

Joseph D. "Joe" Hovanesian, son of Charles (1888-1954) and Marnos (Margaret) (Der Koorkanian) (1892-1961) Hovanesian, was born 14 August

Lansing State Journal 1930, Detroit, Wayne County,
September 18, 1948

Close One To Okemos

Joe Hovanesian's Plunge Helps Chiefs Nip Fowlerville, 7-6

(Special to The State Journal)
OKEMOS, Sept. 18—The Okemos Chiefs gained a 7 to 6 victory over Fowlerville here Friday afternoon. The margin of victory was Joe Hovanesian's plunge for the point after touchdown. Fowlerville fumbled the opening kickoff with Okemos recovering it on the 20-yard line. Hovanesian scored seven plays later from the six.

The Gladiators scored when they blocked a punt and recovered it on Okemos' 24-yard line in the third quarter. Bob Huston tallied from the 4-yard line. Fowlerville attempted a pass to tie the game on the extra point, but it fell incomplete.

Okemos	.....	7	0	0	0-0
Fowlerville	.....	0	0	6	0-6

Michigan. He was raised on a farm in the Okemos area graduating in 1949 from Okemos High School. Joe was a representative to Boys State his senior year and also an active member of the OHS football team.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Friday 25 June 1948

OKEMOS NEWS

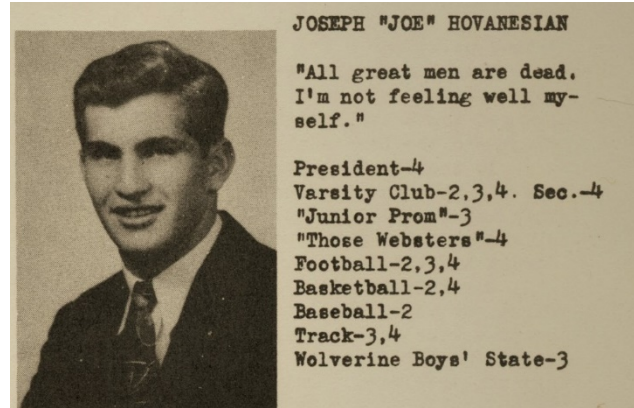
Okemos, June 25 - Ernest Southworth and Joe Hovanesian are Okemos youths at Boys State this week. Hovanesian is sponsored by the local P.T.A. and Southworth by the Meridian Sportsmen's club.

Upon graduation from OHS Joe attended Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa for one school year, 1949-1950.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Tuesday 18 April 1950

Joe Hovanesian, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hovanesian, Lansing, a freshman at the Morningside college, Sioux City, Ia., is in charge of an exhibition on magnetism in the 23rd annual science exposition to be held at the college April 27 and 28. In the exhibit will be more than 50 displays dealing with chemistry, biology and physics. Mr. Hovanesian is majoring in science at the college.

1949 Okemos Tomahawk



JOSEPH "JOE" HOVANESIAN

"All great men are dead. I'm not feeling well myself."

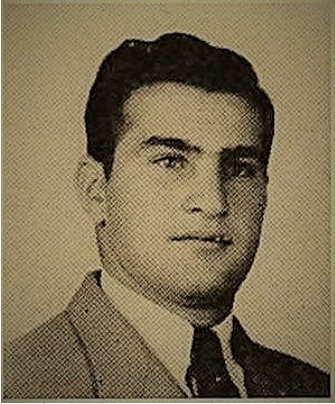
- President-4
- Varsity Club-2,3,4. Sec.-4
- "Junior Prom"-3
- "Those Websters"-4
- Football-2,3,4
- Basketball-2,4
- Baseball-2
- Track-3,4
- Wolverine Boys' State-3

Last Minute Touchdown Lets Okemos Nip Haslett

(Special to The State Journal)
OKEMOS, Sept. 25—The Okemos Chiefs scored in the last 15 seconds Friday afternoon to nip Haslett, 7 to 6. Joe Hovanesian duplicated his feat of last week by plunging for the extra point to give the Chiefs a one-point victory. Hovanesian also tallied the touchdown, scoring from three yards out.

Haslett led from the early part of the game when a pass from Mart Raby to Gene Smith netted a touchdown in the first quarter.

Okemos	.....	0	0	0	7-7
Haslett	.....	6	0	0	0-6



Joe transferred to Michigan State for the school year 1950-1951, In 1958 he completed his doctoral degree in engineering from Michigan State University. For several years during the 1950's Joe was employed as a research engineer during summer breaks for General Motors Corporation. From 1958-1960 he was a faculty member at Pennsylvania State University. In 1960 he began a 10 year faculty tenure at Wayne State University. From 1970 until 2000 Joe was on the faculty at Oakland University, teaching mechanical engineering. He became chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at OU in 1985.

