



**American Society of Safety Engineers**

*Protecting people, property, and the environment since 1911*

**Greater San Jose Chapter**

<http://assesj.org/>

## **Chuck Isaacson, CHMM, REA 1945—2009**



Dear ASSE Greater San Jose Chapter Members,

With deep sorrow and condolences to Chuck's immediate family, I share with you all a tremendous sadness that one of our very own professional members of the Greater San Jose chapter, Chuck Isaacson, passed September 15, 2009 when his car was struck by a baby bullet Cal/Train on Whipple Avenue in Redwood City.

As an avid biker, Chuck was still recuperating from head, neck and spine injury through physical therapy treatment from an earlier accident, roughly four months ago, when he was struck from behind by a motorist. I was privileged to chat with Chuck earlier during the day on September 15th when he helped finish our biggest project, registration database for our employer's annual safety seminar. He was always the consummate professional.

Hazardous materials expert, chemistry professor, Alaskan professional fisherman, Tour de France biker, tennis guru, Viet Nam veteran (Army intelligence), co-worker and colleague, great friend, confidant, proud Porsche 911 mechanic, driver, racer, and guide, sail boat owner are some immediate words that came to mind as I recollect the past eight years that I have gotten to know Chuck through our employer and safety associations.

Chuck will be missed dearly by his family, safety and hazardous materials association members, his extended Santa Clara County family, his network of friends and acquaintances, and his many tennis and biking buddies.

### **Obituary released by CrippenFlynn.com on September 23, 2009**

“Chuck Isaacson was born in Minnesota June 27, 1945 and died in a tragic accident Sept 15, 2009 in Redwood City CA. His sense of humor and positive energy will be greatly missed by all who knew him and especially by his family. Survived by his father Donald, sisters Mary (Bill Vonk) and Peggy (Jack Boot), and nephews Tom and Kevin, niece Brigid all of Washington State. Chuck was an avid tennis player, bicyclist, and sailor. He planned to retire at the end of the year and take his boat to the San Juan Islands for shakedown cruises in preparation for more world adventures. He died before he had the chance to rename his sailboat after his mother Caroline, who died earlier this year.

He was raised in Seattle and attended the UW. He left the Washington rains permanently behind for California sunshine after joining the Army and being stationed at the Monterey Language Institute where he studied Vietnamese. After his service in Vietnam he was a fixture in Mendocino county for several years and worked as a commercial fisherman up and down the west coast. He finished his degree at UCSC and worked as an environmental chemist in CA, eventually adapting his adventurous spirit as Principal Environmental Compliance Specialist for Santa Clara County.

**There will be a celebration of his life at the Waterfront Restaurant in Pete's Harbor in Redwood City on October 10, 2009 at 1 p.m.”**

Best Regards,  
Tyler Nguyen, CSP, REP  
President, 2009-10 Chapter Year  
ASSE Greater San Jose Chapter



## ***Message from the President***

***Greetings!***

***Mr. Ed Sawicki is on tap to present the "Toxicology of E-Waste Recycling" as topic of our next general membership meeting on Tuesday, October 13th. Ed has over 30 years of experience in environmental health and safety, hazardous materials safety, code compliance and emergency response within the semiconductor industry.***

***As I look at the intimidating landscape around us, our community of safety professionals is collectively facing many hurdles or uphill battles. Reduced budgets, longer hours, furlough days, and a general sense of uncertainty are challenges that face us all with our journey ahead. In the past year alone, sustainability, greening technology, climate change, global warming, reduce re-use, and recycle (the three Rs) are many key terms or phrases that are used interchangeably these days in conversation around the office, out in the field, and among everyday people sharing ideas about protecting mother Earth.***

***Inspired by it all, "change" becomes our nourishment as change is the only constant in life. We must re-invent ourselves and adapt to these ongoing changes and expand our knowledge base and expertise. Come hear Ed's talk on the fascinating area of recycling electronic waste while managing its toxicology to maintain safety.***

***On a different note, President Elect Ron Scholtz advised me that Ed is a former "Black Operations" Green Beret whose exploits have been documented in several books. He holds the Bronze Star and Army Commendation medals for heroism in ground combat in Viet Nam. This itself is worth the admission lunch ticket alone. All are invited to this superb pending presentation. Advance registration is preferred via the chapter's internet web page at [www.assesj.org](http://www.assesj.org).***



**Greater San Jose Chapter**  
American Society of Safety Engineers  
San Jose, California

## ***The 2010 Professional Development Conference in Monterey***

***Immediate Past President and PDC Co-Chairs Jay Jamali and Betsy Leff informed the Executive Board that our upcoming Monterey peninsula professional development conference has been rescheduled for November 4-5, 2010 at the same venue. Mark your calendars as more speakers and vendors are being added to the two-day agenda to make the event even more powerful for networking, learning, exploring, and sharing vital information to promote our profession.***

***Yours Truly,***

***Tyler Nguyen, CSP, REP***