On 26 January 2019 we at SMPTE NY lost our friend and former Section Manager, Robert J. (Bob) Gilmartin, to pancreatic cancer. Bob had over 40 years of professional experience in Broadcast Systems and Broadcast Architectural Design, Detailing, Integration, Consultancy and Operations. With over 100 projects in his resume, he was highly respected in the industry for his years of involvement with the various systems and technological applications as well as his thorough understanding of Broadcast facility infrastructure and focus on project management.

Bob’s professional television background included over 10 years with Broadcast Integration Services (BIS), seven years with The Systems Group, ten years with AF Associates/Ascent Media, and 12 years with the CBS Television Network. Additional independent Design and Detailing Consulting also included project responsibilities with Time Warner and Charter Broadcast.

Bob served as the Director of Engineering for the CBS Olympics and Communications Project Manager for the NBC Olympics; collectively, he was a veteran of more than ten Summer and Winter Olympic Games. Over the past several years, Bob had consulted on several high-profile projects as a Senior Technical Consultant with specific expertise in Broadcast Architectural infrastructure design including Mechanical (HVAC), Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) and Acoustical design parameters. Bob was the recipient of five Technical Emmy Awards for several of these high-profile projects.

In addition to his accomplishments in Broadcast Engineering, Bob held BSEE, MSEE, and Engineer Degrees in Electrical Engineering / Computer Science and was pursuing his final thesis for Ph.D. Bob was also a licensed Commercial HVAC Design Engineer and Motion Picture Projectionist and held five specialized certifications and licenses in these fields including NATE certification. Additionally, Bob held General Radiotelephone and Amateur Extra Radio Licenses. Bob was a New York State licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) and a LEED Accredited Professional (LEED AP). Professional society involvement included full membership in SMPTE, where he had served as Manager for the New York Section, as well as a member of AES, and RSES. Bob was also an accomplished musician, performing on pedal steel guitar with his Hudson Valley based band Quick Draugh for many years. Additionally, he was a keen tube enthusiast (antique radios, amplifiers, etc.).

Bob’s funeral took place on Wednesday, 30 January 2019 at St. Patrick’s Church, Yorktown Heights NY with family, friends, and many of his colleagues from the Broadcast system integration industry in attendance. He was laid to rest at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hawthorne, NY. SMPTE NY would like to extend our most sincere condolences to Bob’s wife, Diane, as well as to his family and friends. An engineer’s engineer”, he will be missed by many. Those wishing to make a donation in his memory may do so to the Lustgarden Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research.