Joe married Julieann Pearl Piligian in August 1960.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Thursday 25 August 1960

CAPE COD TRIP FOLLOWS RITES IN DETROIT

A honeymoon trip to Cape Cod, Mass., followed the recent wedding of Miss Julieann Parl Piligian, daughter of Mrs. John Piligian of Detroit, to Prof. Joseph Der Hovanesian, son of Mrs. Charles Der Hovanesian of 4344 S. Hagadorn rd., East Lansing, in St. John's Episcopal church in Detroit.

The bride received her B.S. and M.S. degrees from Wayne State university and the bridegroom was graduated from Michigan State university with a Ph.D.

Given in marriage by her brother, Roy John Piligian, the bride selected a gown of off white Duliette Duchess silk satin fashioned with embroidered Alencon lace appliquéés at the scoop neckline and extending down the front.

The dome shaped skirt was highlighted by appliquéés of lace sprinkled with seed pearls and the draped back torso fell into a chapel sweep.

She carried white orchids atop a white Bible.

Mrs. Carol. Piligian, sister-in-law of the bride, was honor matron in champagne silk organza.

Bridesmaids were Miss Seta Boudakian and Miss Sona Bedrosian, the bride's cousin from Summit, N.J. Miss Mary Joe Redman was her aunt's junior bridesmaid.

Daniel Der Hovanesian was his brother's best man and ushers were Dr. John T Piligian, brother of the bride, Loren Brown and Archie Ferhadson. Ralph Garabedian was a junior usher.

Marian Piligian and Melinda Piligian were their aunt's flower girls and James Dulgerian carried the rings.

A reception at the Tuller hotel followed the ceremony.

The newlyweds will make their home in Detroit where the bridegroom will be with the engineering department of Wayne State.

Joe and Julieann celebrated 40 years and 2 sons together. Joe died 13 June 2001, Oakland County, Michigan.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Thursday 5 October 2000

FACULTY MEMBER TAKES LEAVE

Former Okemos resident Joseph Hovanesian has taken an indefinite medical leave from his faculty position at Oakland University.

Specifics about Hovanesian's ailment have not been released and his return to his position has not been Hovanesian graduated in 1949 from



NEW CONCEPT—Dr. Joseph D. Hovanesian, Wayne State University engineering professor, peers through a photographic plate which when exposed to a Laser beam produces a three-dimensional figure. He says the auto industry could use this concept to test strains and pressures, and do it before a factory test car is built. (UPI Telephoto)

Okemos high School and attended Morningside College during his freshman year in 1950. He completed a doctoral degree in 1958 from Michigan State University.

Detroit Free Press (Detroit, Michigan) Friday 16 June 2001

JOSEPH HOVANESIAN: FOLKSY ENGINEERING PROF

Joseph Hovanesian, a retired professor and former chairman of Oakland University's mechanical engineering department, died Wednesday at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. The Farmington Hills resident was 70.

When Mr. Hovanesian arrived at the school in 1970 after teaching for a decade at Wayne State University, OU was barely a dozen years old. Its engineering department was small and he led a group of professors teaching mechanical engineering.

In 1985, as the school's enrollment flourished, the engineering school was regrouped into three departments; computer science and engineering, electrical and systems engineering and mechanical engineering. Mr. Hovanesian was chair of mechanical engineering from its inception until 1999.

Bhushan Bhatt, interim dean of OU's School of Engineering and Computer Science, said that Mr. Hovanesian's role was critical in shaping the program, which today has 15 faculty members and more than 150 graduate and 350 under-graduate students.



"He was a highly respected member of our faculty," Bhatt said Thursday, remembering Mr. Hovanesian as having an innate ability to befriend and "collect people. He was a folksy guy."

Bhatt said Mr. Hovanesian's best-known work included pioneering methods of experimental stress analysis - the testing of materials to see how much force they can resist. He was among the first researchers in the world to use holography in photoelastic stress analysis.

At OU, Mr. Hovanesian was noted for hosting seminars and workshops for engineers and academics from around the world. School officials said he was also known as an international authority in experimental mechanics. He was awarded a number of National Science Foundation grants and was a fellow in the Society for Experimental Mechanics.

Mr. Hovanesian was raised on a farm near Lansing.

During his upbringing, "he never liked the animals, but he liked the machinery," said his son Charles Hovanesian. "He loved fixing machinery, old cars, house repairs."

Mr. Hovanesian received a bachelor's degree in agricultural education and a master's degree and doctorate in engineering from Michigan State University.

In addition to his son, Mr. Hovanesian is survived by his wife of 40 years, Julieann; another son, John, and a brother.

