

Benjamin Abrams (1893 – 1967)

Co-founder of Emerson Radio (1922), which developed a number of product firsts: radio-phonograph combination, clock radio, self-powered portable radio and the portable air conditioner. [\[2000\]](#)

David Abt (1905 – 1996)

Jewel Abt (1907 – 2003)

Husband and wife co-founded Abt's, Chicago's first CE retailer (1936) with \$800 loan, grew to be largest privately-owned CE retailer in U.S.; early online retail pioneers. [\[2008\]](#)

Robert Adler (1913 – 2007)

Zenith research engineer, invented the first practical wireless TV remote control, "The Space Commander" (1956), creating generations of couch potatoes. [\[2000\]](#)

Ernst F.W. Alexanderson (1878 – 1975)

Radio pioneer, produced stream of inventions with GE then RCA, including first AM radio transmitters, first trans-Atlantic wireless transmitter, radio tuning systems, and early TV; 322 patents. [\[2002\]](#)

Paul Allen (1953 – 2018)

Co-founded Microsoft (1975) with Bill Gates, instrumental in building company from start-up to dominating PC operating systems and office software supplier. [\[2007\]](#)

Colin Angle (1967 –)

Co-founded iRobot (1990) with two other members of MIT Artificial Intelligence Lab; created Roomba (2002), first robot vacuum cleaner, kick-starting home robot industry. [\[2019\]](#)

Edwin Armstrong (1890 – 1954)

Legendary RCA engineer, inventor of FM radio, super heterodyne and feedback circuit that raised sensitivity of radio receivers, and circuits that paved the way for satellite communications. [\[2000\]](#)

George Antheil (1900 – 1959)

Avant garde orchestra leader; during WWII with Hollywood star Hedy Lamarr (HoF 2014) co-invented frequency hopping, which evolved into spread spectrum. [\[2014\]](#)

Bernard "Bernie" Appel (1932 – 2017)

"Mr. Radio Shack," primary buyer for U.S.'s largest CE retail chain for 34 years, rising to company president; likely purchased more CE products than any other person in history. [\[2002\]](#)

Ralph Baer (1922 – 2014)

Invented Magnavox Odyssey Home Video Game System, first home video game system (1972), creating a billion-dollar industry; National Medal of Technology from President G.W. Bush (2006). [\[2011\]](#)

John Logie Baird (1888 – 1946)

Early television pioneer; developed first workable mechanical TV system (1925), declared early standard by the BBC; often considered the "real" inventor of television. [\[2000\]](#)

W.R.G. Baker (1892 – 1960)

GE VP, founding chairman of the NTSC, chairman of EIA's engineering committee (1934) and EIA's NTSC committee, presided over selection of black and white compatible NTSC color standard. [\[2002\]](#)

William Balderston (1896 – 1983)

President, chair of radio/TV maker Philco; pioneered development of car radio, led development and production of radar during WWII; awarded Certificate of Merit by President Truman (1947). [\[2000\]](#)

John Bardeen (1908 – 1991)

At Bell Labs, co-inventor with Walter Brattain (HoF 2000) of transistor (1947); shared 1956 Nobel Prize with Bardeen and William Shockley (HoF 2000), awarded again in 1972 for superconductivity. [\[2000\]](#)

James Michael "Jim" Barry (1946 – 2017)

CTA media spokesperson, "Digital Answer Man" (1995) for 22 years; editor, *Dealerscope* and Video magazines covering introductions of VCR, DVD and digital TV. [\[2019\]](#)

Jim Barton (1958 –)

Co-inventor, with Michael Ramsey (HoF 2013), of TiVo, first consumer digital video recorder (DVR) (1999). [\[2013\]](#)

Samar Basu (1943 –)

With Bell Labs, solved chemical problems to enable the development of rechargeable lithium-ion (LiON) battery technology in the late 1970s. [\[2013\]](#)

Alexander Graham Bell (1847 – 1922)

Inventor of the telephone (1876); patents for the metal detector, telegraph, photophone, phonograph, hydrofoils, a selenium cell; experimented with fax machines, early form of fiber optics. [\[2000\]](#)

Ivan Berger (1939 –)

Long-time A/V tester, reviewer, editor for many audio and technical magazines; co-technical editor of *Video Magazine*; co-founder with Lance Braithwaite (HoF 2011) of Berger-Braithwaite Labs. [\[2011\]](#)

