

George E. Schwender Obituary

George E. Schwender, who worked as an electrical engineer and retired from BNL's National Synchrotron Light Source (NSLS) Department on June 30, 1984, passed away December 8, 2015, peacefully at home. He was 93 years old.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, on January 21, 1922, he graduated from Pratt Institute and enlisted in the Navy, serving in the Pacific Theatre. Through the years, he was actively involved with and served on boards of Shoridge Hills Association, Second Sight Guide Dog Foundation, and the Long Island Master Gardeners.

He also functioned as a mediator and prepared taxes for seniors.

He is survived by Anna Lee Schwender, his beloved wife for 53 years; his beloved children: Dr. Lisa Scheinin, Stephen Chene, Georgia Schwender-Simone, Dr. James Schwender; and his beloved grandchildren Cortney Chene, Michaela Simone, Dane Schwender, Nicholas James Simone, and Eric Schwender.

He is buried at Calverton National Cemetery.

Three years after George Schwender's retirement, T. Dickinson published the 1987 BNL report 39674, *Radiation Safety System at the NSLS*, and, in the *Acknowledgments*, thanked George Schwender for the system's initial Interlock design.

Another achievement was reported in the Brookhaven Bulletin of July 17, 1976, when the Tandem Van de Graaff was upgraded to become "the most powerful electrostatic accelerator facility in the world at present." George Schwender was among four Tandem Operations and Development Group members who received "special mention" for having "the difficult and important task of implementing the design of highly reliable electron systems to operate under adverse conditions in a very limited space."



In front of the Tandem machine that reached record energies this week are the principals involved in that success. From left are Mike McKeown, Ted Robinson, Peter Thieberger, Mario Manni and George Schwender.