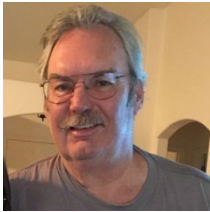


## SOUTHERN PACIFIC NEWSLETTER

Edited by Bill Fowler

November 2024



**John “Johnny” Michael Myers**

**July 25, 1947 ~ October 3, 2024**

John Michael Myers, 77, of Roosevelt, Arizona, passed away on October 3, 2024.

Johnny was born on July 25, 1947 to Paul and Catherine Myers in Tucson, Arizona. After Johnny graduated from Rincon High School, he joined Southern Pacific, where he worked for many years before retiring as a conductor. He proudly served in the United States Army and fought in Vietnam.

Johnny leaves behind his wife Pauline Myers; daughter April De Stefano and son-in-law Michael De Stefano; and two grandchildren.

Johnny was predeceased by his beloved parents Paul and Catherine Myers, and his two brothers, Jerry and Patrick Myers.

He is survived by his cousin, two nephews, and a niece.

Editor’s request: When changing email addresses, please send your new address to [billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org](mailto:billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org).

**Arthur Ward Swenson**

**August 24, 1942 ~ November 8, 2024**

Art retired as a conductor on the Western Division, with forty years of service for Southern Pacific/Union Pacific. He was a proud member of UTU Local 239.

Art always had a smile on his face and a humorous quip when greeting others. Art was also a member of NARVRE Unit 61 and will be sorely missed.

Art is survived by his wife of 60 years, Joanne, three children, and five grandchildren.

Editor’s note: This memorial was written by Bob Paulson.

**John Conrad Plytnick**

**1939 ~ 2024**

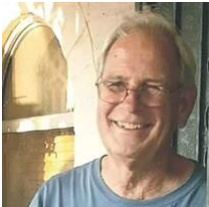
John was born in 1939 in Washington, DC. After his father died unexpectedly in 1945, he and his mother moved to Marin County, California. He grew up in San Rafael, California, where he attended Catholic schools and graduated from Marin Catholic High School in 1957. John joined the United States Air Force and spent his entire four year enlistment as an administrative assistant to a general at March Field in Riverside County. While stationed at March Field, he joined the Orange Empire Trolley Museum in nearby Perris, California.

After an honorable discharge from the Air Force in 1963, John attended the College of Marin and worked for a short time as a reporter for the Marin Independent Journal.

He then was employed by Southern Pacific and spent his entire career working at the headquarters building in San Francisco. For many years, he worked in the operating department's office of planning and control, as well as a stint in the valuation department, which was a part of the chief engineer's department, and had assignments in other departments.

Unfortunately, John was in poor health for many years and he recently passed away in Castro Valley, California.

Wanted: Oral histories of former Southern Pacific System employees. If you wish to contribute, please contact Bill Fowler at [billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org](mailto:billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org).



**Louie Edward "Sonny" Nagy**  
**January 17, 1939 ~**  
**November 15, 2024**

Sonny was born on January 17, 1939, in Logan, West Virginia, and he was raised in Amarillo, Texas. Sonny peacefully went home to Jesus on November 15, 2024.

Sonny is survived by his wife, Linda, with whom he was married to for 32 years; four children with Glenda Smyth, Nelda Chimienti, Beverly Lein (George), Ed Nagy (Ronwyn), and Karen Henley (Colby); two children with Harloe Vaughan, Nichol Reyes (Felipe) and Stephanie Palmer; three stepsons, Denny, Michael, and Steven Vaughan; four nephews; 24 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

He is predeceased by his mother Mary T. Nagy, father Louie Nagy, stepfather Julius W. Nagy, and sister Julia Berry.

Sonny worked in the clerical ranks for Southern Pacific/Union Pacific for 37 years, retiring in 2001. While Sonny primarily was assigned to the Tucson Division, he lived in New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Colorado, California, and Nebraska during his many years of railroad employment. Sonny made many life-long friends during his railroad career and his many years of retirement.

Sonny was truly a loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and friend. He could light up a room by simply smiling. He was funny, charming, enjoyed special times, and embraced the simple things in life.

### A Reminder!

Retirees of Union Pacific and merged companies such as Southern Pacific, are entitled to a free Union Pacific 2025 calendar. calendar.

To request your copy, click on the link below:  
<https://www.uprr.com/software/survey/retiree-calendar.cfm>.