



John L. Goodell

Longtime SMPTE member and important mainstay of the San Francisco Section, John L. Goodell, has died at the age of 68. For four decades as a Section manager, webmaster, and support resource, SMPTE benefitted from Goodell's generous use of his time to organize and run local Section meetings, as well as assist in the organization of national conferences held in San Francisco. For years, every San Francisco Section monthly meeting notice depended on Goodell's knowledge and application of data processing, printing, and, later, web design. At Section meetings requiring extensive audiovisual and test gear, Section members could always count on his well-stocked van and seemingly unlimited technical knowledge to provide the needed solutions.

The California native's 50-year engineering career mirrored the development of Silicon Valley. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, his work for NASA's Flight Simulation Laboratory at Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California, included integrating personal computers into mainframe systems and networks and developing a visual apparatus for NASA's flight-simulation systems.

Goodell then moved to Logical Services, Inc., in Santa Clara, where his work covered a number of technologies,

including the development of one of the first laparoscopic TV cameras, along with medical data and video recording and some of the earliest digital video effects.

In 1972, Goodell founded Goodell and Associates, working in the allied fields of television, video recording, signal processing, and computer systems, including hardware and software design and product integration and analyses of patents. A holder of numerous patents, Goodell also designed and operated video projection and sound reinforcement for events in large arenas across the U.S. In addition to his extensive SMPTE involvement, Goodell was a member of the Audio Engineering Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

Throughout his life, Goodell's talent and generosity with his time have helped hundreds of people. His many friends and colleagues will miss not only his astonishingly wide range of technical knowledge but also his sense of service, his consistently cheerful demeanor, and his wonderful sense of humor.



— Peter Hammar
(Life Fellow and former San Francisco Section Chairman and Western Region Governor)



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