Wilkinson Building will also house three Medicine and Arts & Sciences, the Engineering Entrepreneurship, a Center to the Engineering campaign, will fund the Wilkinson Companies, and Beverly Wilkinson have been volunteers and donors to Duke’s Pratt School of engineering graduate and founder of the Wilkinson Companies, and Beverly Wilkinson have been volunteers and donors to Duke’s Pratt School of.

Located at the nexus of Engineering, the Wilkinson Building and its naming, visit pratt.duke.edu/about/news/dnks-new-engineering-building-named-honor-wilkinson-family. A past chair of the Pratt School of Engineering Board of Visitors, Jerry Wilkinson received the Duke Engineering

Distinguished Service Award in 1997 and the Duke Alumni Association’s Charles A. Duke Award in 2012. He and Beverly Wilkinson have a long history of philanthropy to Duke, establishing the Beverly A. and Jerry C. Wilkinson Scholarship, Myrtle Coker Wilkinson Scholarship, and Wilkinson Family Fellowship, as well as naming the Jerry C. Wilkinson E’67 Laboratory and The Robert Gordon Wilkinson Center for Engineering Management. The Wilkinsons have three daughters, all Duke alumnae, and eight grandchildren. They split their time between Atlanta, Georgia and Amelia Island, Florida. Heath Wilkinson DeGuire ‘98, Hayley Wilkinson Bramer ‘00, Bev Wilkinson P’98, P’00, P’03; Jerry Wilkinson E’06, E’07, P’06; and boy Wilkinson E’03.

As a mechanical engineer, entrepreneur, teacher and mentor to young women, O’Toole is a powerful advocate for innovative women and proudly demonstrates the qualities of Kate Gleason, who joined ASME as its first female member in 1918. Since her graduation from Duke, O’Toole received her MS and PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She serves as executive director of HeartLab, where she evaluates and invests in women-led startups in media, data and technology. O’Toole was an active ASME student member while an undergraduate at Duke University, receiving the Outstanding Member at the Regional Student Conference in 2000 and ASME academic scholarships for her excellence as an engineering student in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

2010s

Andrew G. Mang E’12, a GCSP Scholar and 2012 Duke graduate with a degree in mechanical engineering and economics, and Rachel E. Lau E’20, a Duke CEE graduate and GCSP scholar who is passionate about disaster response and using engineering to improve social well being, were instrumental in launching a call-to-action by the National Academy of Engineering in April 2020 looking for solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic. With its Call to Action, the NAE — the most prestigious engineering organization in the country — seeks to create a “virtual incubator of ideas,” where a diverse range of engineers can come together to brainstorm ways that engineering could be used to propose and provide solutions to problems that have arisen due to this pandemic. For more information, visit www.nae.edu/230398/National Academy of Engineering-Announces-Engineering-Call-to-Action-on-COVID19.

Mena Del E’15 is using data to identify unsafe drinking water.

Alison E. Bergmann X’18 was awarded the Society of Women Engineers New Emerging Leader in Technology and Engineering Award this year. There were 15 people in the 40,000-member SWE organization that have received this honor.

In 1986, he became chair of MEMS from 1986-1994. Robert M. “Bob” Hochmuth served as an expert in fluid mechanics, heat transfer and thermodynamics, his legacy of scholarship and service are strong and lasting. He is remembered as an outstanding chair, scholar, teacher and wonderful colleague, who had a special sense for identifying, recruiting and supporting talented colleagues.

Hochmuth had a unique career path in the Pratt School of Engineering. Initially he joined the faculty as a professor of biomedical engineering in 1978, where he applied the principles of thermodynamics, and solid and fluid mechanics, to biological problems. He and his colleagues characterized and measured the elastic, viscous and adhesive properties of human red cells and white cells, especially neutrophils. His final work before he retired focused on stretching the individual microvilli that exist on the surface of neutrophils, on extracting receptors from the cell’s membrane, and on measuring the forces of attachment between individual receptors and their antibodies. The continuous funding of his work over the past two decades by the National Institutes of Health is a testament to its value and impact. In 1986, he became chair of MEMS, which, as he noted in
contributes to the 1980s tab of the MEMS history web page at mems.duke.edu/about/history, was full-circle for him, because all his engineering degrees were in mechanical engineering. He also shared there his positive experiences with fellow staff and faculty.

James Kaiser, who served as a visiting professor in Duke ECE for many years, died Thursday, February 13, 2020, following a brief hospitalization. Kaiser was survived by his wife of 65 years, Margot; his children (June, Nan, David, Linda); grandchildren and his brother, Dale. He was preceded in death by his brother John.

