

## IN MEMORIAM: ARCHIE AVEDISIAN



On February 21, 2020, Archie Harry Avedisian passed away surrounded by loved ones after nearly 92 years of life. For 48 years, Archie worked in various leadership roles at Boys & Girls Clubs in Jamestown, NY; Brooklyn, NY; East St. Louis, IL; San Francisco, CA; Santa Rosa, CA; Seattle, WA; and greater Washington, DC. He was central to racially integrating East St. Louis, advocated for clubs to serve girls in addition to boys, was responsible for the addition of "& Girls" to the name of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, and increased the operating budget of the Clubs of Greater Washington from \$190,000 to \$10.5 million growing it from 4 clubs to 35 clubs and branches during his tenure. Shortly after his retirement in 1998, Archie began working for the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association (WANADA) fundraising and recruiting for its auto technician training program, which provides free education and tools to aspiring auto technicians. At the time of his death, Archie was still employed at WANADA and had raised over \$1.25 million, helping place over 500 men and women in jobs as auto technicians. Archie received numerous accolades and awards for his philanthropy. However, Archie would be the first to tell you that he attributes his success to the support of his wife, Gloria, to whom he was extremely devoted. Archie is survived by his daughter and her husband, Deb and Bill



[Above] The Rotaract Club of UMD College Park had fun collaborating with UMD's Office of Community Engagement to set up boxes for the annual Good Neighbor Day. They also encouraged people to keep donating nonperishable foods to the community.

Whitelock, of Parkton, MD; his son and his wife, Tony and Chris Avedisian, of Woodbine, MD; and his grandchildren, Lindsey Avedisian, of Washington, DC, and Nick Avedisian, of Colorado Springs, CO. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Archie and Gloria Avedisian Scholarship Fund, 3173 Daisy Road, Woodbine, MD 21797. This charity was created over twenty years ago to honor Archie and his wife, Gloria, for their unwavering commitment.

***"I encourage you, as leaders in your community, to provide whatever assistance your community needs at this time. Contact your local health authorities to learn what your Rotary club can do to help prepare for and respond to the COVID-19 outbreak."***

***- Mark Daniel Maloney, 2019-20 President, Rotary International***



# Rotary

# People of Action

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