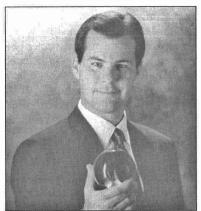


was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army Reserves and worked for United Parcel Service as a supervisor. "Freddy," as he was known by friends, was the owner of Mecca Magic in

Bloomfield. He was also the founder of Clown Fest, held annually in Seaside Heights, and Mecca Magic Clown College. He was known to hundreds of people as Budd-E the Magician and Key-Ko the Clown. Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann; daughter, Jennifer Collins; grandson, William Magrino III; and sisters, Dahne Meeker and Bunnie Collins.

TIMOTHY G. CONOVER



Timothy G. Conover, 51, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died suddenly February 2, 2011. He held I.B.M. number 31491 and had been a continuous member since 1984. He was a member of the Order of Merlin (over twenty-five years of continuous membership). Born on April Fool's Day in Ohio, he was destined for an unusual and lively life and career. He grew up in Alexandria, Virginia. During high school, he developed an interest in magic, spending countless hours reading, practicing, and planning routines. He performed at every opportunity, including at magic conventions, on the Auto Train, and in Washington, D.C.-area nightclubs. After he graduated from George Mason University, he worked five years in the telecommunications industry before transforming his passion for magic into his primary vocation. He focused his talents on the trade show and corporate worlds, rising to the top of those industries. In 1989 he expanded his interests into mentalism and, again, rose to the top of that specialty. In 1993 he won the gold medal at the World Magic Summit, and in 1995 the Psychic Entertainer's Association awarded him the Dunninger Memorial Award. In 2005 he received the Milbourne Christopher Award. Over the years he performed for personalities from Walter Cronkite and Bob Newhart, to Donald Trump and Alice Cooper. Mr. Conover leaves a lasting legacy in both magic and mentalism. Survivors include his parents, Rose Marie (James) Furois, and Cedric (Carol) Conover; brother Michael, and sister Shari (Andy) Rosenberg.

STEVE R. DACRI



H. RICK BAMMAN PHOTO

Steve Robert Dacri, 58, of Las Vegas Nevada, died February 11, 2011 after a short battle with colon cancer. He held I.B.M. number 61556 and had been a member since 2000. Born in Massachusetts, he developed an interest in magic at age six after receiving a Mandrake Magic Set, and then mail-order tricks. At thirteen he already was performing professionally. Gradually he perfected his craft, developing into a premier close-up magician. His favorite and most-requested effect was "Martians," using giant sponge balls. He