

Special Issue on Satellite Network Protocols

Dedicated to the Memory of William T. Brandon

Mr. William T. Brandon

September 14, 1935–November 13, 2005

William Thomas Brandon of Concord, MA, died suddenly Sunday November 13 while working on his home. Bill grew up in Charlotte, NC where he played basketball for Central High School. He lived continuously in Massachusetts for over 50 year. He enrolled at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1953. After graduating from MIT in 1957 with a BS in electrical engineering, and later a MSEE degree from Northeastern University, he began a distinguished career in the satellite communications field which included numerous awards and honors. He was most recently employed by Harris Corporation after working for the MITRE and Raytheon corporations for many years. Since 1966, his work was integral to several significant military satellite communications systems, including the Air Force Satellite Communications System (AFSATCOM), the Defense Satellite Communications System (DSCS), among others, and he served on several Department of Defense committees. His con-

tributions included the concept of the dual capability modem, and the first microprocessor based modem, an important component in the MILSTAR system. He is noted for his original contributions in design of proliferated, small satellite systems for survivability. He was the project manager for the Apollo Lunar Excursion Module power amplifier used to return live television from the lunar surface. Bill was a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), and served as chairman for the technical committee on communications. He was a member of the 1979 AIAA China delegation on applications satellites. He authored or co-authored over 60 technical papers and was Editor-in-Chief for *Space Communication, an International Journal* (IOS Press). He had recently returned from a trip to Italy where he had chaired sessions at an international conference.

Survivors include his wife Sally Brandon; five sons, William C. of Acton, Russell P. of Carrboro, NC, David of North Kingston, RI, Neill Brandon and Rob Brandon, both of Concord; eight grandchildren and a sister Florence Dee Allison of Virginia.