

In Memoriam

Ainslie Davis, AES member, died 1986 May in Denver, Colorado. He founded Davis Audio-Visual Inc. in Denver in 1948.

From its small beginning in his basement, Davis's company gradually and steadily prospered under his leadership into a multimillion dollar business headquartered in Denver and with additional offices in Colorado Springs, Salt Lake City, and Wichita, Kansas. It became one of the leading audio-visual companies in the region.

Those close to him report that his work was also a source of pleasure to him. Working with a variety of technical audio-visual machines, threading up a quarter-inch tape, running it at 15 in/s, and transferring the sound to other tapes were all done with a precision only a professional like himself could appreciate. Whether in his office or in his basement, Davis kept pace with the world of audio-visual technology and the selling of its products not so much as work but more as a love of serving the needs of others.

The world of technology paid tribute to him in 1956 when the National Audio-Visual Association elected him president. In 1981 he was again honored with the association's Distinguished Service Award (the first such award ever presented to one of its members).

Davis also loved to explore unknown parts of the world. This interest took him to the jungles of South America where he was part of the Matto Grosso Expedition in Brazil—not just as a traveler but as a recording engineer. He captured each trip on film and with slides and audio tapes.

•

Chester Gordon Simmons, retired director of engineering with Plough Broadcasting, died of heart failure in Tennessee 1986 February.

Simmons, an AES member, recorded more than 60 hours of tapes including speeches of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, Hitler, and Mussolini. He worked for more than 40 years for WMPS, a Plough-owned radio station, before his retirement in 1976.