

Obituaries



Paul A. Kaufman (1976)

Paul A. Kaufman

Paul A. Kaufman, an SMPTE Life Fellow and a member of the SMPTE Board of Editors, is dead at the age of 78. Born in 1915, Kaufman started working at DuArt Film Labs in 1938 as a messenger, while he was attending the City College of New York. He received his B.S. in 1940 and continued working at the company, becoming president in 1970. At the time of his death, he still held the full-time presidential position, where his responsibilities included the supervision of the company's film laboratory and technical operations.

He joined the SMPE in 1948, after returning from service overseas in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, during which he received a battlefield commission and was promoted to lieutenant. As a member of the Society he participated in forming the Laboratory Practice Committee in 1949, and served on several other committees.

He was named an SMPTE Fellow in 1976 in recognition of his technical contributions to the industry, including the development of the flashing or K process; the processing and printing procedures to handle the first independent newsgathering service; supervising the first 16mm Gevachrome Type 902 reversal developing with silver sound-track application in a U.S. commercial laboratory; design and installation of the first Eastman color negative II, Type 5247 and 7247 machine in a U.S. commercial laboratory; and creating a computerized timing system consisting of a tape corrector, mini computer, editing table, printing machine reader, and analyzer.

Kaufman had presented many technical papers on laboratory practices at SMPTE conferences as well as to the SMPTE New



Thomas R. Meyer

York Section. He was named a Life Fellow in 1980.

In addition, he was involved in the development of the FCC lab system with two colleagues and was presented with a Scientific Technical Academy Award in 1979 by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS).

Thomas R. Meyer

Thomas R. Meyer, an SMPTE Fellow, died of a heart attack on June 23, 1993. He was a principal of Duir Associates, based in San Diego, Calif.

Meyer had served as chairman of the SMPTE Subcommittee of Digital Control for Television Equipment (T14.10), as well as previously holding the title of chairman of the Working Group. In this activity, he was the driving force behind the joint SMPTE/EBU activity that resulted in a series of recommended practices and standards and an EBU Technical Recommendation (3248), which represented a major step forward in international standards. He also led his group in pioneering the use of computer conferencing for the development of standards documentation.

Meyer had outstanding experience in the use of digital techniques in television graphics and control, and was a leader in the use of microprocessor technology for television purposes. He also made very valuable contributions to the engineering work of the Society in the 1981 tests and demonstrations that led to the CCIR Rec. 601 for digital video standards. He also participated in numerous committees where his opinions and innovative management proved very helpful.

Meyer joined the SMPTE in 1969,

while working at RCA as engineer, advanced development. While at the company he participated in the development of the single-tube camera and performed research for an interferometric encoding system for single-tube color cameras. He had previously worked for the Department of the Air Force as a project engineer for the Edwards Air Force Base "Flitevision" airborne system, which provides real-time television coverage from test and chase aircraft. The system has been used to televise space shuttle landings. He was presented with the Department of Defense Award for this project.

In 1972 he joined Telemation, where he was responsible for the development and marketing of a family of computer graphic and control systems, including the Compositor I graphic generator and the TED-1 election reporting system. He also designed a computer module for camera colorimetry, which was used in the development of a new, fully masked telecine camera. In 1977 he went to Dynair Electronics as a product manager, where he was responsible for a new product family of television control and switching equipment, including the System 21 hybridized routing switcher and System 23 machine control. He was later named vice-president, engineering.

In 1992, Meyer started Duir Associates to provide contract product research and development services to the communication, television, and computer industries. During his lifetime he also published many articles in the areas of television systems design and measurements, television lighting, computers, and control systems for TV.

An SMPTE Fellow since 1985, Meyer was a senior member of the Society of Broadcast Engineers and a member of the IEEE Computer Society.

The family has requested that any remembrance of Meyer be in the form of a contribution to his name to the Tau Beta Pi Association, P.O. Box 8840 University Station, Knoxville, TN 37966; Meyer was an Eminent Engineer in this national engineering honor society.

Mauricio Pulver died in October 1992, at the age of 63. A consulting engineer based in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Pulver joined the Society in 1989. During his lifetime he held positions with LS82-TV, Channel 17; the Univ. of Buenos Aires; and the Buenos Aires Regional School of National Technological Univ.