

M. Stanley Helm

M. Stanley earned his bachelor's (1933) and master's (1934) degrees in electrical engineering at the University of Illinois. In 1934, Helm returned to his hometown, Decatur, and worked for Illinois Power and Midstate Electric Company. Three years later, he embarked on a new career path—first at Clemson University (1937–38) and then at Illinois—that fulfilled his calling to the teaching profession. For the next six decades, Helm inspired several generations of electrical engineering students, who remembered his warm personality and high standards.

Helm's rigorous, yet enthusiastic, instruction helped thousands of students through Circuits and Synchronous Machines & Transformers classes. He co-authored a textbook, "Circuit Analysis by Laboratory Methods," that provided a critical link between classroom lecture and hands-on experimentation while also addressing proper data-recording techniques and technical writing. Helm received the professional degree in EE in 1950.

As a researcher, Helm made significant contributions to the field now known as power quality. Although he retired in 1982, Helm continued to make valuable contributions to the ECE Alumni Association Advisory Board, which he served on for 15 years. He also remained active in the university's Power Affiliates Program.

An inspired and caring teacher, Helm won numerous awards, including the College of Engineering Everitt Award for Teaching Excellence, the University of Illinois Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the Marcia Peterman ECE Alumni Award, and the U of I Alumni Association Loyalty Award. In 1997, he was elected IEEE Fellow for his contributions to the electric power industry and engineering education.

Helm had at least two things that he loved nearly as much as power engineering: baseball and railroad trains. He developed a great love for trains through his father who was a dispatcher in Decatur. He was known to ride the Wabash Bluebird 1002 on occasions. Helm wanted to play baseball for the U of I, but the engineering curriculum was too demanding. He did continue to play semi-pro baseball in the summer when he was a student at the U of I.

Helm and his wife Maxine were married 67 years at the time of his death. Their two children, Alice and Nate, also survive.

Celebration Invitation

You are respectfully invited to a celebration honoring the life and career of Professor Stan Helm, who passed away January 23, 2003, at the age of 91. Alumni, faculty, friends, colleagues, and family will gather to pay tribute to a man who dedicated more than 65 years of his life to the power engineering field and the University of Illinois Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering.

Friday, April 4, 2003

6:00 p.m. reception, Grainger Engineering Library

7:00 p.m. dinner, Grainger Engineering Library

8:00 p.m. talking about Stan

More Information

Please RSVP to Emma Marshall at (217) 333-5817 or send e-mail to marshall@ece.uiuc.edu by March 30, 2003.

Alternately, you can RSVP online at www.ece.uiuc.edu/helm-celebration



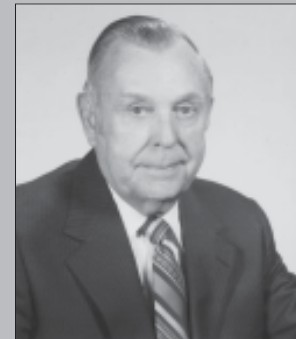
<http://www.ece.uiuc.edu/helm-celebration>

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MEMORIAL CELEBRATION

of the life and career of

M. Stanley Helm
Professor Emeritus



Friday, April 4, 2003

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

1911-2003