

EMC Community Loses an Icon



Clayton Paul passed away on June 27, 2012 at the age of 70. He was a great mentor for many of those in our industry, and will be sorely missed. His passion was to educate young electrical engineers, and he was always willing to take the time to explain and discuss a technical subject with those new to the industry.

Clayton was not only an educator but also a prolific writer, having written 19 textbooks, and published over 200 technical papers. I was honored to have been able to co-author, with Clayton and Bob German, the award winning* paper “Effect of an Image Plane on Printed Circuit Board Radiation.”

Dr. Clayton R. Paul (1942-2012)

I just finished reviewing his latest book, “Transmission Lines in Digital Systems for EMC Practitioners” (Wiley, 2012) for the IEEE EMC Society Magazine. The review will be published in the upcoming spring issue. I believe that this book, his last, is one of his best.

Clayton was both a very dear personal friend and colleague of mine for over 30 years. I fondly remember our many technical discussions and debates, especially those on the subject of partial inductance. I know that I am a better person for having known him.

The true measure of a man’s life is not the material things that he acquires, but rather the legacy that he leaves. By this criterion, Clayton was a giant among men. His big smile and cheery attitude will be missed from future EMC Symposia, but the legacy that he leaves will always be with us.

God bless you Clayton, we will all miss you dearly.

Henry W. Ott
Henry Ott Consultants

* The 1990 IEEE International Symposium on EMC best paper award winner.