Arthur Charles Haddy died in December 1989 at the age of 83.

He was born and educated in Newbury, Berkshire, England. Inspired by his science teacher, he developed an early interest in electronics and related fields. After having served an apprenticeship and gaining technical experience, he joined the Crystalate Company, which was ultimately taken over by The Decca Record Company. It is with Decca that he spent most of his working career and where he made his greatest technical contributions. He was in charge of the Decca Recording Studios for over 40 years, first as chief recording engineer and later as the technical director of the Decca Record Co. Ltd.

Just before the outbreak of World War II, Haddy was engaged in developing the disk cutter, which was intended to extend the frequency range of sound that could be recorded on wax disks. The outbreak of the war would have stopped any further work on this project, had it not been for a request from the armed services for extended frequency range sound recordings for training and intelligence purposes. In spite of his great achievements and high standing within Decca and the music industry in general, Haddy never lost his wonderful ability to communicate freely with people from all walks of life, boosting their ego and cheerfulness in the process. He always insisted that his success depended as much on those who worked with or for him as on himself. Even towards the end of his life, he had not lost that insatiable curiosity that opened his mind to new ideas and the pursuit of knowledge. His startling inquiry, “Trouble Boy?” generally led to a speedy recognition of the wood in spite of the trees. He was a sympathetic listener and trustworthy advisor, highly conscious of the needs of others, compassionate to those in trouble, and tolerant of eccentrics. He loved life, enjoyed the company of others, and possessed that sense of warm humor that endeared him to all who were privileged to know him. He will always be remembered with affection as a technical innovator, a guiding light to his engineers, but, above all, as “The Grand Old Man.”

Gerd Nathan

Donald Aldous, veteran British audio journalist and AES member died on March 26, 1990 following a short illness. He was 76 years of age. On March 10 Donald was rushed into the intensive care unit of a hospital for treatment of an embolism. After a brief improvement, he suddenly relapsed.

Donald leaves quite an empty place on the audio scene, about which he has written for over 50 years. His style was to commentate and not to criticize. Because of this quality, he never made an enemy, but instead leaves behind a large group of friends who will always cherish his memory. He is survived by his second wife, Joyce, who lives in Plymouth, Devon.

Raymond E. Cooke O.B.E.