



The

Broadcasters' Desktop Resource

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... edited by Barry Mishkind – the Eclectic Engineer

Charlie Goodrich

Charles “Charlie” Goodrich passed away on Monday, July 30th, 2018. He was 76

Known throughout the industry for his repair/refurbishment services as Goodrich Enterprises Inc., Goodrich also had been Chief Engineer for KOIL Radio and for McMarten Industries in the late 60s and into the 70s.



Charles E. Goodrich
November 8, 1941 – July 30, 2018

Goodrich was born in Washington, MO on November 8, 1941, moving at a young age to Omaha, NE, which he considered his hometown.

A ham radio enthusiast (AJ0G), after his High School graduation in 1959 he went to work for KOIL Radio as a summer relief engineer. Staying on while attending University of Nebraska, where he earned his BSEE, eventually, he became Chief Engineer for the station. .

In 1966, after seven years as KOIL, Goodrich left for a job at Lockheed Missiles and Space Company in Sunnyvale, CA. Less than two years later, he returned to Omaha to work for McMarten Industries as the Manager of Customer Service,

Additionally, Goodrich designed and/or directed the manufacture of various products as McMarten moved more and more into supplying broadcast industry needs: transmitters, audio consoles, etc., everything from SCA receivers to 50 kW AM transmitters. Additionally, he did some work on the side to help local stations.

As the broadcast industry consolidated and manufacturers faded away, Goodrich worked hard for his clients to offer the parts and service they needed. When McMarten Industries began to fail in 1979, he put more time and effort into his side business, Goodrich Enterprises. When McMarten finally failed, he became the source for McMarten service and support – parts, service, and manuals. Over time he added parts and service for a number of products, becoming the “goto” guy for help with AEL, Bauer, CCA, Elcom, Gates, Omnitronix, and others.

Through it all, he was always ready to help walk callers through repairs and maintenance. Many engineers report how patient Goodrich was when helping the diagnose and repair problems. Typical of comments, Allen Sherrill mentioned what others have said as well, from around the country: *“Everybody in Omaha did business with Charlie at one time or another, and not just for McMartin products. He usually had caps, tubes, etc. available at a decent price, and I knew I could call on him if I needed parts in a pinch. At least once or twice he would leave parts for us in a box at the end of his driveway, so we could pick them up after hours.”*

Stephen Rutherford added: *“My first broadcast engineering job was [at] KOIL in Omaha ... I remember talking with Charlie many times of his experiences ... with warm fondness and the realization Charlie was very dedicated to his craft, vision of the industry, and willingness to share all his knowledge and experience with anyone that would ask any question.”*

Goodrich is survived by his wife, Cheryl.

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