7369 Manchester Rd.
Baltimore Md. 21222
February 20 1994

Gentlemen:

I have been reading your book titled (USING DBASE IV 1.5) trying to learn how to create a UDF in dbase IV without success. This book seems to assume that the reader is familiar with many of the terms applied to creating a UDF, which I am not.

I was wondering if there is a book, written by you or someone else, that explains how to create a UDF or procedure in a laymans terms. That is, explain each step of the way, along with full examples, so that a person with a limited or no knowledge of programming could follow.

My other thought is, that with your knowledge of DBASE IV, you should write a book with many fully operating examples of a UDF as well as a procedure along with a full explanation of each one. The explanation should indicate which items in the UDF or procedure should be replaced with the readers items. SUCH A BOOK I WOULD BUY AT ALMOST ANY PRICE.

({[UDF I NEEDED NOW]})

At the present time, I would like to search for a given person within the database by his LAST NAME and his DATE OF BIRTH. But, I would like to do this within the application that I have already created, or within the forms box of the control center.
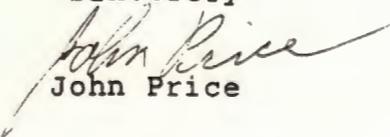
({[MY PROBLEM IS]})

Recently, as a member of my church, I took the responsibility for committing our 120 year old records of the UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH to computer memory. My database contains 79 fields that covers everything from BAPTISM through BURIAL, and my forms and applications are designed accordingly. However after I enter the BAPTISM data for the past 120 years, I would like to search on any LAST NAME and DATE OF BIRTH field so that I do not duplicate a name that is already in the BAPTISM data, or, append data to the wrong person when entering MARRIAGE or CONFIRMATION data. (((((The program, as is, works fine so long as I know which person to append MARRIAGE, CONFIRMATION or other data to.)))))

Since I do not know the people who were baptized 120 years ago, I need some way to search the records on the last name and date of birth before I enter MARRIAGE OR CONFIRMATION data. I would like to do this without going to the queries part of the database, which would take considerable time.

Finally, is it possible for one of your technicians to write a UDF for us at an agreed upon price.

Should you wish to contact me, my phone number is 410-282-5519 Your kind consideration and help in this area would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely

John Price

cc: Pastor Armstrong
    George Hammerbacher
    Harvey Jacob

Structure for database: C:\DBASE\DBDATA\FILES.DBF
Number of data records: 29
Date of last update   : 09/03/93

Field	Field Name	Type	Width	Dec	Index
1	NEWXXXXXXX	Numeric	1		N
2	DATE_NEW	Date	8		N
3	YEAR_NEW	Character	4		N
4	RELIGON	Character	15		N
5	FROM	Character	15		N
6	TRANSXXXXX	Numeric	1		N
7	FROM_	Character	15		N
8	DATE_TRANS	Date	8		N
9	YEAR_TRANS	Character	4		N
10	BAPXXXXXXX	Numeric	1		N
11	LAST_NAME	Character	15		Y
12	FIRST_NAME	Character	12		N
13	ADDRESS	Character	22		N
14	CITY	Character	15		N
15	STATE	Character	2		N
16	ZIPCODE	Character	9		N
17	D_O_BIRTH	Date	8		N
18	YEAR_BORN	Character	4		Y
19	D_O_BAPTZM	Date	8		N
20	YEAR_BAPTZ	Character	4		N
21	MALE_FEMAL	Character	1		N
22	GOD_M_LAST	Character	15		N
23	GOD_M_FRST	Character	12		N
24	GOD_F_LAST	Character	15		N
25	GOD_F_FRST	Character	12		N
26	MOTHERNAME	Character	12		Y
27	FATHERNAME	Character	12		N
3	MINISTER_B	Character	20		N
29	COMMENTS_B	Memo	10		N
30	CONFXXXXXX	Numeric	1		N
31	DATE_CONF	Date	8		N
32	YEAR_CONF	Character	4		N
33	MINISTER_C	Character	20		N
34	COMMENTS_C	Memo	10		N
35	MARXXXXXXX	Numeric	1		N
36	DATE_MARRY	Date	8		N
37	YEAR_MARRY	Character	4		N
38	BRI_L_NAME	Character	15		N
39	BRI_F_NAME	Character	12		N
40	BRI_ADDRES	Character	22		N
41	BRI_CITY	Character	15		N
42	BRI_STATE	Character	2		N
43	BRI_ZIP	Character	9		N
44	GRO_L_NAME	Character	15		N
45	GRO_F_NAME	Character	12		N
46	GRO_ADDRES	Character	22		N
47	GRO_CITY	Character	15		N
48	GRO_STATE	Character	2		N
49	GRO_ZIP	Character	9		N
50	BRI_D_O_B	Date	8		N
51	GRO_D_O_B	Date	8		N
52	DIVORSED	Logical	1		N
53	WIDOW	Logical	1		N

