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Remembering MAE Professor Emeritus Edward Vendell | College of Engineering

04/14/2016

April 13, 2016 — Faculty, students and staff members at USU's College of Engineering shared their sympathies in learning of the passing of Mechanical Engineering Professor Emeritus Dr. Edward Vendell. Dr. Vendell died Saturday April 9. He was 83.



A celebration of life will be held Thursday April 14, at 11:00 a.m., at the Ogden First Presbyterian Church, 880-28th Street, Ogden, Utah. Family will meet friends one hour prior to the services.

Donations can be sent to "Dr. Edward Vendell Memorial Fund", USU College of Engineering, 4100 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322. ATTN: Val Potter.

Interment at: Leavitt's Aultorest Memorial Park at a later date.

Please send condolences to the family at: www.leavittsmortuary.com

In 1997, former USU president George H. Emert awarded Vendell a plaque with this inscription:

"Edward W. Vendell has been a member of the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering faculty for the past thirty six years. He came to Utah State University in 1960, having earned an M.S. degree from the University of Utah.

He left the University in 1964 to work towards his PhD at Oklahoma State University and returned in 1967. He has been a major influence in the department, carrying heavy teaching and research responsibilities in the thermal and fluid science disciplines. During these years he has earned many accolades while mentoring and advising hundreds of students.

These students and their research projects are among the highlights of his career. Ed is an accomplished mathematician with great command of the differential, the integral, the transform, and the matrix. He is a guru of computational technology. Pushing the limits of the newest software on the market, he has mastered a dizzyingly long list of computer codes and software.

He is the computational wizard of the department from whom students and faculty alike seek wisdom. Even after his retirement, students and faculty continue to seek his advice. During the years of the energy crisis, he made significant contributions in the area of plasma dynamics, associated with magneto-hydro-dynamic (MHD) energy conversion.

Over the years, Ed has worked on many different Space Dynamics Laboratory programs where he demonstrated his modeling and computational expertise on SETS, SPAS, SPIRIT, SPIRIT 11, and CIRRIS. The CIRRIS program was a monumental effort where he provided the thermal analysis and directed the monstrous thermal testing activities required for a shuttle flight.

Requiring a decade of effort before being flown on the shuttle, CIRRIS was immensely successful. This success was in no small measure due to Dr. Vendell's helium cooling system. The Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering is proud to call Dr. Edward Vendell one of their own and extends sincere appreciation for his years of dedication and service."