

Obituary

Harold E. Edgerton

Dr. Harold E. Edgerton, an honorary member of the SMPTE, died January 4, 1990, of a heart attack. He was 86.

Edgerton, a professor emeritus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), earned international recognition for his achievements in the related fields of stroboscopy and ultrahigh-speed photography. His pioneering research in stroboscopic photography was the foundation for the development of the modern electronic speed flash, which is important to science and industry as well as regular, routine photography.

During his lifetime he was the recipient of many prestigious awards, including the 1983 Eastman Kodak Gold Medal Award for his work in high-speed photography as well as for contributions that include the use of sonar in archaeology and geology, the design of watertight camera and

strobes for underwater exploration, and the development of sonar devices for research under the sea. He also received SMPTE's highest honor, the Progress Award (1959), the E.I. DuPont Award (1962), and the National Medal of Science (1973). He was nationally recognized for his invention of the strobe light and was presented with the National Science Award by President Richard Nixon and the National Technology Award by President Ronald Reagan. He was the author of numerous books and technical articles, and held more than 40 patents.

A native of Fremont, Neb., he received a B.S. from the University of Nebraska in 1925. He then went on to MIT for an M.S. in 1927 and a D.Sc. in 1931. In 1948, he was awarded an honorary D.Eng. from the University of Nebraska, and in 1969, an honorary L.L.D. from Doan College, Nebraska. He also received an honorary D.Sc. at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., in 1979.



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Edgerton was a member of many organizations, including the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers. He was a Fellow of the SMPTE, the IEEE, the Photographic Society of America, and the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain.

Books, Booklets, Brochures

The Television and Audio Handbook provides basic data needed to maintain, troubleshoot, and service today's state-of-the-art systems. The book was designed as an on-the-job reference for service technicians, operators, and staff engineers. It explains the fundamental concepts of TV and audio circuit design performance and offers detailed information on the operation, maintenance, and testing of both systems and components. Full coverage is given to such topics as analog and digital systems, video and audio signal processing, and the design and operation of TV receivers. The 640-page book is available for \$39.95 and can be ordered through McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., 11 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011.

The Fiber Optics Handbook: For Engineers and Scientists is a comprehensive reference guide for today's systems, components, test methods, and applications. Under the direction of Frederick C. Alard, the fiber-optics manager in the electromagnetic systems department of the Naval Underwater Systems Center, 11 specialists have contributed material on their areas of expertise. They explain key aspects involved in the selection, specification, and application of fiber optics, from basic fiber properties through sys-

tems and test procedures to design parameters. Topics examined in the handbook include fiber-optic splices, connectors and couplers, and fiber-optic cables. The 560-page book is available for \$69.50 and can be ordered through McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., 11 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011.

The 1990 Television & Cable Factbook Volume I is a reference tool that contains detailed information about every television station in the U.S., Canada, and foreign markets, including key personnel, addresses, and group ownership. Mini-directories of related professional associations, industry consultants and specialties, regulatory agencies, attorneys, market and audience research organizations, and pertinent Congressional committees are also included. Volume II, which covers cable and services, will be available in June. The two volumes, which run 200 to 300 pages each, are available at a complete cost of \$345 through Warren Publishing Inc., 2115 Ward Crt. N.W., Washington, DC 20037.

The 1990 IC Master references, cross-references, and organizes product information on 80,000 standard ICs, including 14,000 new ICs. Volume I provides a function guide to ICs grouped by basic

category. Volume II is a standalone edition that contains over 1,000 new and updated manufacturer's data pages, and Volume III is a complete systems-level edition that offers a guide to custom/semicustom ICs including gate array and cell-based ASICs. Volume III also contains a new section that is devoted entirely to programmable logic devices. The three-volume set costs \$145 and can be ordered through Hearst Business Communications, 645 Stewart Ave., Garden City, NY 11530.

The Handbook of Statistical Methods for Engineers and Scientists is a practical guide to understanding and applying data. It examines the entire spectrum of statistical methods — from the fundamentals to such advanced topics as nonlinear regression, multivariate procedures, and Taguchi methods. The book also describes statistical process-control procedures for cutting design costs, warns of the misuse of statistical techniques, includes methods for optimizing product design, and offers guidelines on determining the design parameters for new products. The 720-page handbook is available for \$76.50 and can be ordered through McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., 11 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011.