54	WIDOWER	Logical	1	N
55	MADEN_NAME	Character	15	N
56	LICENSE_NO	Character	10	N
57	ISSUE_DATE	Date	8	N
58	MINISTER_M	Character	20	N
59	COMMENTS	Memo	10	N
60	DEATHXXXXX	Numeric	1	N
61	D_O_DEATH	Date	8	N
62	DATE_BURYD	Date	8	N
63	YEAR_DIED	Character	4	Y
64	INTURNED	Character	25	N
65	MINISTER_F	Character	20	N
66	COMMENTS_F	Memo	10	N

** Total **   645

DATA CODES AND DATA ENTERING EXPLANATIONS

#	FIELD NAME	DESCRIPTION
1	NEW_MEMXXXX	INDICATES NEW MEMBER **PLACE A -1-** IN THIS FIELD
2	DATE_NEW	ENTER THE DATE THE NEW MEMBER JOINED THE CHURCH
3	YEAR_NEW	ENTER THE YEAR THE NEW MEMBER JOINED THE CHURCH
4	RELIGION	ENTER THE RELIGION OF THE NEW MEMBER
5	FROM	ENTER THE NAME OF THE PERSONS PREVIOUS CHURCH
6	TRANSXXXXX	INDICATES TRANSFER **PLACE A -1-** IN THIS FIELD
7	FROM	ENTER PREVIOUS NAME OF U.C.C CHURCH
8	DATE_TRANS	ENTER THE DATE TRANSFERRED
9	YEAR_TRANS	ENTER THE YEAR TRANSFERRED
10	BAPXXXXXXX	INDICATES BAPTISM **PLACE A -1-** IN THIS FIELD
11*	LAST_NAME	ENTER THE LAST NAME
12*	FIRST_NAME	ENTER THE FIRST NAME
13*	ADDRESS	ENTER THE ADDRESS
14*	CITY	ENTER THE CITY
15*	STATE	ENTER THE STATE
16*	ZIPCODE	ENTER THE ZIPCODE
17*	D_O_BIRTH	ENTER THE DATE OF BIRTH
18*	YEAR_BORN	ENTER THE YEAR BORN
19	D_O_BAPTZM	ENTER DATE OF BAPTISM
20	YEAR_BAPTZ	ENTER YEAR BAPTIZED
21*	MALE_FEMAL	ENTER AN **-M-** OR **-F-** IN THIS FIELD
22	GOD_M_LAST	ENTER GODMOTHERS LAST NAME
23	GOD_M_FIRST	ENTER GODMOTHERS FIRST NAME
24	GOD_F_LAST	ENTER GODFATHERS LAST NAME
25	GOD_F_FIRST	ENTER GODFATHERS FIRST NAME
26	MOTHERNAME	ENTER MOTHERS NAME
27	FATHERNAME	ENTER FATHERS NAME
28	MINISTER_B	NAME OF THE MINISTER WHO PERFORMED THE CEREMONY
29	COMMENTS_B	ENTER CTRL-HOME TYPE MESSAGE THEN TYPE CTRL-END
30	CONFXXXXXX	INDICATE CONFORMATION **PLACE A -1-** IN THIS FIELD
31	DATE_CONF	ENTER THE DATE CONFIRMED
32	YEAR_CONF	ENTER THE YEAR CONFIRMED
33	MINISTER_C	NAME OF THE MINISTER WHO PERFORMED THE CEREMONY
34	COMMENTS_C	ENTER CTRL-HOME TYPE MESSAGE THEN TYPE CTRL-END
35	MARXXXXXXX	INDICATES MARRIAGE **PLACE A -1-** IN THIS FIELD
36	DATE_MARRY	ENTER DATE MARRIED
37	YEAR_MARRY	ENTER THE YEAR MARRIED
38	BRI_L_NAME	ENTER BRIDES LAST NAME
39	BRI_F_NAME	ENTER BRIDES FIRST NAME
40	BRI_ADDRES	ENTER BRIDES ADDRESS
41	BRI_CITY	ENTER NAME OF CITY WHERE THE BRIDE LIVES
42	BRI_STATE	ENTER NAME OF STATE WHERE BRIDE LIVES
43	BRI_ZIP	ENTER ZIP CODE WHERE BRIDE LIVES
44	GRO_L_NAME	ENTER GROOMS LAST NAME
45	GRO_F_NAME	ENTER GROOMS FIRST NAME
46	GRO_ADDRES	ENTER GROOMS ADDRESS
47	GRO_CITY	ENTER NAME OF CITY WHERE GROOM LIVES
48	GRO_STATE	ENTER NAME OF STATE WHERE GROOM LIVES
49	GRO_ZIP	ENTER ZIP CODE WHERE GROOM LIVES
50	BRI_D_O_B	ENTER BRIDES DATE OF BIRTH
51	GRO_D_O_B	ENTER GROOMS DATE OF BIRTH
52	DIVORCED	PLACE AN **-N- OR -Y-** IN THIS FIELD
53	WIDOW	PLACE AN **-N- OR -Y-** IN THIS FIELD
54	WIDOWER	PLACE AN **-N- OR -Y-** IN THIS FIELD
55	MAIDEN_NAME	ENTER THE PERSONS MAIDEN NAME
56	LICENSE_NO	ENTER MARRIAGE LICENSE NUMBER
57	ISSUE_DATE	ENTER DATE MARRIAGE LICENSE WAS ISSUED
58	MINISTER_M	NAME OF MINISTER WHO PERFORMED THE CEREMONY

```
59    COMMENTS_M     ENTER CTRL-HOME TYPE MESSAGE THEN TYPE CTRL-END
60    DEATHXXXXX     INDICATES A DEATH PLACE A -1- IN THIS FIELD
61    D_O_DEATH      ENTER THE DATE THE PERSON DIED
62    DATE_BURYD     ENTER THE DATE THE PERSON WAS BURIED
63    YEAR_DIED      ENTER THE YEAR THE PERSON DIED
64    INTERNED       NAME OF THE CEMETERY WHERE PERSON WAS BURIED
65    MINISTER_F     NAME OF MINISTER THAT HELD THE FUNERAL SERVICES
66    COMMENTS_F     ENTER CTRL HOME TYPE MESSAGE THEN TYPE CTRL-END
```

