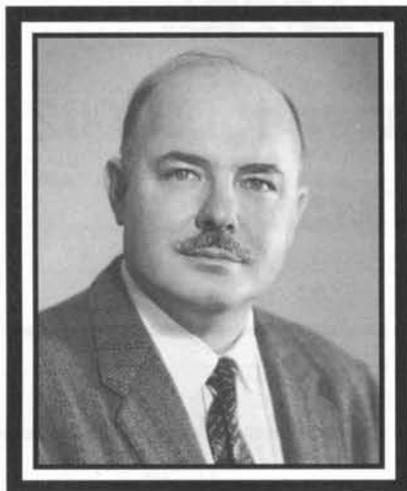


# In Memoriam

**W**alter O. Stanton, AES fellow, died on April 16 in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. He was 86 years of age. Stanton was known for his invention of a slide-in phonograph stylus, which made it possible for users to replace the needle when it wore out. In the late 1940s the invention was one of the basics in phonograph cartridge design.

Born in Ohio, Stanton graduated from Wayne State University's School of Electrical Engineering in 1939. He set up a student radio station while there. During World War II he was involved in designing and creating mechanisms for aerospace applications.

In 1950 Stanton bought Pickering and Company, the audio component manufacturer that first sold his patented stylus. He founded Stanton Magnetics ten years later. It was one of the first American companies to manu-



Walter O. Stanton  
1915-2001

facture and sell magnetic cartridges that improved sound quality. In the 70s it allowed for a less expensive product. Stanton separated the electronics, turntable and cartridges, which the consumer could purchase

individually. He encouraged major manufacturers to develop standards for the mounting systems for cartridges and the type of recording on vinyl records. He ran both of his companies until he retired in 1998.

In the late 60s Stanton set up five rooms at the New York National Design Center to show how music could be integrated into home décor.

A former president of the AES, Stanton was inducted into the Audio Hall of Fame. He received a Citation from the AES in 1961. He was also instrumental in founding the Institute of High Fidelity.

In the late 90s he created a new business in the compact disc era, selling headphones and loudspeakers after the disc jockey market increased the need for his cartridges.

Stanton is survived by his wife Mary; three daughters, Sharon, Diana, and Pamela; six grandchildren, and four great grandchildren.