

Chief Engineer

Known to many colleagues and friends as Mac, **George Mackenzie's** BBC career began under the Youth-In-Training scheme in Edinburgh in 1941.

After a short period in Broadcasting House, London he served in the Royal Signals in India and China. In 1948 he returned to 200 Oxford Street, where he met his future wife, Joyce Gardner, who had worked in the Engineering Department during the war and stayed on after 1945. They married in 1950 and Joyce subsequently worked on the outside broadcast of the Coronation in 1952. Son Stuart was born at Hampton, Middlesex in 1954.

Later that year, George started lecturing at the Engineering Training Department at Wood Norton and in 1964 his book *Acoustics* was published by Focal Press. Daughter Judy was born in Evesham in 1957.

From 1969 to 1972, George was Head of Engineering, Northern Ireland, returning to London as Chief Engineer Regions. In 1978 he was elected a Fellow of the Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers and his career progressed through several engineering positions until he retired as Chief Engineer, Transmission in 1983.

George enjoyed his early retirement years in Devon where he filled his days with golf, bowls, bridge, Spanish classes, reading, opera and classical music and extensive travel. Nevertheless, he still found the time to complete three broadcast engineering missions in Africa for the United Nations.

After 10 years of wintering in Australia with Stuart and daughter-in-law Julia, George and Joyce emigrated to Vincentia, on the New South Wales south coast. Sadly, Joyce passed away in 1999, but George continued his active life there before moving to Bendigo, Victoria in 2010 to be closer to Stuart and Julia.

He continued to live an active and independent life. Until the age of 90, he travelled regularly overseas to Europe and to see Judy in the USA. In 2015, he made a final trip to Scotland to celebrate his 90th birthday with family.

George passed away after a short illness and leaves behind a multitude of business and personal friends around the world, as well as Stuart and Julia, Judy and son-in-law David.

Judy Mackenzie