Procedures set forth for entering data must be strictly adhered to in order to obtain a meaningful report or search.

Items marked with an astrict (*) must me included with every first time record entered. Once entered, it does not have to be done again.

In the numeric field, the 1 means that 1 person was transferred, baptized, married, confirmed or died. The field selected will give a total, after any period of time depending on which field the 1 was entered in.

In item 28, the MINISTER-**B** performed the **baptism** ceremony
In item 29, the comments-**B** should refer to the **baptism** ceremony
In item 33, the MINISTER-**C** performed the **confirmation** ceremony
In item 34, The comments-**C** should refer to the **confirmation** ceremony
In item 58, the MINISTER **M** performed the **marriage** ceremony
In item 59, the comments-**M** should refer to the **marriage** ceremony
in item 65, the MINISTER-**F** performed the **funeral** services
In item 66, the comments-**F** should refer to the **funeral** services as well as a possible eulogy or something about that person that should be remembered down through the ages.

In time, with exception of a few fields, the whole document will be filled out on a person who was baptized, confirmed, married and buried at this church.

It should be understood that the information contained in the old books do not provide us with all of the data we are asking for in the database. However, when the data that is available is entered we will be able to search and locate anything in the books.

This database will allow us to search on any of the fields listed above and in any sequence.

```
      67000 Records estimated          Listed at left is an
      X 3 Minutes per record        estimate of the time
      -------                        required to complete the
     210,000 Total minutes           job. However, once they
       \ 60 minute per hour          are typed in, the old books
      --------                        can be retired.
       3,350 Total hours
        \ 8 Hours per day
      --------
      418.75 Days at 8 hours per day
        \ 5.Days per week
      --------
       83.18 Weeks
        \ 52 Weeks per year
      --------
        1.59 years to complete the job
```

1-----Will need a tape backup system   about 300,.00
       backup tapes cost about 20.00 each

2-----If we do not buy a tape unit, it will take about 30 diskette
to backup the system when all the records are entered. that is time

3-----We also need a math coprocessor to speed up the searches
about 300.00
consumeing

4-----Dont know how much it will cost to interpret the german
doccuments DO YOU WANT ME TO PERSUE THIS AVENUE

5-----If you do not want to go through the expense I suggest that
if nothing else, we start using the computer now and enter church
data as soon as it is. generated

6----- Need a new database program I am now trying to get the one
from
BORLAND called DBASE IV 1.1 for free it costs 450.00 I can get one
for less than a hundred