

Professor Ernest Michael Freeman

BSc (Eng), PhD, FIET, FEng., FRSA

King's Engineering: 1955-58.

Ernest (Ernie) Michael Freeman died on Friday, May 13th, 2022, in hospital in Merthyr Tydfil after a stroke in January 2022.

Ernie came to King's in 1955 to read Electrical Engineering. After taking a 1st class degree in 1958 he continued at King's as a tutorial student in 1958-59 and a lecturer after that until 1970. During this time, he carried out research for his PhD from 1958 – 64 and a Graduate Apprenticeship at AEI Rugby from 1960 – 65. In 1970 he took a Reader's post at Brighton Polytechnic, the new University of Brighton, where he remained until 1973. In 1973 he joined Imperial College London as Reader in the Electrical Engineering department, becoming Professor of Applied Electromagnetics in that department in 1981 until his retirement in 2005 and Emeritus Professor after that. In 2007 he became a Visiting Professor at the Wolfson Magnetics Centre, Cardiff University.

Ernie was also a Vice President of Infolytica responsible for the UK based European office. With the late Professor Silvester and Dr. David Lowther, he had co-founded Infolytica Ltd. (UK) and Infolytica Corporation (Canada) in 1978. He was also Director of 'Infologic Design Limited' from 1991 to 2017 and an Independent Consultant on Marine Electromagnetics from 1988.

The 180+ papers listed in his CV testify to his breadth of interest in solving field problems. The topics vary from algebraic analysis of machines, through CAD developments and applications, to the more esoteric topics such as the possibility of electromagnetic pre-cursors for seismic events. The running theme through all of his work has been the presentation of electromagnetic field solving techniques into more readily usable forms.

Professionally, he was much involved with the IEE (London), serving as Chairman of the Electromagnetics Group S8, and later as Chairman of the Science, Education and Technology Division of the IEE. He was a Fellow of the IEE from 1978.

In 1987, he was elected as Fellow of the UK Royal Academy of Engineering. He served, at one time or another, on most of the appropriate electromagnetics committees in the UK. In 1997, he co-chaired the Marelec'97 conference on electromagnetics in a marine environment and was a standing chairman for Marelec'99.

For further details, please see his "Who's Who" entry.

Keith Newton