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Spirit of Viper Hall of Fame Class of 2021

The Viper Owners Association (VOA) is pleased to announce the Class of 2021 **Hall of Fame** inductees as part of the ***Spirit of Viper*** program.

Craig S. Belmonte

Chassis Engineer

David M. Buchesky

Suspension & Brakes Design Engineer

Michael N. Cipponeri

Mgr. Viper Electrical & Electronic Systems

Daniel J. Pearlman

Sr. Engineer/Supervisor - Body Engineering

Roy Sjoberg, Team Viper Chief Engineer and ***Spirit of Viper Legend***, said, "When I heard of these four Team Viper member's selection to the VOA Hall of Fame, I knew they were extremely deserving. Each brought an automotive passion matched by the desire to creatively get their job done. With their significant contributions, Viper went from concept to production in 32 months."

Inductee Reactions

Dave – *"It is great to be recognized and honored for something that I loved doing with a passion."*

Mike – *"It was an honor and privilege and I feel very fortunate to be an original member of Team Viper. Thank you to the Hall of Fame members for allowing me to join your prestigious group. I am extremely grateful to receive this unexpected recognition."*

Dan – *"It is an honor to be recognized with such a great group of talented and passionate Viper teammates. Looking back, this time was certainly the highlight of my career; many great memories, accomplishing something very special."*



Founding inductees of the *Spirit of Viper*

Legends

Robert A. Lutz, Chrysler President & Chief Executive Officer
Viper “Four Father” and concept visionary
Thomas C. Gale, Chrysler Vice President of Design
Viper “Four Father” and design visionary
Francois J. Castaing, Vice President of Engineering
Viper “Four Father” and engineering visionary
Carroll H. Shelby, Viper “Four Father”, Valued Consultant (Posthumous)
Roy H. Sjoberg, Father of Viper and Chief Engineer

“Four Father” was the description of the first photo of Mr. Lutz, Mr. Gale, Mr. Castaing, and Mr. Shelby with the 1989 Viper Concept.

Hall of Fame

Herbert J. Helbig, Vehicle Synthesis Mgr	Peter M. Gladysz, Chassis Sys & Design Mgr
Sandy J. Emerling, Int & Ext Design Mgr	James L. Sayen, Program Manager
Richard H. Winkles, Powertrain Dev Specialist	Charles H. Brown III, Engine Design Engineer
Kenneth C. Nowak, Vehicle Build Supervisor	William F. Adams, Engineering Lead Mechanic

The VOA, along with Team Viper, would like to posthumously recognize the contributions of the following Team Viper members.

James Royer - Engine Design Manager
Ira Fisher – Financial Analyst
Frank VanWulfen – Electrical Engineer
Frederick Krupic – Sr Stockroom Mechanic
Albert Bederka – Design Room Supervisor
Daniel Knott – Director of SRT
Kenneth O’Donnell – New Mack Manager
Robert Kane – Plant Craftsperson
Jeffrey Jax – Interior Design Engineer
Joseph Gall – Engine Design Engineer

Lawrence Rathgeb – Suspension Design Engineer
James Vermeersch – Lead Designer
Ralph Youngdale – Chassis Designer
David Swietlik – Procurement & Supply Manager

2021

Nippani Rao – Materials & Body Engineer
David Ironside – Plant Craftsperson
John Hinckley – CAAP Plant Manager
Joseph Dapsi – Chief Plant Engineer



The VOA would like to acknowledge the **Friends of Viper** who graciously contributed to help fund the 2021 Spirit of Viper initiative.

D'Ann & Wayne Rauh
David Hood Collection
Kenny Nail
Temple Motorsports

Moyer Collection
Bill Blewett and Kerrie Peterson
Steve Thorne
Brian & Laura Willey

For more information about ***Spirit of Viper***, contact Brian Willey, Spirit of Viper Coordinator, on Brian.Willey@driveviper.com.

The Viper Owners Association (VOA), launched in 2013, is the premier organization for the Dodge/SRT Viper. With thirty-seven world-wide regions representing over 7,000 members and enthusiasts, the VOA is the organization to enjoy, admire, gather, and discuss all things Viper. On a given year, hundreds of events take place. Members enjoy virtual discussions with Team Viper, drives, autocross & track events, parties, and overnight adventures. These regional, multiregional, and national events foster the car culture, connect the Viper Nation, and infuse everyone with the "Spirit of Viper."

Beth Perry Sewell

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National President
Viper Owners Association



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