

## D'61 DAM Article – May/June 2020

The class mini-reunion held in San Diego during March 22-25, 2020 was a wonderful success. Attendance was less than originally anticipated, but those who did attend had a great time. Credit goes to **Dave Prewitt** and Joan Prewitt for organizing and delivering an outstanding fun-filled three day experience. Also, during a class meeting held during the mini, the draft Amended Class Constitution, sent previously to classmates, was approved overwhelmingly by the many classmates who voted. As a result, all spouses and widows of our classmates are now informal (and voting) members of the Class of 1961. In addition, long-time class newsletter editor, **Tom Conger**, was awarded the *Class of 1961 Special Recognition Award* for his outstanding and long-term service to the class over several decades, only the sixth person from our class to be awarded this honor.

One classmate who warrants mention is **Ford Daley**. For nearly a decade, Ford has been performing (as a singer and musician on the guitar and harmonica) as one-half of a duo, *Ford With Julia*, in and around Hanover and the Upper Valley Area, at senior housing facilities, senior centers and health and rehabilitation facilities. Ford's concert goals are simple: to make his audience happy and to improve their emotional quality of life. Ford's hair may be grey and thinning, but his spirit is still young and vibrant.

Remember, the next '61 mini-reunion is in Hanover October 2-4, 2020 and is being organized by **Maynard Wheeler** and his "staff" of 1 classmate-assistant. Also remember, our 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion is in Hanover June 14-17, 2021 and is being organized by **Pete Bleyler** and his "staff" of 24 classmate-assistants. As you are undoubtedly aware, our small entrance class is now shrinking rapidly. We currently have less than 500 known survivors, and by next month or so that number will be reduced even further. Also, there are increasing disabilities for nearly all of us to contend with on an ongoing basis. Therefore, any upcoming mini-reunions and our upcoming 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion are significant milestones, and opportunities, for all of us to mingle together perhaps one more time in the fading sunlight as twilight slowly comes to pass for the Class of 1961, the small class that could achieve ---- and did!

--- **Victor S. Rich**, 94 Dove Hill Drive, Manhasset, NY 11030; (516)446-3977;  
richwind13@gmail.com