

Robert J. Gilmartin and Ross Lowell

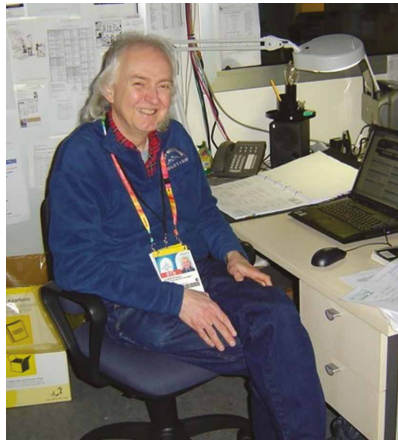
Robert J. Gilmartin

On 26 January 2019, the New York Section lost a friend and former Section Manager, Robert J. (Bob) Gilmartin, to pancreatic cancer. Gilmartin had more than 40 years of professional experience in broadcast systems and broadcast architectural design, detailing, integration, consultancy, and operations. With more than 100 projects on his résumé, he was highly respected in the industry for his years of involvement with various systems and technological applications as well as his thorough understanding of broadcast facility infrastructure and focus on project management.

Gilmartin's professional television background included more than ten years with Broadcast Integration Services (BIS), seven years with The Systems Group, ten years with AF Associates/Ascent Media, and 12 years with the CBS Television Network.

Gilmartin served as the director of engineering for the CBS Olympics and Communications project manager for the NBC Olympics; collectively, he was a veteran of more than ten Summer and Winter Olympic Games. Over the past several years, Gilmartin had consulted on several high-profile projects and was recipient of five Technical Emmy Awards for several of these high-profile projects.

In addition to his accomplishments in broadcast engineering, Gilmartin held BSEE, MSEE, and engineering degrees in electrical engineering/computer science and was pursuing his final thesis for a PhD. Gilmartin was also a



licensed commercial HVAC design engineer and motion picture projectionist and held five specialized certifications and licenses in these fields including North American Technical Excellence (NATE) certification. Additionally, Gilmartin held General Radiotelephone and Amateur Extra Radio Licenses. Gilmartin was a New York State licensed professional engineer (P.E.) and a LEED accredited professional (LEED AP). Professional society involvement included full membership in SMPTE, where he had served as the manager for the New York Section, as well as a member of the Audio Engineering Society. Gilmartin was also an accomplished musician, performing on pedal steel guitar with his Hudson Valley-based band Quick Draugh for many years. He was also a keen tube enthusiast (antique radios, amplifiers, etc.).

—Glenn Govier
AMC Networks

Ross Lowell

Ross Lowell, founder of Lowel-Light Manufacturing and a recipient of the SMPTE 1987 John Grierson

International Gold Medal Award, died on 10 January. He was 92 years old.

Lowell was born in New York City in 1926. He attended the University of California at Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. He served in the Navy, where he became a photographer. During his career, Lowell was involved in designing lighting equipment, directing and shooting films, and writing a script for a feature film. As a cameraman, he pioneered the symbolic-focus-shift and intermittently obscured-image techniques, which he used in documentaries he filmed, such as *Faulkner's Mississippi* and *My Childhood*. Lowell received numerous awards for his documentaries, including The Peabody Award, Emmy Awards, Golden Eagles, a European Forum on Forward Looking Activities (EFFLA) Blue Ribbon, several Academy Award nominations, and an Academy Award. The film *Oh Brother, My Brother*, which Lowell wrote, directed, and shot, won seven awards and an academy award nomination. Lowell designed a number of lightweight, versatile, and efficient lighting systems, including a portable soft light and sun reflector, the Totalight and Omni-Light Systems, and other light-control and mounting devices. He was granted more than 25 patents for his inventions. Lowell received multiple awards during his career, including a Technical Academy Award Certificate for the development of his Lowel-Light system and a Lightfair Technical Innovation Award.

Lowell is survived by his wife, four children, and ten grandchildren, as well as a sister and two nieces. 