

Ken Blackman

AYA Lifetime Member Ken Blackman passed away at age 75 on May 27, 2018, from complications of pulmonary fibrosis. Ken was involved in the formation of the Association in 1976, and was one of its early leaders.

Ken served as President from 1975-78 and again in 1981. He functioned as editor of the American Star from 1975 to 1985. Ken also served as convention chairman from 1980 to 1985, and more recently in 2013 at Arlington, WA. He was the first recipient of the prestigious Dicey Miller Award from the AYA in 2008.

Ken was widely recognized as a “Grumman Guru”, and freely shared his knowledge of our aircraft through the Star and on our web site. He was the primary source for answering “Ask the Experts” questions submitted by our members. His Company – Air Mods Northwest – was formed in 1985 and is one of the leading Grumman shops in the world.

In addition to his aviation activities, Ken is an accomplished musician (drums), and along with his wife, Jan (vocals), played in bands at many venues throughout the Northwest.

Ken is survived by his wife, Jan and his son, Grant and several grandchildren. He will be missed by his friends in the AYA and by the entire Grumman Community. Our condolences go out to his family.

