

# In Memoriam



Herbert T. Chaudiere  
1929-2000

**H**erbert T. Chaudiere, one of America's pioneers in the field of acoustics, died Saturday, September 9, just six days after his 71st birthday. The architectural and engineering community has lost one of its leaders.

Herb was one of the founding partners of Towne, Richards, Chaudiere, Inc. in 1965, and was vice president of Bruck Richards Chaudiere Inc./BRC Acoustics at the time of his death. After studying advanced radio technology at the RCA Institute, and pre-engineering and broadcasting at Columbia College in New York, he started his career in audio engineering with Commercial Radio and Sound Corporation, designing sound and communication systems, in 1953.

Two years later Chaudiere moved to Seattle to manage the Audio Department of Northwest Instrument Company, where he worked until joining Buzz Towne and Roy Richards in 1965.

Herb designed literally thousands of audio and sound systems during his career, including systems for the Boeing Museum of Flight, Washington State House and Senate Chambers, the Mount St. Helens Visitors

Center, as well as Safeco offices and THX/IMAX theaters throughout the United States.

One of the earliest members of the Audio Engineering Society and the National Council of Acoustical Consultants, Herb was an active contributor to his profession throughout his career. He was also a member of the current ASTM Committee on Environmental Acoustics.

A gifted innovator of sound systems and audio-visual technology, and a mainstay in the fields of architectural acoustics and environmental noise control, Herb left his mark on a profession that will miss his guidance and expertise.

Roger Andrews



Michael D. Patten  
1942-2000

**G**raham-Patten Systems sadly announced the passing of **Michael D. Patten**, the company's co-founder and electronics designer. He died on September 13, after suffering a stroke, at the age of 53.

The U.K.-born Patten held a B.Sc. from the University of Birmingham, where he graduated with a first class

honors degree. Patten then joined Standard Telecommunications Laboratories, the British research center of ITT, where he did extensive work on sophisticated digital communications systems. He assisted in the development of the first high-fidelity 12-bit audio digitizers and designed one of the first digitizers for PAL television signals.

Patten joined the Grass Valley Group in 1975 to pursue a career in digital television. He was a major contributor to the design of several of GVG's most successful video production switchers and digital video effects systems.

In 1980, he left GVG to join forces with the other two founders of Graham-Patten Systems where he was responsible for all of the early designs, including several custom systems for ABC-TV. He was the architect and principal design engineer for the company's ESAM and D/ESAM edit suite audio mixers. In 1991, The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences recognized him with an Emmy award for the D/ESAM product. Patten was extremely active with both the SMPTE and the AES as an active participant in their working groups.

Howard Mullinack, CEO and president of Graham-Patten Systems, said that "the extent of Mike's loss is incalculable. He was a brilliant engineer and a great friend; liked and admired by everyone with whom he came in contact. While the day-to-day operations of Graham Patten Systems will continue, unabated, this is indeed a very sorry day for all of us."

Patten is survived by his wife, Pamela, his mother, and sister.

Herb Schiff