

Obituaries

Terry W. Denbrook 1944–2011



Terry Denbrook passed away October 23, 2011 at the age of 66. Terry was a cancer survivor but had suffered from complications due to its treatment. He never let those complications slow him down.

Terry's career in broadcast started at a young age. His radio life began at KTWR (now KMTT) in Tacoma in 1958 mentored by KTWR's founder Tom W. Read.

While a student at Tacoma's Wilson High School, Terry worked as a board op and engineer for KLAY-FM Tacoma for 4 years. Once in college as a student at Pacific Lutheran in Parkland WA, Terry became the program director and engineer for KPLU. He graduated from Pacific Lutheran University and attended Bates Technical College in Tacoma and the University of Oregon in Eugene. After five years at KPLU, Terry worked as a freelance engineer in radio and for Puget Sound Audio.

In spring of 1965, the father and son team of Loren F. Denbrook and Terry W. Denbrook founded a company called Denbrook Enterprises with the goal of starting the first FM-only commercial radio station in Spokane, Washington. KTWD went on the air in 1966 as Spokane's first stereo FM station. At the age of 21, Terry served as chief engineer and station manager and lived in an apartment right above the station whose call letters contained his initials.

In 1970, Denbrook Enterprises sold KTWD and Terry entered the world of television. He worked six months at KGVO-TV (now KECI, Missoula) as maintenance engineer, master control switcher, and one of the first ENG (electronic news gathering) operators in the country. He then spent two years at KREM-TV Spokane as a video tape operator and camera operator.

Terry came back to Tacoma to help with

his father's electronics company and to start his long association in broadcast services at the University of Washington. With Puget Sound Audio, Terry was frequently called to service tape recorders at KUOW radio in Seattle. It wasn't long before he was offered and accepted a half-time position at KUOW, at the same time he also took a part time job at KCTS Channel 9. It was Terry's intention to make his career in TV but, in the end, he decided to stay in radio. In 1976 Terry accepted a full time position as the chief engineer at KUOW, a position he held for 35 years. Over this time he helped guide KUOW into the 21st century by pioneering HD Radio multicast services and expanding its reach throughout western Washington. Terry's engineering expertise did not stop at KUOW as he often helped out those stations in need.

Ever passionate about broadcast, Terry helped form the local chapter of the Audio Engineering Society in 1978. He always looked forward to attending the AES conventions, PRC, and NAB each year to catch up and reconnect with vendors and other engineers.

Terry's interests extended far beyond engineering. His love for the Big Band Era pop music of the 1950s, and especially Broadway musicals was legendary.

He saw a musical every time he got the opportunity, whether it was in New York, Las Vegas, or Seattle. He provided inspiration and guidance for KUOW's program *The Swing Years* and over the years donated many musical works to *The Swing Years* library.

He is survived by his brother, Rob Denbrook, Rob's children and grandchildren along with his dear friend Janet "Tsunami" Barnes.

KUOW Ops Team

Miloslav Michal Kulhan 1923–2012

Miloslav Michal Kulhan—AES Life Member and the founder and a former chair of the Czech Section—passed away on January 11, 2012. With his departure the

Czech musical industry lost one of its most prominent sound engineers. His background in electrical engineering and his musical talents (he sang and played several musical instruments) made him choose a career with Gramofonové zavody, a recording company that used the label Supraphon. As a sound engineer he took part in the recording of the majority of the company's catalogue. Over the years he introduced new technologies (LP, stereo, quad, and digital technologies), being one of the foremost AES members in Central and Eastern Europe to implement new technologies. His recordings were distributed by labels such as Decca, Polydor, and HMV.

Among the numerous awards he received were Prix Edison de la Critique Hollandaise du Disque, Prix Caecilia de l'Union de la Presse Musicale Belge, and Grand Prix du Disque de l'Academia Charles Cross for Honegger's oratorio *Jeanne d'Arc*; Preis der Mozartgemeinde Wien and Golden Disc by Nippon Columbia for recordings he made with them on the newly introduced digital recording equipment. During his long career he worked with the Czech Philharmony conducted by Karel Ančerl, Václav Neumann, Václav Smetáček, Libor Pešek, or Libor Hlaváček from the Smetana quartet, and soloists Zuzana Ruzicková and Josef Suk.

He also helped to educate future generations of sound engineers. When he learned his final days were approaching, he recorded his last message to be played during the funeral ceremony: "My dear friends. Life is very beautiful. Do not rush to meet me."

Libor Husník

