

Greg Srabian

Vital Statistics

Born September 4-th 1930, on the shores of the Danube in Galatz Rumania. At the age of 7 moved to Bucarest Rumania where I lived within 1 block from the Armenian Cathedral in Bucarest.

Had 4 years of grade school education at the local Armenian School in Bucarest where I met Vehapar who was my teacher for the first time. My family and Vehapar became fast friends by virtue of the fact that one of Vehapar's closest friends and boyhood scout mate, Mr. Movses Shlughian, was a very close friend of ours and my father and mother were best man and maid of honor at their wedding.

I received my High School Education at the Spiru Haret Lyceum and after graduation, due to the communist regime that prevailed in Rumania our family migrated first to Paris and later on to Lebanon where we arrived on May 25-th 1949. I immediately started studying English since it was my desire to go to the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. Three months hence, after passing my entrance exam successfully, I was admitted at the AUB in the Department of Chemistry. Three years later after completing my course, I graduated with a B.A. Degree and applied for admission and scholarship through United States Information Service and was successful on both counts through the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas where I arrived on September 6-th 1952. While in college I obtained a scholarship and a fellowship from AGBU.

Three Years later after gaining the equivalence of a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering and completing the requirements of a Master's Degree I Graduated. At this point I was able to secure a job through the efforts of my dear departed cousin Muggger Krikorian in Waukegan and started working for Midland Industrial Finishes Company as a laboratory technician.

In November of 1957 I changed jobs and went to work for Barker Chemical Company as a Research and Development Chemist and when I finally quit in April of 1979 I had become the President of the Company.

In 1958 on April 19-th I got married to Leone Lee Mikaelian whom I had met at a Church Dance in Racine Wisconsin. My wife graced our home with two wonderful boys, Gregory and Garo, and had the difficult job of keeping the two boys in line while I had to travel as part of my career's requirements. We are quite fortunate that our boys have grown to become upstanding citizens for which both my wife and I are very grateful.

In September of 1979 I started Pearl Paints North America Ltd., as a branch of a British Company by the name of Pearl Paints Ltd., Three years later, due to the financial crunch in Europe, the British Company decided to divest themselves from the American Venture.

Hence I made a bid for it and was accepted. Pearl Paints North America, Inc., which is the new name of the company was started on December 21-st 1982 and it has been in business for the past 10 years.

During my entire life my family and I have been connected with the Armenian Church. My Aunt Irma's Husband was a sargavak at the Church in Galatz and my father was a staunch supporter of the church.

At the age of 8 I became an altar boy. Later, at the age of 12 I started singing in the Church Choir and I have been a Choir member for the last 50 years.

My wife and I have joined the Saints Joachim and Anne Armenian Apostolic Church shortly after we were married in 1958 and we have been members since.

In 1960 when Vehapar came to Chicago, I was involved in the committee welcoming Him. In 1968, when He came for the second time, I was in charge of arranging his visit and because of this He graced our Church with His presence in preference to the other larger Churches in the Cicagoland Area.

I do not know of a better way to spend the rest of my life but doing whatever is in my power to be of service to Our Lord and to glorify his Name.