

## In Memoriam

After several years of consulting and part-time writing, during which he developed the Stereo IV four-channel system with inventor Jon Fixler, Feldman started writing and consulting on a full-time basis. He was fond of telling how Avery Fisher

had encouraged him to write, and he seemed bemused to find that he wrote easily and well about topics that often mystified others. Over the years, he became something of a Dutch Uncle to a generation of younger audio engineers and writers, easily and freely

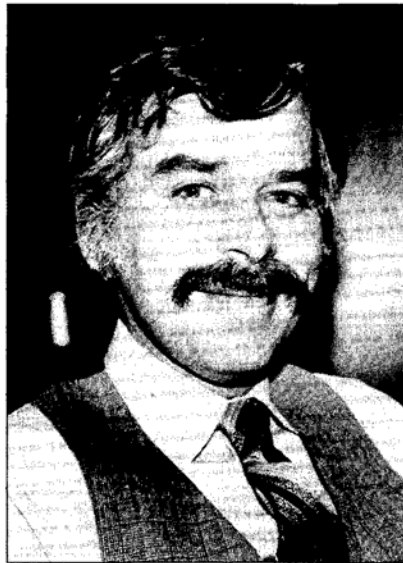
giving of his time and knowledge.

On a personal note, I've been told that he was proud to be associated with *Audio* magazine; I was even more proud of the association.

Eugene Pitts  
Editor, *Audio Magazine*

**T**he audio industry lost one of its true Golden Ears and finest critics and writers January 7, 1994 when **Ralph W. Hodges** passed away from cancer. He was 50 years old. Ralph joined the industry in 1969 when he became associate technical editor of *Stereo Review*. He remained with the magazine for ten years and was named technical editor in 1977. After a few years at Dolby Labs in San Francisco, he turned to freelance writing and reviewing and in 1984 became a regular *Stereo Review* contributor with his monthly column, "The High End." His final contribution was completed shortly before his death.

Ralph was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and was educated at several



Ralph W. Hodges 1943-1994

West Hartford private schools. He went on to graduate with the 1965 class of Columbia University. Hit wit, style, and penchant for debating obscure points of audio reproduction were well known among his peers and his kindness and generosity were legendary.

He is survived by his wife, Maria of Hoboken, New Jersey; his parents of Groton Long Point, Connecticut; a daughter Justine, a student at Brown University and a sister Pam Myers of Coral Gables, Florida.

Donations can be sent in Ralph's name to the AES Scholarship Fund, 60 East 42nd St., New York, NY 10165.

Jim Horstman