, our resident hockey expert, thought there might be a problem, not with his age of 28, but with his numerous concussions. He suggested that they should rather have gone for Jaromir Jagr who is now playing for the Washington Capitals.

November 14, 2001

Seating ourselves next to the operating gas fireplace, **Geronimo** had the dubious honor of selecting the **Deliberator's** last meeting “seat of honor”. Changing chairs on the theory that it had one short leg was to no avail since the floor of the “historic building” was the culprit. **Deliberator** confirmed persistent rumors that his “new” scanner was not yet operational.

March 13, 2002

The **Deliberator** raised the issue of an Official Beverage proposed by the **Shadow** in the Agenda. **Shadow** proposed it should be red wine – noted for health benefits. **Geronimo**, rejecting a long Greek history of wine drinking which included introducing wine to Southern Rome, vigorously objected and strongly opined that, “beer being the drink of the proletariat”, it should be a matter of individual choice.

May 22, 2002

Deliberator informed us that as church treasurer, for the first time, he had voted “no” on two proxies because the accounting firm was Arthur Andersen. He subsequently found out a new firm had been engaged – the proxies were out-of-date.

In the parking lot **Geronimo** and **Deliberator** examined **PC Wiz's** new Dodge Stratus with **Geronimo** duly noting **PC Wiz's** sloppy clean-up of the polished wheels.

July 17, 2002

Assisted undoubtedly by a favorable tail wind on this beautiful Summer morning, the Northern Nabobs, ably piloted by the **Deliberator**, arrived at our **HVBS** Hoffman House Command Center before **Geronimo**. A disagreement over his timely arrival concluded with a comparison of four wristwatches (differing somewhat in time – **Deliberator** admitting to keeping his one minute fast).

August 28, 2002

It was brought to **Geronimo's** attention that **Deliberator** had received a mysterious cell-phone call in the car. Apparently a woman wanted to hire “John” for his services but it turned out to be a “wrong number” call for a yard maintenance man. Whew!!

Quoting from the agenda **Deliberator** asked for predictions for the Giant season. **Shadow** said if the Giants win 4 (6 tops) they should celebrate. Final prediction was 8-8; we'll see. On the issue of Tiger Woods, **Geronimo** said he is a great player but not yet a “legend in his own time”. **Deliberator** commented he had not been around long enough but had great potential.

October 16, 2002

Concerning the World Series, **Deliberator** is for the Anaheim Angels because of Gene Autry.

PC Wiz, relating to the adoption of a permanent logo, showed three possibilities responding to member's suggestions. Logo #2, motion by **Shadow** seconded by **Deliberator**, was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Geronimo thereupon made a motion to consider **PC Wiz** the **HVBS "Official Scribe Laureate"** and extend his term to lifetime. The vote was 3 aye and 1 abstention (**PC Wiz**) in favor including, by general agreement, a 100% raise in pay (let's see now - two times 0 = 0, hmmm.).