Ira M. Kay succumbs


A specialist in the Simscript language, Kay was active in the field of simulation for many years, most recently as general manager of Southern Simulation Service, Inc., Tampa, Florida. Among the large simulations he designed as a consultant were a computer-controlled automatic warehouse for the Ford Motor Company, an airline terminal operation for Control Data Corporation, an inventory model for Green Giant Company, and a stacker crane/conveyor system for General Electric Company.

Prior to forming SSSI, Kay was an officer in the US Air Force, from which he retired in 1965. While in the service he was a key member of the group which provided the progressive automation of the world's largest logistics system, from manual records through punched-card accounting to the greatest battery of computers in use today.

After organizing the Annual Simulation Symposium in 1968, Kay continued to guide its progress, serving on the Board of Directors until his retirement in 1978. In 1977 he succeeded in ensuring the symposium’s future by distributing organizational responsibility throughout the simulation community and gaining formal recognition and support from ACM, SCS, and the IEEE Computer Society. A member of all three organizations, Kay was a frequent contributor to periodicals and professional meetings. He served as guest editor of the April 1977 Computer, which dealt with simulation.

Free subscriptions offered to Testing Techniques

Software Research Associates has announced the availability of free subscriptions to its quarterly newsletter, Testing Techniques. The newsletter is devoted to the technology of software quality assurance and addresses methods that enhance the effectiveness and quality of computer software of all kinds.

Request subscriptions on company letterhead from Software Research Associates, PO Box 2432, San Francisco, CA 94126; (415) 957-1441.

World Computer Graphics Association formed

The World Computer Graphics Association, a federation of national associations, held its first Board of Directors' meeting January 7 in Washington, DC. According to Caby C. Smith, president, WCGA will provide an international forum for computer graphics users, managers, consultants, vendors, and researchers by fostering the creation of national computer graphics associations. Smith, who is an associate chief scientist with the National Park Service, also heads the US National Computer Graphics Association formed in mid-1979.

WCGA has already initiated contacts with interested parties in Australia, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, the Scandinavian nations, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, Smith said, and joint conferences are being organized for 1981.

For additional information write or call World Computer Graphics Association, Inc., 2033 M Street NW, Suite 333, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 466-2170.

Errata

The dates for COMPSAC 81, the IEEE Computer Society's Fifth International Computer Software and Applications Conference, have been changed since their listing in the Calendar and Call for Papers sections of the February issue of Computer. The correct dates are tutorials, November 16-17; conference, November 18-20, 1981.