

IN MEMORIAM

Kazuo Iwama, president and chief operating officer of Sony Corporation, died at a hospital in Tokyo 1982 August 24. He was 63 years old.

Iwama graduated from the geophysics department of Tokyo Imperial University in 1942. He worked for the Earthquake Research Institute of the same university in 1945 and in June 1946, joined Sony (then Tokyo Telecommunications Engineering Corporation). Together with Masaru Ibuka, the founder of Sony Corporation and present honorary chairman, Iwama was responsible for the growth of Sony as an electronics leader.

In 1953, Iwama headed a special task force to study the development and production of transistors for use at radio frequencies. His efforts in this area led to the production of Japan's first transistorized television receiver in 1960. He performed an important role in technological leadership of the company—primarily in the field of semiconductors.

His contributions also included the development of Sony as an international corporation. In May 1971, he was appointed president and chief executive officer of Sony Corporation of America and began promoting Sony's global marketing strategy from the standpoint of production, while taking charge of marketing in America. Sony is a sustaining member of the AES.

Iwama played a key role in working out plans by which Sony became the first Japanese electronic company to build a color TV manufacturing plant in the United States.

Upon returning to Tokyo in June 1973, Iwama was appointed deputy president. In January 1976, he was named president and chief operating officer. In 1979, he received the medal of honor with blue ribbon from His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan. This award cited his leadership in electronics manufacturing, which contributed to the enhancement of management efficiency and the level of technology in that industry. It also recognized his outstanding leadership in various related organizations.

A memorial service was held in Tokyo on September 4.



K. Iwama

Charles Webber, owner of Charles Webber Productions in Santa Ana, CA, died May 3, at the age of 66. A former radio announcer and engineer, Webber designed the original sound system for the Anaheim Stadium and for the University of California, Los Angeles Pauley Pavilion, the Forum in Inglewood and the Fine Arts Building at the University of California at Irvine.

Born in 1916 in North Dakota, Webber was a long-time resident of North Minneapolis before moving to Santa Ana in 1960. In the 60s he set up the sound system for the Beatles concert in Los Angeles and handled sound for other major acts as well as for appearances of U.S. Presidents and presidential candidates.

A retired lieutenant colonel, Webber was active in several flying clubs and a past president of the oldest flying club in Minnesota. He wrote a newspaper column for the *North Hennepin Post* in Minnesota, and assisted in the development of a secondary airport system in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

A member of the Audio Engineering Society, Webber was also a life member of Dixieland Jazz Inc. of California.