



Obituary: James V. Fitzgerald

Jim Fitzgerald, past chair of the ICC, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 of complications after heart surgery. Jim is survived by his wife and family, who will receive friends on Monday February 23 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM and from 6:30PM to 9:00PM at the T.J. McGowan Sons Funeral Home, 71 Central Hwy, Garnerville, NY 10923 (Phone: 845-429-6665).

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated for Jim on Tuesday, Feb. 24th, at 10:00AM at St. Gregory Barbarigo Roman Catholic Church, 29 Cinder Rd., Garnerville, NY 10923.

Jim graduated from Manhattan College located in Riverdale, NY in 1970 with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering. He was a student member of IEEE from 1969 -1970, moving to Member grade in June 1970. He worked as a Standards Engineer for Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) in Washington DC for three years before joining Phelps Dodge Cable and Wire Company in 1973 as an Application Engineer with responsibilities for medium voltage paper cable and high voltage pipe type cable systems. Starting in 1981, he was employed by the Okonite Company in Ramsey, NJ in their Application Engineering department where he eventually became Vice President-Application Engineering with responsibility for internal Company standards, sales and customer technical support. He was also a member of UL's Standards Technical committee, AREMA's committee 38 for railroad cable constructions and of the NEC Code Panel 7 representing NEMA.

On October 25, 2010, Jim received the ICC Distinguished Service Award Citation. According to the ICC Historical Minutes, his first ICC meeting attendance was at the Spring 1975 meeting where he attended what was then known as Subcommittees No. 3 (Cable Characteristics), No. 5 (Insulations) and No. 7 (Cable Supply Systems). After moving to the Okonite Company, he attended seven (7) ICC meetings between 1988 and 1992, again participating in Subcommittees 3, 5 and 7. From 1995 thru the Fall 2011 meeting, Jim did not miss an ICC meeting, attending a total of 34 consecutive meetings and 41 meetings since his first attendance in 1975, spanning 37 years. Jim made numerous presentations at WG and DG meetings and in the Educational Subcommittee over the years, supporting the ICC's objectives of education in the wire and cable industry. He served as Chair of DG 6-3 (Guide for Selecting & Testing Jackets for Underground

Cables) and Vice-chair of DG 9-32 (Guide to Cable jackets) from 1997 - 1998. He was appointed and served as ICC Vice-Chair Treasurer Elect in 2003, ICC Vice-Chair for 2004/2005, ICC Chair 2006/2007 and served an extended period as ICC Past Chair from 2008 - 2011. Jim supported the ICC by helping with printing of ICC meeting materials (ICC Agenda, Technical Programs, etc., etc.), shipping these materials and equipment, and remaining as custodian of the ICC presentations computer and LCD projectors between meetings while he was Past Chair. He also provided general support to the new ICC officers, passing along his understanding of the duties and responsibilities and providing guidance to meet new challenges. His contributions to ICC and its functioning will always be remembered and appreciated.