

February 26, 2023

## *Concerns & Sympathies*

If you have or you know someone who has something to celebrate, are ill, or have suffered a loss, and you would like to share it with the square and round dance community, please let us know.

Announcements will be made for Florida based retired callers and cuers, callers and cuers, who perform in Florida, and square and round dancers from the West Coast Association area as well as West Coast Association officers, Florida Federation officers, and Florida representatives on the USDA Board – all of these include current, former, and retired individuals.

Please email [sgdnxfan@gmail.com](mailto:sgdnxfan@gmail.com) with the person's/people's name(s), details of the incident, address to mail cards to, what club they belong to (or did), if applicable, if they are a caller or cuer or a partner to a caller and cuer.

If you have any questions, please contact the Editor

## *Concerns*

**Donna Huard** was rushed to the hospital today with a stroke. No other details are available at this time. She is the vice-president of Promenade Squares.

If you would like to send cards, her address is 6440 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Pinellas Park, Florida 3378-5120.

**Brian McDonald** recently had back surgery for back and leg pain he has been suffering from for a long time. He is up and walking but is suffering from incisional pain. Brian is the co-president of the Northwest Square and Round Dance Association.

If you would like to send his cards, his address is 704 Towbridge Avenue, Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32547.

This publication is a sub-set of the *DANCERgram*, which provides Square and Round Dance news for the West Coast of Florida AND is the official Newsletter of the West Coast Square & Round Dancers Association (formerly the *West Coast Dancer*).

# Sympathies

**Word was received recently of the passing of Gordon Blaum on February 7, 2023.**

Gordon S. Blaum, Sr., 98 years old, of Lakeland, Florida, died peacefully on February 7, 2023. Gordon was born Sept. 29, 1924 in Jeffersontown, Kentucky.

In high school, he enlisted in the Coast Guard and was proud to serve in WWII as a Signalman 3rd class and was third in line to load ammunition for guns. His ship was part of the landing on D-day that took place July 1, 1945.

After he returned home, he completed his High School degree at Lake Worth High School. He met and married the love of his life, Edna Avedisian. They lived in Miami most of their lives and attended University Baptist Church. Gordon received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Miami and a Masters degree from Florida. He taught at Merrick Elementary, Coral Gables, and later taught at the University of Miami.

Gordon and his wife Edna enjoyed his passion for square dancing. He was the 1st square dance caller in Florida. He was most well-known for his square dance calling and even had a record that went platinum! As an avid sportsman, he enjoyed playing in shuffleboard tournaments and also participated and earned medals in many events of the Senior Olympics. Gordon loved golf and has enjoyed walking and following his grandsons playing golf over the years. Gordon is predeceased in death by his wife Edna. He is survived by his daughter Rosemary Olivia Blaum, his son Steve Blaum (Nancy), grandsons; Ryan Blaum (Ashley), Brent Blaum (Madeline), and Travis Majors, as well as 2 great grandsons; Bodie Blaum and Brooks Blaum. A graveside service will be held Wednesday, February 15th, at 12 noon at Miami Memorial Park. The family requests in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the [Alzheimer's Association](#).

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Gordon and Edna were chairpersons of the third Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention in 1955, were presidents of the Florida Callers Association in 1955, and were inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1985. The Extra Mile Award didn't exist at that time.

The DANCERgram magazines are written and published by a square and round dancer concerned about preserving our dance activity. The magazines include *Planner* (weekly), *This & That* (monthly), *Joys*, *Concerns*, & *Sympathies* (as needed), and *Directory* (as needed). All of the magazines are under the DANCERgram banner. In the event of new information between publication dates, notification is sent via the *Flash*.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any submission to the DANCERgram magazines. Opinions expressed in any DANCERgram magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor. All new information (since the previous issue) in these magazines is highlighted in yellow.

Distribution of the DANCERgram magazines is encouraged via forwarding or hard copies. All of the Magazines, as well as additional content, can be found at [www.dancergram.com](http://www.dancergram.com).

If you would like to receive the DANCERgram Magazines via email or you would like to submit information to any of the magazines, please contact the Editor at [sgdncfan@gmail.com](mailto:sgdncfan@gmail.com) or 863-224-3393.

## DANCERgram Magazines

Planner (weekly)

Joys, Concerns, & Sympathies (as needed)

Directory (as needed) • WC Key Contacts • WC Dances • SCCA • Links

This and That (monthly) • Club News • Reprint of articles • New Articles

## DANCERgram Staff

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