

Charles Bilello, acoustical consultant and designer of Master Sound Astoria Studios, Astoria, New York, died as a result of a hit-and-run accident in West Hempstead on March 19. An AES member, he was 45 years of age.

Self-employed since 1977, Bilello worked as a research and design consultant specializing in electronic/acoustic product testing, design of critical listening environments including recording studios and high-end listening rooms, sound system engineering and installation, and system analysis/computer programming.

His other activities included teaching audio engineering and acoustic technology at the five Towns College on Long Island, instructional participation at Synergetic Audio Concepts seminars and technical consulting for RPG Diffusor Systems, which led to the publication of several articles for *Audio* magazine, *Sound & Communications*, the *Journal* of the Audio Engineering Society and the *Journal* of the Acoustical Society of America.

Charles was an avid proponent of TEF analysis. He possessed the 8th Techron TEF analyzer and became a beta software tester and programmer. He was a meticulous and persistent experimentalist, and he played an important role in documenting the performance of the RPG Diffusor System and optimizing residential listening rooms.

Well respected and liked by his professional peers, Charles was a trusted friend. The feelings of loss at his funeral mass were echoed by the parish priest who eulogized him.

Peter D'Antonio
RPG Diffusor Systems, Inc.

It is only now that the Society has learned of the passing in September 1988 of **Edwin A. Lipps** of Los Angeles, California. Born in 1922, in St. Louis, Missouri, and educated at L. A. Poly High School and L. A. City College, Eddie was probably best known to us old-timers as the manufacturer of the Olson Disk Cutting Head, considered in its time as the best non-feedback disk cutterhead, and the cutter which became the prototype for the later Fairchild 541. The



Edwin A. Lipps (1922-1988)

one-man company he founded, and which built the cutter, started in 1942. Its particular hallmark was the relative insensitivity to changes in temperature, which caused severe frequency response changes in previous such magnetic cutters.

After WWII he became a pioneer in the new field of magnetic recording when he was one of the earliest manufacturers of magnetic heads, a business which grew to some 50 employees, and which he still headed at his death. His company, Edwin A. Lipps Engineering, manufactures magnetic heads for the professional recording, film and broadcasting industries as well as sophisticated flying heads for computer disk drives.

Eddie's hobbies, which he pursued with professional ardor, included above all art, followed closely by astronomy, photography, stereoscopy, microscopy, calligraphy, and history. But this writer will always remember him for his consummate knowledge of magic. He was one of the few non-professionals to be admitted to membership in The Academy of Magical Arts on the basis of a magic performance. He loved nothing more than spending evenings (fortunately with the undersigned) at the Magic Castle in Hollywood. He had the enviable pleasure of living in a home, designed and built by the famed designer Charles Eames, in Pacific Palisades.

He is survived by his wife Peggy; and brothers Alan, Norman, and Bernie.

Our Society and the undersigned mourn a very unique all-round person whose horizons extended far beyond the limits of interest of our Society and who contributed so much in the

early, formative days of the magnetic recording medium. He will be joyously remembered.

Stephen F. Temmer

Konosuke Matsushita, founder of Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., died of pneumonia on April 27, 1989 at a hospital he had established in Osaka, Japan. He was 94 years of age.

Matsushita's life spanned two centuries. Born in 1894 in a village in Wakayama Prefecture near Osaka, he was orphaned early in life. He did not complete his education at Ono Primary School in Wakayama. He was an apprentice to local merchants and in 1910, in his early teens, worked for an Osaka power company. He studied at the Kansai Commercial and Industrial School.

In 1918, at age 24, he established Matsushita Electric Housewares Manufacturing Works with just two other men to make electric light sockets of his own design. Seventeen years later, the company was incorporated and named Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Osaka. He became president and in 1961 became chairman of the board. He stepped down in 1973 and took the position of executive advisor until his death.

Today the company manufactures and markets more than 14 000 consumer and industrial electronic products.

Matsushita believed an industrialist's mission was to manufacture an abundance of better products at lower cost thereby helping to raise the standard of living. His management style included motivating employees by giving them clear short-term and long-term targets and repeatedly reminding them of the company's philosophy. In the 30s the company was one of the first to establish a definite strategic plan. It covered 250 years in 25-year segments.

He was known as a man who personally inspired his employees. In addition to his business career, Matsushita wrote numerous books, which were published by PHP. A few have been translated into English such as *My Thoughts on Man*, *Reflections on Management*, *Reflections on Business and Japan at the Brink*.