

NAME

vname – build filename from metacharacters

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <vname.h>
```

```
extern char last_vname[];
```

```
char *vname(char *pathname)
```

DESCRIPTION

vname() will expand the meta characters in the *pathname* string and return a pathname that may be fed to *open()* et al. The metacharacters that **vname()** understands are the tilde `~` and dollar sign `$`.

Each *pathname* is checked to see if it begins with a `~`. If it does, then the word up to a `/` is checked to see if it matches the name of a user. If so, then the `~` and the matched portion are replaced with the value of the user's home directory. A `~` by itself or followed by a `/` is replaced by the value of the user's home directory. The character `$` is used to introduce parameter expansions which are taken from the user's environment.

This routine is typically used for expanding pathnames prior to an *open()* or *fopen()* call as in

```
int fd;
char *name;

name = vname ("~joe/his/file/called/$SOMETHING/or/$other");
fd = open (name, O_RDONLY);
```

The file `<vname.h>` defines several macros which expand the *path* argument of the macro using **vname()**. The names of these macros begin with the letter **v**.

macro	function	macro	function
vaccess	access	vopen	open
vclose	close	vchdir	chdir
vchmod	chmod	vchown	chown
vexecv	execv	vexecve	execve
vexecvp	execvp	vlink	link
vrmdir	rmdir	unlink	unlink
vfopen	fopen	vpopen	popen

The above macros may be used as in

```
int fd;

fd = vopen ("~joe/his/file/called/$SOMETHING/or/$other", O_RDONLY);
```

The external array `last_vname` always points to the result of the last **vname()** call and thus contains the last pathname that was expanded.

RETURN VALUE

vname() returns a pointer to a value that is overwritten at each call.

FILES

/etc/passwd for matching `~ name`.

SEE ALSO

sh(1), *open(2)*, *fopen(3)*

AUTHOR

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