



The

Broadcasters' Desktop Resource

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... edited by Barry Mishkind – the Eclectic Engineer

Bernard Wise

1926 - 2013

Bernie Wise, a well-known transmitter designer and manufacturer for six decades, passed away on Friday, December 13th. He was 87.



Bernie Wise

June 1, 1926 – December 13, 2013

Wise was born in Philadelphia on June 1, 1926, the son of Morris and Hannah Wise. After studying at Drexel University and University of Pennsylvania, where he received his Master's Degree as an electronics engineer, he served in the US Navy during World War II.

After the war, Wise worked at RCA, where he helped design transmitters including the first UHF-TV transmitter RCA made. During this time, he also assisted the FCC allocation of UHF TV frequencies.

Leaving RCA in the early 1960s, Wise began his own manufacturing company, ITA (Industrial Transmitter and Amplifiers), providing the early FM transmitters for Collins Radio Company. Then in 1962, he founded CCA Electronics Corporation, Inc. in Gloucester City, New Jersey. Among the products introduced at CCA was the Grounded Grid FM transmitter. Wise left CCA in 1974.

In 1978, he founded Energy-Onix in Valatie, NY. From there flowed AM, FM, SW, and STL transmitters and related products to countries all around the world. In 1992, Mario Cuomo presented Wise with the New York Governor's Award as the top exporter in the state. He was also very active with the Idea Bank, a group of business owners who shared information and ideas.

Throughout his life, Wise was a "hands-on" engineer who designed and supported his gear. Many engineers were surprised to learn the "Tech Support" guy was the company's owner. An outspoken man, he loved to talk about radio and his products, sharing his knowledge and experience. He was an engaging conversationalist. You never had to guess what his opinion was regarding any technology or approach.

Wise is survived by his sister Natalie, son Jack (Mary) Wise, three grandchildren and four great grandchildren. The funeral gathering and service is planned for January 25, 2014.

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