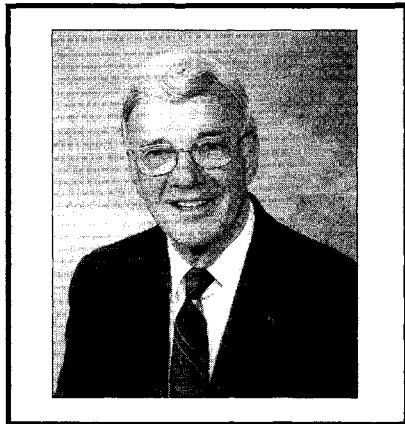


In Memoriam



Daniel W. Martin
1918-1999

Daniel W. Martin, life fellow of the AES, editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, and retired research director of the Baldwin Piano & Organ Company, died of lymphoma on January 7 at Mercy Anderson Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was 80 years old. Dr. Martin was internationally known for his contributions to the field of sound in research, development of new acoustical devices and systems, and for his professional activities in the Acoustical Society, which he had served as president.

A past president of the AES (1964-65), Martin was also national chairman of audio in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Locally he served as president of the Engineers and Scientists of Cincinnati and was selected as Cincinnati Engineer of the Year in 1971. He was a fellow of the IRE and the IEEE and a member of the National Council of Acoustical Consultants. He received an AES Award in 1969.

During his AES presidency Martin was faced with a crisis when C. J. LeBel, AES secretary, died in 1965. John D. Colvin finished LeBel's term and Martin had to move the AES office from LeBel's office to a new

location. The Lincoln Building at 60 East 42nd Street in New York City was chosen.

Throughout his career of more than 50 years in acoustics, Martin's primary interest was in musical sound and musical instruments. He spent 35 years with Baldwin, where he rose to the position of director of engineering and research. Prior to that he spent eight years at Radio Corporation of America, where he developed microphones, headsets and communication systems, chiefly for the armed services. Martin's consultations in architectural acoustics began with motion picture theaters at RCA, continued on churches and auditoriums for Baldwin piano and organ installations, and included over 500 private consulting projects. A few of his notable local consultations were for Corbett Auditorium and the College Conservatory of Music for the University of Cincinnati, the Music and Drama Buildings at Miami University and the acoustical improvement of Christ Episcopal Church in downtown Cincinnati. Martin also was a consultant for a renovation and the organ installation at Cincinnati Music Hall.

Dr. Martin was a science graduate from Georgetown College in Kentucky in 1937 where his father was a physics professor. His doctorate in physics involved research on brass wind instruments at the University of Illinois (1941). As a part-time teacher, Martin taught mathematics for Purdue University Extension, and later was an adjunct associate professor in the music theory department at the University of Cincinnati.

An author of more than 30 research articles, Martin also received 25 patents, wrote the chapter on sound for the McGraw-Hill *Electronics Engineers' Handbook* and contributed articles to *Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians* and to the *Encyclope-*

dia of Science and Technology (McGraw-Hill).

Always an active church worker, Martin was a tenor staff soloist for 25 years, starting at the First Baptist Church in Indianapolis and finishing at Norwood Presbyterian Church. Later he served as national president of Presbyterian Men. An elder in the Mt. Washington Presbyterian Church, he also served the denomination as vice-chairman of the national Ministry Unit on Theology and Worship and an officer in the Presbyterian Association on Science, Technology and the Christian Faith.

Dr. Martin is survived by his wife, Martha, two daughters, a son, and eight grandchildren.

Ken Wahrenbrock, AES member, died on August 24, 1998, at the age of 79. In 1996 he had suffered a tragic accident, which resulted in severe spinal cord damage and paralysis. Although movement was extremely difficult and limited, he managed to set up and maintain a presence online, staying in contact with old friends in the audio community.

Ken was a remarkable man. Born in Pomona, CA in 1919, he was the son of a high school teacher (later a principal) and a minister's daughter. After high school, Ken attended two years of college at Fresno State and Visalia Jr. College before family finances forced him to drop out and go to work in the post office. He was drafted in 1942, served four years in the Signal Corps, and was discharged as a second lieutenant in 1946.

In 1942, less than a year into his military service, he had married Lillian Tripp, a friend from Fresno State who worked on the base where he was assigned. Not long after, she contracted tuberculosis, and, during

In Memoriam

the winter of 1945 while Ken was on duty in New Jersey, she died.

After the war, he married Arline Jones. They both became active in youth work in their church. Ken returned to the post office for several years, making the decision in 1949 to study for the ministry. He graduated from the College of the Pacific in 1951, and began working in the Methodist Church as minister of education. He received his M.Th. from USC and was ordained in 1957. From that time until he formally retired from the ministry in 1973, he served six churches in southern California. Ken's ministry was dedicated to serving the whole person: he was active in counseling, church camping activities, and sex education.

During his ministry, his Signal Corp background, coupled with a deep interest in radio from his childhood, led him to working with sound systems in his church and others in his community. It was this experience that ultimately prompted him to form Wahrenbrock Sound Associates in 1977 to do sound contracting.

A few months before, Ron Wickersham and Ed Long demonstrated their new Pressure Response Pickup (later called Pressure Recording Process). The demonstration used a special rig to hold Bruel & Kjaer precision measurement microphones very close to a floor surface to record in the pressure zone at the boundary. The scheme produced recordings of exciting clarity, but was unwieldy and expensive in its experimental version, and cried out for a more practical implementation.

Ken read about this, and of the miniature capsules Syn-Aud-Con was making available for experimentation. About three weeks later, he walked into the Los Angeles Syn-Aud-Con class with a practical method of mounting a miniature capsule at a specific distance above a surface and a means for adjusting its height so the distance could be optimized. By June, he had gone into production in his garage with family members as his first assemblers, selling finished Pressure Zone Microphones (PZMs) in the

form we now know them.

A natural and experienced communicator, Ken promoted the new microphones with a newsletter and application notes. His advice was based on experience. He took the microphones into the field to record and reinforce anything and everything, from high school plays and assemblies to symphony orchestras and city council meetings.

Soon, he was on the road with Don and Carolyn Davis, demonstrating PZM's, teaching the basics of audio, building demonstration rigs, and meeting the people who would be his new flock. Because Ken never really left the ministry – he simply took on a different one. Many of us met Ken during those years and found him a good and steadfast friend whose friendship lasted a lifetime.

Ken was an active participant in life. According to his wife Arline, "He was soon involved in the leadership of any organization he joined." A member of the ASA in addition to AES, he was active in the latter's Los Angeles Section. He co-authored two AES papers on PZMs with David Andrews in 1980. Ken especially enjoyed his consulting sessions with Frank Zappa, preparing for his London Symphony Orchestra concert and recording.

By 1987, Ken had retired from audio and begun an active period filled with volunteer work and community service activities. They ranged from ham radio emergency communications (he held Advanced class KF6NC from 1971) to developing ways to get children involved in another of his hobbies, N-gauge model railroading. A train show module he developed to do that won an award, months after his 77th birthday. He bicycled 5000 miles a year well into his 70s, with a traditional 100 mile ride on each birthday and 84 miles on his 77th. He found time to officiate at the weddings of friends, and was the minister at the memorial service for his friend Richard Heyser, where he delivered a moving tribute.

Jim Brown
Chicago, IL