

IN MEMORIAM



Arthur C. Davis

ARTHUR C. DAVIS, recording and motion picture studio console designer, who received the Audio Engineering Society's John H. Potts Memorial Award in 1962, was named a Fellow of the Society in 1955, and Fellow of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers in 1967, died on November 7 at the age of 62.

Mr. Davis was born in Salt Lake City on March 11, 1908 and spent most of his life in California. His motion picture background stemmed from a stint as stage manager at Paramount in the early Thirties. Although he did not have an extensive formal education, he nevertheless became a registered professional mechanical and electrical engineer. And his phrase, "I'm going to sit down and invent something," led to a series of highly innovative breakthroughs throughout his

important 40-year design career.

In 1938, Art founded Cinema-Engineering (later sold to Aero-Vox), where he developed ladderpots, "H" pads, "T" pads and variable and fixed attenuators in a number of forms. He bought into Langevin in the early Fifties, and then went to Altec Lansing to head up their audio control department.

Art was a co-inventor of Acoustavoicing and designer of the original Acoustavoice equalizer. His creative output included not only the design of innumerable products but the design and engineering of machinery for these products. Among them were graphic equalizers, program equalizers, filter sets, loudspeakers, straight line attenuators, gain sets, and the first mechanical film loudspeaker system. He was also highly instrumental in the development of audio console electronics.

During his last six years at Altec, Art trained and advised young engineers, in addition to designing, developing and producing Altec's entire audio console production line.

A true professional who refused to compromise simply to achieve larger commercial production, Mr. Davis was also an exceptionally kind and thoughtful friend to many in and out of the field. He was highly regarded by his younger associates as a unique and gifted man.

Memorial services for Arthur Davis were held on November 11 at Baggott's Chapel of the Bells in Anaheim, California. He is survived by his wife Virginia and four children: Andrew G. Davis of Buena Park; Leonard Davis of Newport Beach; Mrs. Sharon Wright, who lives in Maryland; and Mrs. Melody Palmer of Costa Mesa.
