

Allied Film and Video in 1960 and has guided the organization to its present position as a leading professional video post-production and videocassette and film duplication service.

Smith has served on SMPTE's Board of Governors and as Chairman of the Committee on Education, Industrial and Consumer Technology. The Society recognized his contributions to the audiovisual industry with a Presidential Proclamation in 1985.

Robert M. Allen has been appointed vice-president in charge of production operations at Disney-MGM Studios. He had served since 1987 as director of film and tape production. Allen will continue to oversee the operation of the Disney-MGM

Studios facilities and production groups while developing new business opportunities for the Florida studios.

Daniel Castles was appointed president of Grass Valley Group, Inc., a subsidiary of Tektronix. He also continues as vice-president of Tektronix. Previously, Castles served as vice-president and general manager of Tektronix's Television Div. and chief operating officer at Grass Valley. Castles joined Tektronix in 1978 in the finance department and has held positions as controller



and manufacturing manager. He became general manager of the Television Div. in 1988.

Jesse T. (Tom) Ellington, Consolidated Film Industries, has retired as chairman of the executive committee. He joined CFI as president in 1977; his previous positions include senior assistant postmaster general, chairman of the Capital Investment Committee of the U.S. Postal Service, and senior vice-president of Young & Rubicam. Ellington has been a Society Fellow since 1982.



Obituaries



Byron L. Friend

Byron L. Friend

Veteran motion-picture producer Byron L. Friend died March 26, 1994, at his home in Winterset, Iowa. He was 75.

Born in Marshalltown, Iowa, in 1919, Friend attended Coyne Radio & Electrical School and the Lewis Institute of Technology. In 1935, he joined the Merchant Marine and served as a Communications Officer on the S.S. *James A. Wetmore* during World War II. He rose to the rank of First Lieutenant and was awarded several medals for his contributions to the war effort. He left the Maritime Service in 1945.

Friend began his motion-picture career in Chicago; he was a maintenance engi-

neer at ABC-TV and then became a video engineer at NBC-TV. In 1952, he founded Telecine Film Studios, Inc., in Park Ridge, Ill. As president of that company, he produced a variety of educational, corporate, and public service films.

Considered an industry pioneer, Friend was behind such advances as the first multicamera motion-picture productions in the Midwest. He was also the first to produce a motion-picture series for television in color (*Zoo Parade*). A frequent lecturer at high schools and universities, Friend taught the first film course on production techniques at Northwestern University.

Friend played a very active role in SMPTE since joining in 1955. On the national level, he was a member of the Sustaining Member Committee and was the 1978 recipient of the SMPTE Membership Award Plaque.

He also served his Chicago Section in a variety of positions, including Manager, Secretary/Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and Section Chairman. In addition, Friend is responsible for founding the Chicago Section All-Day Tutorial Seminar, held every spring.

To honor his contribution to the industry, the SMPTE elected him a Fellow of the Society in 1981; he became a Life Fellow in 1984.

Friend is survived by his wife June of Winterset, Iowa; a son, David H. Friend of S. Barrington, Ill.; a daughter, Sandra Friend of Highland, Calif.; his sister, Vera Doren of Seal Beach, Calif.; three grandchildren and one stepgrandson.

Richard W. Rodgers

Richard W. Rodgers died in his sleep on April 24, 1994. He was 63.

After graduating from Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in 1961, Rodgers joined the CBS Television Network as a project engineer. He served as a manager of applications engineering for CMX Co. and then formed his own consulting firm, R. W. Rodgers and Associates, in Los Angeles in 1971.

Rodgers joined ABC Television in Los Angeles in 1977. Among the several positions he held there was head of engineering for the international broadcast center for the 1984 Summer Olympic Games, for which he received the 1984 Emmy Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement.

At the time of his death, Rodgers was a senior associate at Brooks/Fleming Associates. He is survived by his wife Janet and his son Paul.

George J. Mitchell

George J. Mitchell also passed away on March 26, 1994, at the age of 75. He was the producer, vice-president, and owner of Centurion Films Co. in San Diego, Calif.

Mitchell was the author of numerous technical articles on cinematography, and the producer of a short film dealing with the history and development of the cine camera.

A 1942 graduate of the Citadel, Mitchell served in the U.S. Army for 25 years and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.