



The

# ***Broadcasters' Desktop Resource***

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... edited by Barry Mishkind – the Eclectic Engineer

## **Louis A. King**

**1915 – 2009**

The well-known and respected founder of Kintronic Labs, Louis Arthur King, passed away on Sunday morning, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at Bristol Wellmont in Bristol, TN. He was 94 years of age.

During his professional career spanning a period of 45 years, Louis King, PE, distinguished himself as an inventor, an educator, a broadcast consultant, and a corporate entrepreneur in the field of radio broadcast antenna systems.



**Louis King**

King was born Jan. 1, 1915 in Bristol, TN, the son of Arthur and Geneva King.

Following graduation with a BSEE from UT Knoxville in 1938 and MSEE from the University of Missouri in 1940, he taught electrical engineering at Clemson College in Greenville, South Carolina. There he developed the Radio Engineering curriculum, which later formed the foundation for the communications courses presently offered at what is now Clemson University.

In 1945 he was hired by the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) in Camden, NJ as a radio transmitter design engineer. During his time there, he received five U.S. Patents.

In 1949 he returned to Bristol at which time he obtained a PE license in TN and VA and set up operations in his father, Arthur's, office space on Shelby Street as a broadcast consulting engineer. In the early 50's, he started manufacturing radio broadcast equipment while continuing his consulting practice. The manufacturing business was later named Kintronic Laboratories and was incorporated in 1984.

Under the guiding vision of Mr. King, who gave credit to The Lord for his achievements, Kintronic Labs grew to be a world leader with products in over 100 countries. As a result of his many contributions to

radio broadcasting, Mr. King was recognized by the National Association of Broadcasters in 2007 as the recipient of the NAB Lifetime Radio Engineering Achievement Award. Later that same year, King College honored Mr. King with an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree at their first winter commencement.

In 2008 the National Religious Broadcasters presented Mr. King with their first Impact Award, recognizing Mr. King's behind-the-scenes support of Christian radio around the world.

Mr. King was a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church where he was an elder emeritus, and was a member of the Bristol Rotary Club for over 40 years.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth H. "Libby" King, on Dec. 1, 2004, following 60 wonderful years of marriage. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Katherine King Adamson.

Mr. King is survived by: his daughter, Marla King Black, and husband, William Black III, of Dandridge, TN, grandsons William "Scotty" Black IV of Dandridge, TN and Monty Black and his wife, Tyler, and great grandson, Mason of Alexandria, VA; his son, Tom F. King, and wife, Leigh M. King, and grandchildren, Ben of Memphis, TN, Katie of Birmingham, AL, Genny Lou of Wenham, MA, and Joshua of Bristol, TN; his daughter, Gwen B. King of Bristol, TN; his nieces Barbara Shaw of Bethesda, MD, Christine Bruce of Rydal, PA, and Claire Barrus of Cary, NC; and his brother-in-law, John A. Weichel, Sr. of Bradenton, FL.

A graveside service will be held Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at 2:00PM at Glenwood Cemetery. A memorial service in celebration of Mr. King's faithful service to the Lord Jesus Christ will be held on Saturday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00AM at First Presbyterian Church in Bristol, TN. Family and friends will be received in the church parlor 9:30-10:45AM. Honorary pallbearers are Frank Defriece, Jr.; Roy Williams; Eric Fields; Dr. Dan Cross; Stuart Atkinson; Ronald Rackley, PE; George Parks; and George King.

The family would like to express a very special appreciation to each of the care givers who very faithfully provided love and care to Mr. King during his final years with us. They are each a very special blessing.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that any memorials be submitted to First Presbyterian Church at 701 Florida Avenue, Bristol, TN 37620 for the current church facilities upgrade campaign or to the Bristol Historical Association, 308 Seventh Street, Bristol, TN 37620 for the restoration of the E. W. King House.

*Our sincere thanks to Tom King for his help in providing this information about his father.*

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