Stan was fun, conservative, a great administrator, and loved NAFA and falconry. Stan was with NAFA from the start and quickly stepped up to do his part. He was appointed secretary in 1967 and became president in 1970. His two year term was eventful. During his tenure, the Migratory Bird Treaty was amended resulting in raptors gaining federal protection. The USFWS acquired jurisdiction. Falconry legislation was moving across the country. Even before that, Stan played a significant role in gaining federal recognition of falconry as a legal means of take for migratory birds, principally ducks.

Stan was a “doer”. In addition to his extraordinary organizational skills, he knew how to delegate. After his term as president, he continued to assist his good falconry friends Ed Freienmuth and Roger Thacker, who was his successor as president. Together the three of them formed the North American Peregrine Foundation. This group was dedicated to getting captive bred falcons to falconers – something that was not happening at the time. The Endangered Species Act was in full swing and wild take of peregrines was non-existent. Over time as captive propagation became commonplace, the NAPF was no longer necessary. The three men then donated the remaining funds to the Peregrine Fund. These funds were used by the Peregrine Fund to purchase the land on which the World Center for Birds of Prey and the Archives of Falconry are located.

Stan loved to trap and band raptors during the spring and fall migrations. He was a welcome addition to the trapping blinds – always good for comic relief during the slow periods. A little known fact is that Stan is indirectly responsible for the naming of the Great Lakes Falconers Association. When his good friend, and fellow former NAFA president, George Kotsiopoulos founded GLFA in 1961, Stan attended the meetings in Illinois. They decided that the association’s name should reflect a regional membership so that Stan, from Michigan, would be included.

On a local level, Stan played a major role in securing wild take of raptors for falconers in Michigan – something that had been a long, difficult struggle due to intense opposition by politically connected protectionists. Stan persevered!

Stan was born December 13, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois. His parents were Joseph and Ruth Marcus. He earned his Bachelor’s Degree from Purdue University and his MBA from Central Michigan University. He retired as a chemical engineer with Dow Chemical. He is survived by his two children Jeffrey (Peggy) Marcus of Santee, California and daughter Dr. Jennifer Jo (Dr. Rajnik Raab) Marcus of Franklin Lakes, N.J., and grandsons Galen W. Raab and Benjamin Marcus.

Stan continued to be a resource for falconers long after his term as NAFA president. He would assist with drafting model state regulations across the country as well as help individuals who had problems with zoning ordinances and the like. He did so quietly, effectively and without compensation for decades. When he was “introduced” at a NAFA meet banquet in Vernal, Utah in 2011, the crowd erupted into a sustained, spontaneous standing ovation.

He is remembered with great affection. His name always brings a smile to the faces of his friends.
Stan contributed quietly and effectively for decades within the falconry community and he is remembered with great affection.

NAFA’s brain trust at Ed Freienmuth’s funeral in Sept., 1993

DFO President Eckart Schormair, Stan and Roger Thacker.