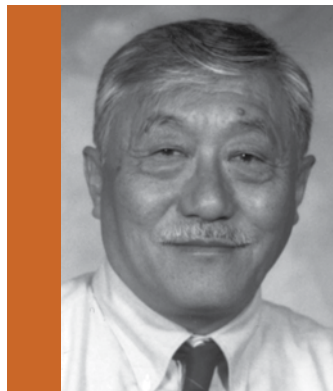


## In Memoriam



## Bill Yen

### 1935-2008

**Ed. Note:** The following is excerpted from the Preface, written by Uwe Happek, to the ECS Transactions issue from the "Physics and Chemistry of Luminescence Materials, W. M. Yen Memorial Symposium," which will be held at the ECS meeting in Vienna.

This proceedings volume is dedicated to **BILL YEN**, an eminent scholar in the field of solid state spectroscopy and an ECS Fellow, who passed away on January 17, 2008. We remember Bill as a flamboyant character who enjoyed life, a life in which research was the main part. He always started a lecture with a joke, and everybody who met him will remember his stories (those who regard him as politically incorrect are wrong: Bill was politically unconcerned). Flamboyant is also the proper attribute to Bill's scientific work: always on the lookout for new avenues, novel experimental techniques, and challenging problems.

William M. Yen, was born in Nanjing, China, on April 5, 1935, and grew up in Mexico City where his father was a diplomat with the Chinese government. In 1947 the family moved back to China, only to leave mainland China for Taiwan in 1948. At age 16 Bill moved to Redlands, California where he finished high school.

Bill received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Redlands in 1956 and his PhD from Washington University-St. Louis in 1962. He joined Nobel Laureate Arthur Schawlow's group at Stanford University in 1961 for postdoctoral research. In 1965 he took a position on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1986 Dr. Yen was hired to fill the first Graham Perdue Chair of Physics position at the University of Georgia.

Bill published 280 research papers and supervised over 31 graduate students and numerous postdoctoral fellows, his awards include a Humboldt Senior Scientist award, a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, and Fulbright Senior Scholar award.

The articles in the proceedings volume give an (incomplete) overview of the areas in which Bill left his mark. Often, talks in a memorial session are reminiscent in nature. Here we take a different approach: we celebrate Bill's legacy by presenting the current state of the science, because Bill never looked back.

## David Linden

### 1923-2009

**DAVID LINDEN** of Little Silver, New Jersey, died September 15, 2009 at age 85 after a long illness. He was a consulting engineer and was associated with battery research, development, and engineering for over 60 years. He joined ECS in 1958. From 1942 to 1978 he was associated with the Power Sources Division,

U.S. Army Electronic R&D Command, Fort Monmouth, NJ, serving as Director of the Division for the last nine of those years. For the next 25 years, he was a consultant with Duracell Inc. During WWII he served in the U. S. Navy.

Mr. Linden served on and chaired many committees and advisory groups responsible for coordinating government-wide battery and fuel cell development and battery performance and safety standards. He received numerous professional awards for his contributions.

Mr. Linden was the editor of two editions of the *Handbook of Batteries* published by McGraw-Hill and co-edited the Third Edition (2001) with Thomas B. Reddy. This work is recognized as the authoritative reference work on battery technology and the Fourth Edition, which is in preparation, will be published as *Linden's Handbook of Batteries* and is being edited by Dr. Reddy. Mr. Linden was also the author of numerous papers and articles in reference books and professional journals.

In 1947, Mr. Linden organized, and chaired until 1978, the Power Sources Symposium, an international conference devoted to battery, fuel cell, and related technologies and sponsored by U.S. government agencies.

Mr. Linden received a BS degree in chemistry from the College of City of New York and an MS degree in chemistry from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. He was a member of the American Chemical Society.

## David Franklin Pickett, Jr.

### 1936-2009

**DAVID FRANKLIN PICKETT, JR.**, sprung from a humble birth on May 3, 1936, in Benjamin, Texas, to become a *bon vivant* and the toast of Corpus Christi, Texas. He was the son of the late David F. Pickett, Sr. and the late Dorothy "Dottie" Britton Pickett. After heroic service with the U.S. Navy (1956 to 1961), Dr. Pickett enrolled in an undergraduate program at the University of Texas in Austin. He Upon completion of his education, he began his working career at Wright -Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. He worked in the Air Force Aero Propulsion Laboratory and received the S.D. Heron Award for Exceptional Scientific Achievement in the Advancement of Aerospace Battery Technology in 1974. For several years, Dr. Pickett was listed in the "Who's Who in America."

Dr. Pickett was an internationally recognized independent consultant (AAAA Energy Enterprises Inc.) specializing in aerospace rechargeable batteries. While a scientist with the USAF at WPAFB, he invented the alcohol electrochemical impregnation process for the manufacture of nickel plated for rechargeable alkaline batteries (US Patent 3,827,911 - 1974). He joined Hughes S&CG in 1978 in order to integrate that technology into the recently developed Hughes Ni-H<sub>2</sub> battery product. At Hughes, he became manager of the battery product area and was responsible for the establishment of the cell and battery manufacturing facility in Torrance, CA. While at Hughes, he participated in the development of the electric race car, the Sun Race, which won the race across Australia. After leaving HSC, he entered into a consulting career working with Eagle-Picher Technologies, Colorado Springs, and several other national and international battery developers and users.

In May, Dr. Pickett was invited by NASA to witness the space shuttle Atlantis' STS-125 mission to repair the Hubble Space

Telescope. During his 30-year career, his patents contributed to the development and successful launch of several satellite and shuttle batteries in the U.S. space program.

Dr. Pickett joined ECS in 1973, and was also a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the Texas Exes. Further contributions included teaching scientific-related coursework at UCLA. He is survived by his wife, B. Christine Pickett, her family, and many nieces and nephews.

## *In Memoriam*

**W. VES CHILDS** (1935-2009), Industrial Electrochemistry & Electrochemical Engineering Division, member since 1984.

**EDWIN SABIN** (1949-2009), Electronics and Photonics Division, member since 1984.