

**George H. Floyd Jr \*1917-2008\* WA4DGA - W2RYT** - George expired age 91 at Lynchburg, VA 22 Nov 2008. Floyd was pre-deceased by wife, Miriam and is survived by two daughters, two granddaughters and six great-grandchildren. It is asked those interested in making donations in Floyd's memory contribute to the Nature Conservancy, the Sierra Club and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals or the Humane Society of the United States.

George was an engineer and executive with General Electric, working in Schenectady and Syracuse, NY before moving to Lynchburg, Va., in the 50's. GE alumni will also remember Geo pseudonymously as well as "Lighthouse Larry" in GE employees publications.



Once upon a time there were whimsical tales coming out of Feenix, between 1948 and 1960 by a strange bird called Hashafisti Scratchi. The antics continued again in 1966 until 1971, were published in CQ Magazine and very cleverly written by Mr. Floyd WA4DGA. - Scratchi a Japanese American ham with fractured English and contorted spelling, addressed the fraternity from Feenix, Ariz. Floyd began all of his columns by "Deer Hon. Ed."

Dick Ross of CQ Magazine said "As saddened as I am to learn of George's death, the mere mention of his name brings a smile to my face, knowing how his good humor and wonderfully creative imagination entertained so many of us for so many years."

Your author knew many at the time religiously looked forward each month to checking out "Scratchi" It all seemed to make their day by checking out the antics, the first thing on their agenda.

Mr. Ross K2MGA CQ's Publisher writing in the magazine's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary issue in January 1995 said; "For many years the name Hashafisti Scratchi has been almost synonymous with confusion and consternation in amateur radio. It seems, too, that whenever the unusual or impossible is happening, Scratchi is there helping it happen."

Who was Scratchi? It had always been a mystery as to who created the character "Scratchi: over 50 years ago for CQ Magazine. Thus at the 1995 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention at Long Beach CA. One David Bartholomew AD7DB again asked Wayne Green W2NSD/1 one time CQ Magazine Editor and he finally named George Floyd W2RYT, guilty as charged."

Credits; statements by Dick Ross K2MGA, D. Bartholomew [qsl.net/AD7DB](http://qsl.net/AD7DB)