Joseph Hovanesian: Folksy engineering prof

By MATT HELMS
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

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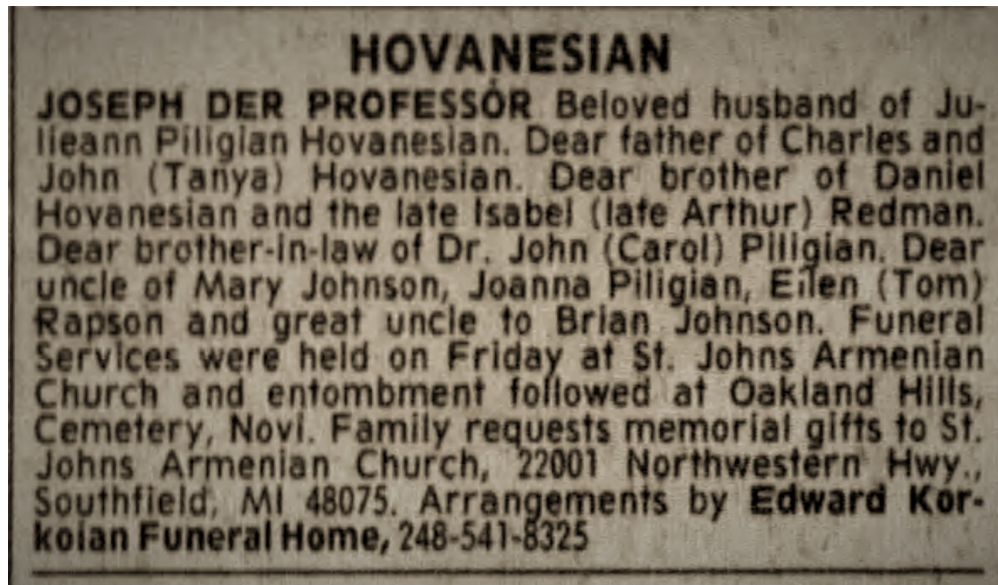
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The family will hold private funeral services.

Contact MATT HELMS at
248-586-2618 or helms@freepress.com.



Joseph
Hovanesian



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Julieann, born 13 November 1931, Detroit, died 4 July 2009, Orange County, California.

THE ARMENIAN REPORTER, 22 August 2009, Page 18

Julieann Hovanesian, 77, Teacher and Community Activist

Laguna Beach, Calif. - After a long battle with declining health, Julieann P. Der Hovanesian, a respected community leader in her former hometown of Farmington Hills, Mich., died peacefully July 4.

Ms. Hovanesian was born Julieann Pearl Piligian in Detroit 1931 and grew up in the home of her Armenian immigrant parents, John and Isgouhi "Ethel" Piligian, with her two brothers, Roy and John, on Linwood Avenue near the city's center during its heyday as a manufacturing hub and urban magnet for immigrant families seeking employment. Known to close childhood friends as "Pearlie" or "Kouhar," she attended Cooley High School, graduating cum laude in 1949, and went on to earn a bachelor's degree and teaching credential from Detroit's Wayne State University. For 12 years she taught fifth grade in the Detroit Public School system, earning distinction in her role as a "mentor teacher" to beginning educators. Her education continued well into the 1970's when she earned a master's degree in child psychology.

A lifetime member of St. John's Armenian Church in Southfield, Ms. Hovanesian is remembered fondly by Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, pastor of St. John's. "Julianne was a much loved member of her spiritual home St. John Armenian Church where she served with devotion and diligence in many of the parish organizations. Fondly remembered as a caring teacher of Christian Education in the Church School, an active and creative member of the parish Women's Guild and also singing praise to the Lord in the parish Komitas Choir, she has left a legacy of love and wonderful example for others to follow. Truly she will be missed but never forgotten by all those lives she touched," said Fr. Kockakian.

In 1960 she married Joseph Der Hovansian, an assistant professor of engineering at Detroit's Wayne State University who later became professor and chairperson of mechanical engineering at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich. The couple had two sons, Charles and John.

Ms. Hovanesian became known as a community activist in 1980 when she founded Citizens For More Responsible Government. This governmental watchdog group, based in Detroit's suburbs, called for referendums when local governments took actions that did not meet with public approval. In the early 1980's, through a referendum it quelled plans for a low-income housing project in Farmington Hills, Michigan, and successfully backed a slate of new city council members who were more responsive to public outcry about the projects. The housing project was converted to much-needed and well-excepted low-income housing for seniors only.

In later years, she was an active member of her city's Historical Commission and Committee to Increase Voter Participation. As part of the latter group, she created, produced, directed, and hosted an award-winning local television program called "My Vote Counts."

An avid cook, Ms. Hovanesian was known as a kitchen wizard for her varied recipes, many of them Armenian, which friends and family relished when they visited her Farmington Hills home.

She is survived by her two sons, her brother John Piligian, and three grandchildren, Joseph, Ani and Daniel Hovanesian.