

## Jean Walter Rémouit 1918–2011



Born 1918 Jean Rémouit lived to be 92 years of age. His wife, Madame Gilberte Rémouit, reported Jean's passing to Herman A. O. Wilms, the only AES contact she had available. Jean died of Alzheimer's disease, though in January 2010 telephone contacts there was no trace of lack of clarity.

Jean was among the early European AES members. He was a great advocate in furthering AES in Europe, suggesting to his many colleagues that they should become members.

Rémouit had a long active career with ORTF, Office de Radiodiffusion Télévision Française. As such he was well known among an extensive group of international audio engineers. So, when a chair for the AES 56th Convention in Paris was needed, Jean Rémouit was the logical choice of AES Europe pioneer and first European vice president, J. L. Ooms. This convention was the first European convention in which the hiring of external exhibition management services was required.

Local Parisian politics at the time led to unexpected complications in the planning for the convention. Two different fire brigades claimed authority over the exhibition halls of the Méridien, where the convention was held. Jean Rémouit was required to sign a strict contract that ensured that "the show could go on." On one day of the event firemen from one of the brigades lined the entrance to the exhibit hall to demonstrate their authority over the venue. Soon the brigades settled the quarrel, and the convention proceeded smoothly, to the relief of Rémouit. Don Plunkett, AES executive director, commended the way Jean Rémouit handled a difficult situation.

Rémouit retired from broadcasting around 1980 and moved from Paris to Toulon in southern France where he enjoyed growing grapes, almonds, and olives. He always kept in touch with his AES colleagues, Herman and Titia. He will be missed.

**Herman Wilms and Titia Bakker**