Kaiser was born in 1929 in Piqua, Ohio. He attended the University of Cincinnati, where he earned his electrical engineering degree in 1952 and was a brother of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He then pursued graduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), earning both his SM and ScD. Kaiser met his future wife while at MIT, where they married and began raising their family. After graduation, they moved to Summit, New Jersey, where Kaiser began his engineering research work at Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill. Kaiser’s early work at Bell Labs focused on improving speech signal processing systems and developing filter design algorithms. He authored several key papers on digital signal processing in the 1960s, presenting the idea of the lo- sinh window, which could be used both for digital signal processing and for improving the accuracy of certain types of analyzers. This window function later became com-

Paul Wang, professor emeritus of electrical and computer engineering, passed away on January 27, 2021. Wang served on the Duke faculty for nearly four decades. A native of Fujian Province, China and Tai-

In 2021, the IEEE Jack S. Kilby Signal Processing Award was named for James Kaiser, recognizing contributions to the IEEE community and the engineering profession. Kaiser earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees at M.I.T. in electrical engineering, and later joined the faculty at Duke in 1973. He was a key figure in the development of the Duke BME department, serving as its first chair from 1974 to 1984. Kaiser was instrumental in establishing the Duke Biomedical Engineering program, which has grown to become one of the largest in the country.

Duke Engineering Alumni


Walter P. Hardee, Jr. E’49, beloved patriarch, enthusiastic singer, fun-loving joker, husband and family man, died in August 2020 at the seasoned age of 95 at Springmoor Retirement Community, Raleigh, North Carolina. His spirit, easy nature and good humor will be missed by family, friends and acquaintances near and far who knew him well. Born in Durham in 1925 to Dr. Walter Person Hardee and Florence Rose Hardee, he was baby brother to older sisters Roberta and Margaret (both deceased) and nephew to a long list of Hardee uncles and aunts. Consigned some summers to his grandparents’ country homestead in Stern, the story goes, he wandered barefoot, helped with farm chores and snacked on the ever-present sweet potatoes from the warming oven. Walter graduated Durham High School playing church league basketball and drove his dad around town to make house calls. His college career was sidetracked by World War II, during which he attended West Point for one year and courted Ethel “Penny” Rotten of Bloomfield, New Jersey. With the war over, Walter, nicknamed “Moon” for his service haircut, matriculated to his hometown’s Duke University, married Penny in 1947, started a family, earned a degree in civil engineering and then went on to grad school at Columbia in New York City. First jobs took him to Buffalo (New York), Houston (Texas), Philadelphia (Pennsylvania) and Baltimore (Maryland) where, now a family of four boys (Philip, Chris, Eric and Jonathan), they settled at Three Streams in Cockeyeild, MD for 18 years. Additional moves for work took them to Hudson, Ohio and then back to Ruston, MD, where they settled in for a long period. With children fledged, there was now much travel to touch base with the growing family. In 2006, Moon and Penny looked for a retirement home near one of their children and moved south to Springmoor in Raleigh. A North Carolinaan at heart, with Duke blue running through his veins, Walter related his move to the Old North State and immediately got to work and play at Springmoor, chairing the maintenance committee, growing veggies in the community garden, singing in the chorus, visiting with new friends at meals, playing gin rummy, learning the idiosyncrasies of the putting green and polishing his croquet strategy. He didn’t like to lose and didn’t lose often, not even to the grandkids! He always enjoyed calls, visits, emails and the rare letters from his far-flung boys, their spouses and his grandchildren (Philip and Betty from Asheville, NC, Chris and Susan from W. Chesterfield (New Hampshire), Eric and Diane from Monroe (Washington), and Jan and Pam from Pittsboro (NC), who served as extraordinary frontine caretakers for 13 years. Big Daddy (as he liked to be called) had eight sparkling grandchildren spread even wider: Ry, Burlington (Vermont); Sarah, Sacramento (California); Jennifer, Sunnyvale (CA); April, Durham (NC); Duncan, Asheville (NC); Toren, New Orleans, (Louisiana); Caitlin, Berlin (Germany); and Cooper, Somerville (Massachusetts). He
Ted S. Levy E’63 passed away at age 82.


Edward “Towson” Moore G’63, P’95, after a short illness, beloved husband, father, brother, uncle, neighbor and friend, passed away peacefully in his sleep in the early morning hours of January 21, 2020, in Durham, North Carolina. In his final weeks, he was surrounded by his loving family and supported both near and far by an extensive network of friends and relatives. Towson had a heart of gold that few others in this world could match and was blessed to live an amazing life, full of wonder and love. Many times over the years, especially after the births of his grandchildren, he would stop and marvel at his many blessings in life, telling his family how incredibly lucky he was. Born February 26, 1937, in Wytheville, Virginia to Robert Brent Moore and Jane Oewel Moore, he was a Virginia farm boy at heart, but at a young age he developed a passion for electricity and was pre-deceased by Penny in 2015. He is survived by his wife, Linda; son, Alan (Patty); daughter, Jennifer; grandson, Nathaniel; and granddaughter, Violet. He is also survived by his great-grandchildren (Samuel, Will, and Uva) and granddaughter, Violet. He is also survived by his sister, Connie (Mick). Towson is survived by his son, Edwar...