

# **Norman Ingvald Molaug**

## **Becomer's Mystery Person of the week - October 2, 2011**

Born San Francisco, February 4,1937

Only child of Norwegian immigrants . Mother Theresa Ramsdahl, born Oakland, California; raised in Norway, returned to the U.S.A. three days before her 21st birthday. Therefore she was still a citizen, even though she couldn't speak English. Father born in Stavanger, Norway, came here to be a farmer during the depression and became a sailor in the merchant marines.

Father became Captain during W.W. II and as a consequence, my mother and I made a few voyages with him as passengers. Voyages include Venezuela, Panama, Aruba, Trinidad, Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Canada. The voyage in 1947 resulted in a 30 day stay in Buenos Aires because of a longshoreman strike. The voyage in 1952, Evita Peron was dying and we had to load 450 head of cattle on the ship before she died to avoid being tied up in Buenos Aires for 7 extra days for her funeral. We made it since she died the day after we sailed. The voyage with 450 cattle was interesting but there was no way to not know there were 450 head of cattle aboard ship. Ten days later we arrived in Callao Peru with 472 head of cattle including the 22 calves born on the way.

1959 graduated from University of California Berkeley with B.S. in Business. This was in the days of panty raids, not free speech movements that came later.

1959 worked for P.S.A. airlines prior to entering Air force

1959 entered U.S. Air Force Reserve learned how to be an air traffic controller.

1959 married and moved into the same apartment I was bom in S.F.

1959 employed by Bekins Van and Storage - handled commercial storage in S.F. Working for a moving company meant you had to work moving furniture in a van for at least a week. Well, after three days they decided this college kid wasn't very good moving refrigerators up and down three flights of stairs without any elevators and he was hazardous to everyone else around. I only lasted three days on that part of my training.

1961 worked for Johnson and Johnson in Menlo Park as assistant traffic manager.

1963 worked for Sylvania Electronic Systems-West Mountain View, California 100% Government Contractor. Got this job thanks to the U.S. Defense Dept. which required Sylvania get a traffic department to handle shipping costs. My duties included shipping security systems to various I.C.B.M. bases in the U.S.A.

1965 J.C. Penney Company for 32 years. Western Regional Traffic Manager, moved our office from San Francisco to Buena Park in 1973. Coordinated shipping to stores in western states Hawaii and Alaska.

Married three times - took that many times to get it right. First marriage we adopted our first child, and the next three were by normal birth. Three boys and one girl before we said 4 is enough. My third marriage brought Madeline's 6 children into the picture, resulting in ten children, 12 grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Met Madeline at Crystal Squares in 1992 after her husband passed away the previous year. We married December 12, 2002 by Dr Jim Kok at a Crystal Square Dance. Square Dancing had been a great part of our married life. Plus we took a 30 day trip to Europe in 1997 visiting England, France, Germany, Denmark and Norway. We also took about 5 cruises to Mexico.

**Most frightful experiences in my life:**

Father reported missing in action W.W. II. Advised a week later that he was O.K. His ship did not sink because they were hit in the stem and were able to close the water tight door to the stern. The convoy they were in had to leave his ship behind. They got to float around in the Caribbean while they waited for a tow boat to tow them to Port Spain, Trinidad, for repair and fortunately the U Boat did not use another torpedo.

1947 driving thru mountains of Norway on single lane roads looking down thousands of feet to fjords below with no guard rails.

**Interesting people I knew :**

John Archer (character actor) father of Anne Archer. Some people you meet you wonder why you know them, well that's how I first meet John. I guess I saw him on Bonanza because he had been on this program quite a few times. He had also starred in Big Trees with Kirk Douglas. John was the villain. John was the person that gave the Shadow on radio the laugh ahahah and "the Shadow knows what evil lurks in the heart of man". Apparently the first Shadow, Orson Wells, had to leave for a few months and John was called in to replace him because he had the right tone in his voice for radio. He also played the doctor in "Blue Hawaii" with Elvis Presley. We also got the chance to go to the first viewing of a movie his daughter Anne Archer made with her husband to decide how they would be able to market the film "Waltz Across Texas". They had spent one million dollars to produce the film. Since there was no sex or violence in the film, the screeners that viewed the film would not allow it to go to the regular theaters initially but only to Europe, HBO, and video audiences. This makes it slower to get back your initial investment.

Other interesting people: Wayne Daniels, brother to Charlie Daniels, western fiddle player, that played "the devil went down to Georgia". Wayne sold some of the largest transportation trailers in the country, which I needed to move furniture out of the South East Furniture Industry. Apparently Charlie funded this operation for his brother.

**Sordid Past:**

The LA bomber was calling on me as a sales representative for an air freight company in L.A. After he was arrested, his wife of 6 months called on me to possibly be a character witness for him. Apparently he confessed guilt and there was no trial.

Arrested for Wells Fargo bank robbery in Fountain Valley in their parking lot. I had gone to their instant teller to place some stamps on some mail while the bank was being robbed. I didn't know anything was going on but all of a sudden someone called out "get out of the car with your hands up. " After the second request I turned left in the drivers seat and there was a cop leaning between his open police car door with his gun pointed straight at me. Well needless to say I got out with my hands up. They proceeded to handcuff me and brought the teller out to identify me. He looked at me and said "wrong man, wrong hat". Madeline never guessed what happened to me that day, when I asked her, "you'll never guess what happened to me today?" The funny part of this story is that the next month we went to the movies and saw Bruce Willis in the movie "Bandits". The movie was about bank robbers and he was wearing the same hat I wore for my incident.