

SOUTHERN PACIFIC NEWSLETTER
Edited by Bill Fowler
January 2022



Joseph Junius Scott
October 18, 1936 ~
December 13, 2021

Joseph Junius Scott, of Opelousas, Louisiana was predeceased by his wife Veronica Roberts Scott; his parents, Joseph Charles Scott and Edmonia Charles Scott; and his siblings, Earnest Scott and Marie Guillory.

He is survived by his children, Mark Scott of Opelousas, Louisiana, Paul Joseph Scott (Theresa) of Opelousas, Bennett Scott of Jackson, Tennessee, Paula Scott of Opelousas, Thomas (Jerome) of Opelousas, Angela Scott (Brad) of Opelousas, and Desiray Ferguson of Opelousas; and his sister Andrea Morris (Michael) of Irvine, California. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Editor's note: William Thibodeaux advises, "JJ worked for about 30 years. He was a track laborer who mostly enjoyed working on large tie gangs and rail gangs on the Lafayette Division. Later, JJ did the same with Southern Pacific system gangs and he seemed to gravitate to larger gangs. He never drove an automobile but was never late for work. I can honestly say I never saw him angry. He always wore a smile and was famous for one liners. I am certain that everyone who knew JJ will miss him."

I wish to recognize our correspondents for 2021. They are Bob Grab, Bob Paulson, Carroll Stewart, Dan Hicks, Jeff Root, Joe Chidgey, John Stein, Jon Hurst, Joseph Moreaux, Larry Cook, Mike Dickerson, Paul Gotthardt, Norma Morris, Roger Staub, Stuart Schroeder, Virginia Rodriguez, and William Thibodeaux. Thanks to each of you for your contributions!



Frank W. Doege Jr.
January 8, 1937 ~ December
13, 2021

Frank W. Doege, Jr., passed away in La Vernia, Texas on December 13, 2021, at the age of eighty-four. He was born at his family home in Guadalupe County to Frank W. Doege, Sr. and Erna (Warncke) Doege, on January 8, 1937.

Frank is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Lillian (Waxler) Doege of La Vernia; children, Kim Hay (Lee), Debra Waltisperger (Nelson), and Cody Doege (Chad); grandchildren, Matthew Wilson, Halie Rodriguez (Tivi), Shelbie Kite, Ethan Wilson, Hunter Farias (Rob), Alena Doege, and Caden Doege; great-grandchildren, Lawson Rodriguez, Milah Rodriguez, Aria Bayangos, Porter Farias, Alister Farias, Quinn Kiobassa; sister-in-law, Annie Doege; and numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving relatives. Frank is preceded in

death by his parents; son, Daren Doege; and two brothers and one sister.

Editor's note: Paul Gotthardt said, "Junior as he was known passed away this week. He was a long-time resident of New Berlin, Texas. He was a Southern Pacific signal technician for many years. I worked with him when he was a signal maintainer at the old Tower 112 in San Antonio. I worked a split assignment, as assistant maintainer with Frank two days a week, and as assistant maintainer with maintainer Rudy Kutach at Tower 121, which controlled signals at East Yard, Tower 121, and downtown San Antonio, extending to but not including Tower 112.

"Frank enjoyed have having a beer or two at Luensmann's beer hall in New Berlin. Frank knew the original owner, Hugo Luensmann. It was known by Frank's friends that in the evening, he would go to Hugo's (as he called the establishment), to meet with friends and enjoy his favorite brew."

Editor's request: When changing email addresses, please send your new address to billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org.



John Lavern Crahan
April 23, 1926 ~ December 20, 2021

John Lavern Crahan passed away peacefully on December 20, 2021 at his home in Springfield, Oregon.

John was born April 23, 1926 to John Joseph and Elizabeth Mines Crahan in Crofton, Nebraska.

John served honorably aboard the USS Yorktown during World War II. John retired as a dispatcher from Southern Pacific. John was a kind, generous, and faithful man, loved by many.

John was preceded in death by his wife, Idamarie Crahan and son, Shannon T. Crahan.

He is survived by his daughters Susan Lappat Crutchfield, Judith Crahan Pierini, and Jeannette Crahan Hodapp; six grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild.

Ralph Rodley, Jr.
June 11, 1954 ~ March 13, 2021

Ralph, a retired Southern Pacific/Union Pacific conductor, passed away in Covina, California on March 13, 2021.

He initially went to work for Southern Pacific in Dunsuir, California, and later transferred to the Los Angeles Division. At the time of retirement in 2014, Ralph crest conductor at City of Industry. He was a member of Peer Support as well as Local 240.

Ralph or "Ralphie" or "JR" as he was fondly known, was born in McCloud, California on June 11, 1954 to Beverly and Ralph Rodley. He grew up in Dunsuir where he graduated from Dunsuir High School in 1972. He worked for his father at Rodley Motors and a local lumber mill before going to work for Southern Pacific.

Ralph is survived by his wife of 42 years, Sandy (Kline) and their children Vanessa (Jennifer), Justin and Halle (Robert) and four grandchildren, Daniel, Andrew, Ella, and Ryan. He is also survived by his sister Patricia and many cousins, rail brothers, friends, and other extended family as well as his beloved furry family.

Please feel free to explore the Southern Pacific Railroad History Center's website: <https://www.splives.org/>. It is the History Center's goal to keep the site updated, particularly the slide show on the Home page. If you believe any content is inaccurate, missing, or requires expansion, or if you have Southern Pacific-related photos, videos, or documents for posting on website, send your comments or content to splives@splives.org.

**Southern Pacific and Cotton Belt Reunion
April 24th through April 27th, 2022
Tucson, Arizona**



SP 8145 West at Nerska (Chicago), Illinois on October 10, 1994. Photo by Sean Graham-White.

The reunion will be held at the DESERT DIAMOND RESORT (<http://ddcaz.com/tucson/>) in Tucson from April 24, 2022 through April 27, 2022 (with checkout on April 28, 2022). Rates for the rooms will be \$99.00 per night, plus 12.5% tax and \$2.00 per day occupancy tax. Included are a \$10.00 per room food credit for each night and can be redeemed at any of the dining outlets at the hotel or casino; transportation to and from the airport; transportation to and from the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum (the cost to tour the museum is \$14.99 per person); access to the Business Center; complimentary wireless internet access; cable TV, and concierge services.

The DDR is located at 7350 S. Nogales Highway, Tucson, Arizona 85756. For reservations call 877-777-4212 or 520-342-3012. Please use group number 836213 or make reference to SPRR.

The plan is for attendees to arrive on Sunday, April 24, 2022, and depart on Thursday, April 28, 2022. DDR will provide our customary dinners for the evening of arrival and the last night (April 27, 2022) before departure. (Dinners will be \$30 per person for each of the two nights). Door prizes will be awarded during the dinners.

Of interest in the area: Old Tucson Studios (<http://oldtucson.com/>), Arizona Sonora Desert Museum (<http://desertmuseum.org/>), Saguaro National Park (<http://www.nps.gov/sagu/index.htm>), Reid Park Zoo (<http://reidparkzoo.org/>), Pima Air & Space Museum (<http://www.pimaair.org/>), and more.

For more information, please call Virginia Rodriguez at 281-487-4961 or Leon Roesler at 281-424-4307.

We hope to see you there.