John Franklin Swart, Jr.

Born: May 6, 1925

Fairfax, Virginia

Education: Fairfax High School, Class of 1942

Strayer University, B. S. in Commercial Accounting

Strayer University, Masters of Science in Commercial Accounting

John Swart was born and raised on a dairy farm in Fairfax County, at the corner of Route 50 and Jermantown Road along with his only sibling, his brother, Asa. Members of the Swart family lived on three of the corners at this intersection. After high school he was drafted into the United States Army and went to Basic Training at Camp Rucker in Alabama. He was then sent to the European Front where he took part in Operation Overlord on June 6, 1944 with the 87th Chemical Mortar Battalion, C Company attached to the Fourth Division landing on Utah Beach on D-Day. While in the army he was wounded twice in combat and received the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts with an Oak Leaf Cluster. He was discharged as a radio operator and forward observer from the army with the rank of Sergeant and returned home to Fairfax to marry Pauline Lucile Lovejoy from Pascoag, Rhode Island.

John and Pauline had three children -- Jim, Lucy and Jay. Pauline and Jim are deceased, 1971 and 1981 respectively.

Upon returning home from the war, John re-entered college and became a Certified Public Accountant. He was employed by Roger Sprigg and practiced in Arlington. In 1960 he formed his own accounting practice on Courthouse Square and later moved to South Glebe Road in Arlington where it became Swart and Lalande, P.C. In the late 1970’s he moved the entire practice to Fairfax right off of Waples Mill Road, just ¼ mile from where he had lived for his first 44 years. He continued practicing accounting until just a few years ago.

Giving back to his community has always been a large part of John Swart’s life and Rotary was front and center of that community service. He joined the Fairfax Rotary Club in 1951 and participated in every aspect of club life. It became part of the Swart family life. Rotary activities included Chesapeake Bay fishing trips, Washington Senators baseball games, Rosecroft racing trips, picking up trash along the highway and ringing the Salvation Army bell at Christmas time. He accumulated approximately 61 years of perfect attendance. He served the Fairfax Rotary Club as its Secretary for over eight years and President from 1961-1962 and was given the Paul Harris Fellow Award.

In addition to Rotary, his commitment to the Fairfax community also included many years of coaching in the Fairfax Little League and Fairfax Babe Ruth in addition to serving as treasurer for almost 25 years and Trustee for over 12 years for Fairfax United Methodist Church. He was very active in the Northern Virginia Chapter of Certified Public Accountants as well as the state organization. He was a Charter member of the Northern Virginia Chapter and served as President and a member of its Board of Directors in addition to serving on the Board of Directors of the state organization.

He was Treasurer and Director of Route 50/66 Association which brought water and sewer to the Fair Oaks area. He was a charter member of the Fairfax Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Fairfax Sports Club. His belief in community service has been handed down to his family – his three children, his seven grandchildren and his eight great-grandchildren. John is currently married to a local artist and honorary Paul Harris Fellow, Sarah.