Emile Berliner (1851 – 1929)

Inventor of the flat phonograph record (1887) and the Gramophone (1890), the first record player; co-founder Victor Talking Machines; invented microphone used in first Bell telephones. [\[2001\]](#)

Dr. Peter Bingham (1942 –)

Philips Labs president; partnered with Sarnoff Labs CEO Jim Carnes (HoF 2016) to make MPEG video compatibility high priority for final Grand Alliance ATSC HDTV system. [\[2016\]](#)

Donald Bitzer (1934 –)

Co-inventor, with Gene Slottow (HoF 2006) and Robert Willson (HoF 2006), of flat plasma display technology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1964). [\[2006\]](#)

Andre Blay (1937 – 2018)

“Father of Home Video”; founded Magnetic Video (1977), first company to sell Hollywood movies for viewing on home VCRs, creating billion-dollar home video industry. [\[2000\]](#)

Samuel Bloomberg (1951 –)

Founded and grew Boston-based Tweeter’s with \$10,000 investment and 1,000-square-foot space (1972) into largest high-end specialty retailer in the U.S. with peak of 150 stores nationwide. [\[2011\]](#)

Alan Dower Blumlein (1903 – 1942)

Invented “binaural audio output” – aka stereo – for EMI (1931); registered 128 patents, mostly in audio engineering, television and radar; led development of BBC TV standard. [\[2004\]](#)

Herbert Borchardt (1906 – 2000)

Transformed small phonograph stylus maker into accessory powerhouse Recoton in 1940s; created systems to allow retailers to expand profits via accessory add-ons. [\[2003\]](#)

Robert Borchardt (1938 – 2013)

After succeeding his father Herbert (HoF 2003), transformed Recoton into one of world’s largest accessory suppliers; created CEA Accessories Division, served on CEA Executive Board. [\[2015\]](#)

Amar Bose (1929 – 2013)

Founder of Bose (1964), one of world’s most recognizable audio brands; pioneering acoustics theoretician, MIT acoustics and electrical engineering professor and researcher. [\[2007\]](#)

William E. Boss Jr. (1922 – 2008)

“Mr. Color TV” at RCA, led color TV development and sales (1954-62); also executive at Motorola, Sylvania and Admiral; member of EIA and CEG Boards of Directors and EIA chair. [\[2002\]](#)

Willard Boyle (1924 – 2011)

At Bell Labs, with George Smith (HoF 2012) co-developed charged-coupled device (CCD), first digital imaging chip making digital photography possible; shared 2009 Physics Nobel Prize. [\[2012\]](#)

Lance Braithwaite (1936 –)

A/V equipment tester, reviewer, editor for multiple audio, technical magazines; co-technical editor of *Video Magazine*; co-founder with Ivan Berger (HoF 2011) of Berger-Braithwaite Labs. [\[2011\]](#)

Karlheinz Brandenburg (1954 –)

“Father of MP3”; led MP3 music compression development team at Germany’s Fraunhofer Institute in mid-1990s; granted 27 U.S. patents. [\[2007\]](#)

Walter Brattain (1902 – 1987)

At Bell Labs, co-inventor with John Bardeen (HoF 2000) of the transistor (1947), triggering electronics age; shared 1956 Nobel Prize in physics with Bardeen and William Shockley (HoF 2000). [\[2000\]](#)

Karl Ferdinand Braun (1850 – 1918)

Developed cathode ray tube (CRT) (1897) for use as viewing monitor for scientific instruments, later TV and PCs; shared 1909 physics Nobel Prize with Guglielmo Marconi (HoF 2000). [\[2000\]](#)

Henry Brief (1924 – 1998)

Served nearly 20 years as executive director of the Recording Industry of America RIAA (1960-1979), next 15 years as EVP of the International Tape Association (ITA).

[2004]

John Briesch (1949 –)

Sony exec; led effort to bring Compact Disc (CD) to market (1982); created, co-chaired the Compact Disc Industry Group; created “My First Sony” line (1986); led Sony to dominance in 1990s. [2018]

Robert Briskman (1932 –)

Pioneering satellite engineer; developed, co-founded Satellite CD Radio, aka Sirius XM (2002); designed, directed system construction from satellites to consumer receivers.

