

Abstract Submitted  
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**Two Physics Grads: University President & Research Lab Chief**

PAUL H CARR, AF Research Lab Emeritus — My friendship with Donald Paul Merrifield, SJ developed when we were taking MIT quantum mechanics courses. Before classes started, I would tell him about the theology courses I was taking at Harvard U. He would smile understandingly. Don completed his PhD in theoretical physics. We lost contact in 1961, when I left MIT to serve as a Lieutenant at the Redstone Arsenal AL. In 1962, I worked on microwave acoustics at the AF Research Lab, MA towards my PhD thesis at Brandeis U. My later research on surface acoustic waves(SAW) resulted in much smaller, lower-cost, signal processing filters used in radar and in today's cell phones. This contributed to my promotion to a GS-15 Branch Chief. In 1993, I learned that Don had been the President of Loyola Marymount University. I was amazed that he invited me to have breakfast at his Jesuit residence there. He told me in his same friendly manner that he, after being ordained as a priest and teaching university physics, was selected as President during the student unrest of the Viet Nam War, "because no one else wanted the job." As President, Don increased minority enrollment through scholarships and recruitment drives. Don would of have resonated with Pope Francis "On care for our common home" (2015) had Don not died in 2010, age 81.

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