In Memoriam Gordon MacGillie

Gordon Frank MacGillie died peacefully on the morning of November 5, 2015, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he had lived for several years. A native of northern California, he attended Humboldt State University and earned BSEE and MSEE degrees from Stanford University. He was an announcer and bookkeeper at Stanford student radio station KZSU, where he met his late wife, Barbara Beatrice MacGillie. He was a research fellow in electrical engineering at the California Institute of Technology and the University of Tübingen, Germany, in 1963-64. His career focused on analog and digital circuit design for telecommunications and computer systems at Granger Associates, Digital Telephone Systems, Harris Digital Telephone, EO Networks, and other firms. He was awarded patent number 4,688,212 with co-inventor Thomas Eames for a centralized image-responsive telephone time slot interchange system for Harris Corporation. Colleagues described him as a brilliant problem-solver despite his sometimes gruff demeanor. A proud gay man, Gordon was a committed atheist and lifelong supporter of progressive causes.

He is survived by his three children, Jean Gazis, of Brooklyn NY; Andrew MacGillie, of Rowbury Connecticut; and Jessica Lesko, of Pittsburgh, PA; and six grandchildren.