

# Architect Norman Ryan recalled as 'very caring'

By Noreen Flack  
staff writer

Norman E. Ryan of Farmington, an architect involved with the construction of Cobo Hall in Detroit, died Aug. 17. He was 86.

A family man and retired architect from Giffels & Rossetti Associates (now separate corporations) in Detroit, Ryan worked on-site as part of the construction team for Cobo Hall in 1960.

"My mother wasn't too thrilled when she found out he had to climb around Cobo Hall on a scaffold," said his daughter, Nancy Lang of Farmington Hills. "He was very particular. He said he had to check every piece of marble."

Ryan died at Bedford Villa Nursing Care Center in Southfield of Alzheimer's disease.

The Rev. Colum Morgan at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington officiated at Ryan's funeral Aug. 19. "He's probably up in heaven checking all the joists," Morgan said.

Born in Buffalo on Sept. 4, 1903, Ryan moved to Detroit when he was 5 years old. He lived there 60 years.

Ryan moved to Farmington in 1960 with his wife, Marjorie. They had been married for 40 years when Marjorie died in 1975.

"He was a very caring and giving person whose family always came first," his daughter said.

AN AVID GOLFIER, Ryan caddied at Detroit Country Club when he was very young. By age 12, the wife of wealthy Horace Rackham (for whom

Rackham Golf Course is named) gave him a set of used clubs, which helped him learn the game.

Ryan moved to Independence Green Apartments in Farmington Hills in the late '60s. There, he played golf every day until he was 81.

"Norman was the perfect example of a gentle man," said his sister, Edna Cohn of Raleigh, N.C.

A book lover, Ryan gave flowers to the librarians on the holidays for their help throughout the year in finding interesting books to read.

"That's just the way he was," Lang said. "I think he had read almost every book in the library."

In addition to his daughter and sister, Ryan is survived by one grandson, Robert Ryan, a production manager and broadcast personality for a



Norman E. Ryan 'very giving person'

radio station in California; one granddaughter, Marjorie Lang, an attorney for Gottlieb & Goren in Detroit; and one great-grandson, Robert Ryan Jr., 16.

A private burial will be Sept. 2 at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

# Recall campaign started in C'ville

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Wood said a majority of district residents support keeping the district as is, as voters passed a 3.6-mill increase and a Headlee override measure in April.

"The board has never denied anyone their constitutional right," said board president Linda Brandemihl, adding that the group is free to place the issue on the ballot through a petition drive.

The group has filed six blank petitions to seek the recall of six trustees — newly elected member Dale Weighill can't be recalled because he hasn't served six months on the board — with the Wayne County Elections Commission.

At a hearing scheduled for Sept. 11, the commission will determine whether the recall effort can continue.

A commission spokesman said that decision will be based on whether the reason for a recall — as stated on the petitions — is clear.

If the commission approves the petition language, the Community to Dissolve Clarenceville must collect petition signatures totaling at least 25 percent of the number of voters in the district who participated in the last gubernatorial election. This would allow the recall question to be placed on the ballot.

**The group has filed six blank petitions with the Wayne County Elections Commission to seek the recall of six trustees.**

Among reasons for seeking dissolution of the district, the Community to Dissolve Clarenceville group cites a millage rate that is higher than in neighboring districts.

They also maintain school facilities and programs are superior in the neighboring Livonia Public Schools and Farmington Public Schools.

Backers of the district, which include the group Informed Residents for Clarenceville, cite school improvements in recent years and a close relationship between parents and administrators in the comparatively smaller district.

The Community to Dissolve Clarenceville group reported this spring that they collected 1,000 signatures from voters in favor of dissolving the district.

At a recent board meeting, the Informed Residents for Clarenceville presented 1,167 signatures from residents who favor maintaining the district.

IN DECIDING to seek a recall of board members, Jaconelli said, the group is dropping an effort announced last month to collect enough petition signatures to place the dis-

# Bottle, can drive Sept. 9

North Farmington High School Band & Orchestra Boosters will host their Semi-Annual Returnable Bottle & Can Drive from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9.

Have returnable bottles and cans in large garbage bags at the end of your driveway by 9 a.m. Student musicians will canvass neighborhoods, picking bags up as soon as possible.

# Inventor mixes science, aesthetics

Continued from Page 1

Panush considers himself a fortunate man to end up in a career that combines his scientific background with his love of aesthetics.

One of Panush's most significant contributions to automotive color came in 1981. "After 1948 whenever you saw a car with metallic color it was always based on using an aluminum flake," he said. "I invented a way to achieve a metal appearance without aluminum by using a mineral — mica — which gives a pearl-like effect. It's clearer, more beautiful, richer."

The first time his development was used was the black/cherry color of the 1981 Chrysler Imperial.

With mica in 1981 we achieved a slight movement in change of hue. To a person standing it might appear a green-blue and to one sitting a red-blue."

What's next? he was asked.

The next wave in the future will be a dramatic hue shift where color actually goes from yellow to violet, blue to orange and green to red depending on the angle of the viewer," he forecast. "This requires highly sophisticated technology that's in the works and should be ready in the mid 90s."

At least a decade away is color that pulsates. "That will introduce the new century," he added, obviously excited about the prospects.

Detroit and was catching pitches thrown by senior Herman Fishman who was to go on and become a pitching star at the University of Michigan.

"I thought he was going to throw a fast ball, but he threw a curve and it hit me in the eye and knocked me out. The doctor said that miraculously the black eye was all I was going to suffer. But that ended any serious thoughts of a baseball career."

Panush went to Wayne State University where he got a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering. "I came from a family of teachers and being the youngest, I decided I wanted to strike out on my own and do something entirely different. "I loved all my courses because of the problem solving. All of our homework was problem solving."

pan pilots in China put together and led by Claire Chenault. The squadron, later incorporated into the U.S. Army Air Force, helped train Chinese aviators and also flew battle missions against the Japanese aggressors.

PANUSH LEFT the service at the end of the war and returned home to his wife and four — three daughters and a son.

He went to work for the company that after several absorptions — "the big fish kept swallowing the little fish" — was to become today's BASF Corp.

In addition to his work and many other interests, Panush turned himself into a Biblical scholar and has taught religious education at Southfield's Congregation Sharey Zedek.

He has always found a way to combine his interests. Currently, he's working on a project that involves references to color in the Bible. He's already gone through both testaments and noted the number of times and references each color is used.

HERE'S HOW he describes the evolution of automotive color. "Before 1948 the color of all cars was one dimensional. Regardless of what angle the observer looked at it, the color was always the same."

Beginning in 1948, with the use of aluminum, two dimensional color was achieved. The color appears lighter or darker depending on the

IN ADDITION to his chemistry experiments, reading, taking music lessons, painting, writing music and poetry and playing baseball, Panush said he still had time "to do the normal kinds of things kids do."

An early dream of being a great baseball catcher died when he was a freshman at Northern High School in

WHEN WORLD War II came along, Panush joined the army and went through officers candidate school. "Then began my odyssey in China."

He heard about the volunteer "Flying Tigers Squadron" of Ameri-

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