

Obituaries

Donald D. Kennedy

Donald D. Kennedy, a Life Fellow of the Society, is dead at the age of 85. He joined the SMPTE in 1948, while working as a recording engineer for the Commonwealth Government of Australia, where he supervised the establishment of technical requirements of a film studio for the production of government motion pictures. He was later appointed as studio manager and then special projects officer.

Following a governmental decision to present a motion picture embodying unique and outstanding new techniques in the Australian Pavilion at Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan, Kennedy was appointed by the Australian Government to a specially created position to research and implement a large, nine-screen circular motion picture, which required the use of 70mm film and a collective xenon light source of 60 kW.

From 1973 to 1974 he carried out research in the People's Republic of China, and later presented a paper on his findings at the 1975 SMPTE Technical Conference. He also presented several papers at both New England University



Donald D. Kennedy (1981)

and the University of New South Wales on the topic of "Engineering Requirements of the Motion-Picture Industry."

In 1976 he retired from his position with the Australian Government. That same year he was elected chairman of the SMPTE Australian Section. In 1977 he received the Queens Jubilee Medal for Service to the Australian Film Industry.

From 1977 through 1978 he served as manager of the Australian Section.

He was named an SMPTE Fellow in 1981 and became a Life Fellow in 1983. He was a Life Vice-President of the Radar Branch of the Royal Australian Air Force Association and a member of the Society of Australian Film Pioneers.

James R. Davidson

James R. Davidson, a Life Member of the SMPTE, died on August 4, at the age of 72. A pioneer in the audiovisual-television field, Davidson began his career as a cinematographer in 1950. Shortly thereafter he formed A.I.E. Studios, Inc., which expanded into a black-and-white laboratory operation, then added color processing and printing, and finally became heavily involved in video. Although he was retired from his position as president of the firm, he had continued to serve on its board of directors.

During his lifetime Davidson devoted a great deal of time to working with young people entering the industry, not only teaching the craft but trying to instill an appreciation and respect for audiovisual communication.

Following his retirement, Davidson transferred most of his activities from technical to service organizations and became very involved in municipal activities in Sugar Land, Tex., where he served on the City Council and as Mayor Pro Tem, as well as a member of the Fort Bend Kiwanis Club.

Davidson attended the University of Houston and the University of Michigan, leaving in his final year to volunteer for the U.S. Air Force in 1941.

He joined the SMPTE in 1971, and in 1992 he was presented with the Citation for Outstanding Service to the Society, in recognition of his efforts to organize and establish the Houston Section of the SMPTE and for his long-term support of SMPTE activities.

Charles D. Anderson, a Life Member of the Society, died in February at the age of 80. He joined the SMPTE as an Associate Member in 1954, transferring to Active Member status in 1978. Anderson was employed by United Artists Theater Circuit from 1927 until his retirement in 1978, working his way up from projectionist to chief engineer.

John M. Barstow, a Life Member of the Society, is dead at the age of 91. He joined the Society in 1951, while working as a telephone engineer for Bell Telephone Labs. He retired from Bell during the 1960s, but continued a role in the industry, working as a film consultant. He became a Life Member in 1973.

Tech-know-logy.

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