

In Memoriam . . .

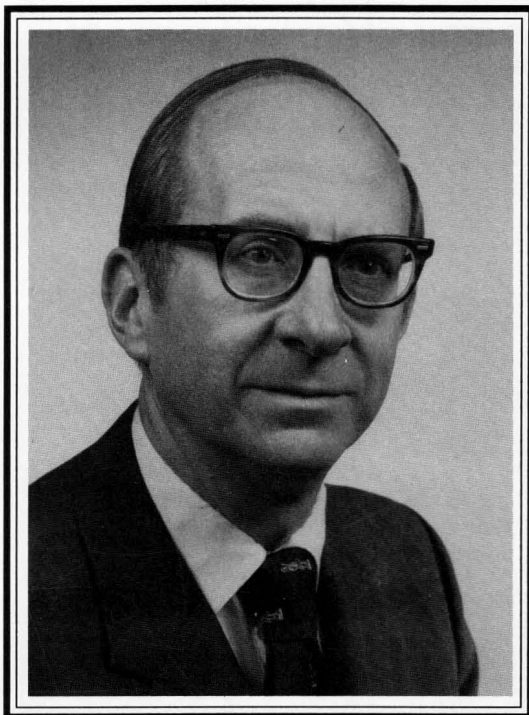
LEE C. EAGLETON

Lee C. Eagleton died abruptly on May 15, 1990, of heart failure after an inspiring five-year battle with multiple myeloma. He was born on July 27, 1923, in Vallejo, California, to a naval officer and his travel-loving spouse. Lee is survived by his wife of thirty-seven years, Mary, and by his three children, William, James and Elizabeth, and one grandchild.

Lee was educated in chemical engineering at MIT (BS and MS) and at Yale University (DEng). His professional career encompassed one year as Research Associate at Columbia, five years as Development Engineer with Rohm & Haas, fourteen years on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania, and fifteen years on the faculty of Penn State University (thirteen of them as Department Head). Lee's research activity during the first part of his career left its mark on the profession. In the second part, his leadership brought growth and recognition to chemical engineering at Penn State.

He was at his best, however, in the human interactions that comprise extra-curricular professional activities, almost all of which were related to the focus of his dedication, chemical engineering. He had held all of the offices in the Chemical Engineering Division of ASEE at one time or another and was completing his fifth year as Chair of the Publications Board when his cancer was diagnosed. Lee was active as well at all levels of AIChE, especially in Education and Accreditation, and from 1980 to 1983 he served as an elected Director to

the national organization. The local section recognized him with the Diamond Jubilee Award. At the national level he was an AIChE Fellow and received the Founder's Award. For his extraordinary service to the Chemical Engineering Division, he was named ASEE Fellow.



Lee's candor and wit, which served him and his colleagues so well throughout his professional career, continued during his extended illness. All who came into contact with him were immediately set at ease in the resulting conversations. He would observe casually that the familiar greeting, "How are you?" took on new meaning in his situation, and then he would go on to answer the question literally. Thus his friends and acquaintances understood clearly what he was experiencing, as well as the determination and humor that he

was bringing to this ultimate physical and intellectual challenge.

During the years of his illness, Lee and Mary traveled extensively to ASEE and AIChE meetings as well as overseas. With his indomitable spirit he was looking ahead, from his wheelchair, to trips to a family reunion in Illinois and to his vacation home on St. John. In fact, a few days after Lee's death, Mary received a call from a local photography store. The camera that Lee had ordered had come in.

It is little wonder that his colleagues and friends were inspired by his attitude during the last five years of his life and delighted and stimulated by his presence for a lifetime.