

February 2014 Newsletter

THE HEINLEIN SOCIETY

David Silver Past President Passes Away

David M. Silver, a retired attorney, passed away the morning of February 4, 2014 in California. Various health issues contributed to his passing, not the least of which was a recently diagnosed cancer issue, his sister told the Heinlein Society.

Mr. Silver was a confidant of Virginia Heinlein's in the final years of her life, and spent many hours chatting with her on the internet about Robert A. Heinlein's works and legacy.


"When I was eleven in 1954," Mr. Silver said of his introduction to Heinlein's books, "bored tearless one smoggy summer with the books in the children's library in Los Angeles that I was 'allowed' to read, a librarian handed me a copy of Rocket Ship Galileo, classified as a 'juvenile,' for ages twelve and above, told me to take it home and ask permission from my parents before reading it. I did, and my dad gave me permission. I heard him tell my mother it was the first juvenile he'd ever looked at, or heard of, that had a Jewish boy as one of the principal characters. I read it, loved it all (and could have cared less that one of the boys was Jewish — that was only normal I thought), and returned it to the librarian the next day. She issued me a 'juvenile' card with a pass to any adult science fiction as well, and I then proceeded to read every Heinlein, juvenile or not, in the library within a week or two.

"I've never stopped reading Heinlein since."

Mr. Silver became Secretary-Treasurer of THS in the early months of its existence, and along with Ginny Heinlein and founding president William H. Patterson, Jr. ,

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David Silver at 2005 Heinlein Society dinner

[Coventry Reviewed by David M. Silver](#)

[The Long Watch: Johnny's On the Spot by David M. Silver](#)



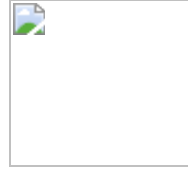
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was one of those largely responsible for turning the new Society into a long-term viable entity dedicated to furthering the legacy of Robert A. Heinlein.

In 2001, at the "MilPhilCon" Philadelphia Worldcon, Mr. Silver accepted Robert Heinlein's "Retro-Hugo" for Best Novella, awarded to "The Man Who Sold the Moon". Mr. Silver succeeded Mr. Patterson as President/Chairman of the Heinlein Society in September of 2003, a post he held until 2010.



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