[2012]

Gary Burrell (1937 –)

Co-founder, with Dr. Min Kao (HoF 2013), of Garmin, which helped launch GPS phenomena; first GPS products deployed by U.S. armed forces in first Gulf War. [2013]

Nolan Bushnell (1943 –)

“Father of electronic entertainment,” video game pioneer; founder of Atari (1972); created coin-operated and home video “Pong” games; developed video games *Breakout* and *Asteroids*. [2000]

Tom Campbell (1939 –)

Retail executive, technologist and industry evangelist; helped multiple retailers grow, succeed and introduce multiple new technologies; technical advisor to several U.S. presidents receiving the Presidential Distinguished Service Award in 2001. [2015]

Dr. James E. “Jim” Carnes (1939 –)

Sarnoff Labs CEO; worked with Philips Labs, key contributor to HDTV Grand Alliance development of HDTV; led development of television CCD comb filter integrated circuit. [2016]

Vinton Gray “Vint” Cerf (1943 –)

Along with Bob Kahn, the pair led the development of TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol), the fundamental communications protocols that determine how data is packaged, addressed, transmitted, routed and

received over the Internet. [2020]

Henry Chiarelli (1954 –)

Long-time company, retail president, executive at Gibson, Ingram Micro (DBL Distributing), Cobra, Comp USA, RadioShack, Computer City; served on numerous CEA boards. [2019]

Dr. Leonardo Chiariglione (1943 –)

Co-founded, led MPEG (Motion Picture Experts Group), which developed MPEG-2, MPEG-1, which includes MP3 music compression standard, and MPEG-4. [2017]

Lauren Christopher (1959 –)

Managed team of engineers to create digital satellite receiver system for DirecTV in early 1990s. [2010]

John Cioffi (1956 –)

“Father of DSL”; Bell Labs, IBM, Stanford University engineer; led development of Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) (1993) used as internet connectivity by 75 percent of global internet homes. [2018]

Richard Citta (1944 –)

At Zenith, invented and led testing of VSB (Vestigial Side Band) and 8-VSB interference-free digital transmission systems standards used by all broadcasters and included in all HDTVs. [2012]

Joe Clayton (1949 – 2018)

Led intro of DirecTV; resurrected “His Master’s Voice” and Nipper for marketing/advertising at RCA; grew Sirius Satellite Radio to 10 million-plus subscribers as CEO and president. [2008]

Maurice Cohen (1915 – 1995)**Norman Cohen (1923 – 2008)****Philip Cohen (1918 – 2012)**

Brothers turned horse-and-buggy business into Lechmere, leading A/V and appliance retailer in New England for 20 years; operated 33 stores in five states at peak; helped establish NATM. [2009]

Robert A. “Bob” Cole (1948 –)

Founded and continues to run World Wide Stereo (1978), Philadelphia’s most successful independent A/V retailer; named ProSource 2018 dealer of the year. [2018]

Frank Conrad (1874 – 1941)

Referred to as “the father of radio broadcasting” for his role in launching KDKA in Pittsburgh, the first “commercial” radio station. He also designed the RA-DA, the first factory-produced mass market radio in 1920. [\[2020\]](#)

Carroll Wayne “C.W.” Conn, Jr. (1930 – 2004)

Grew father’s Texas-based Conn’s four-store/\$4 million appliance retail business into five dozen stores/nearly \$500 million regional chain (1975-93). [\[2014\]](#)

Martin “Marty” Cooper (1928 –)

“Father of the Cellphone”; at Motorola, conceived and, with engineer Don Linder (HoF 2008), led crash six-month development of the first cellphone (1972-73) and cellular network technology. [\[2008\]](#)

Sidney Cooper (1918 – 1976)

Parlayed \$600 investment into \$60 million in annual revenue after founding Philadelphia-based Silo chain (1950), one of the first national electronics superstore chains in the U.S. [\[2016\]](#)

Ken Crane (1918 – 2004)

“Grand old man of retailing,” founded, ran eponymous Southern California retailer for 50-plus years (1948); among first to embrace TV; created innovative online laserdisc/DVD video business. [\[2005\]](#)

Dr. Curtis “Curt” Crawford (1947 –)

As president of AT&T Microelectronics, led company effort as part of Grand Alliance to develop HDTV. [\[2016\]](#)

Powel Crosley Jr. (1886 – 1961)

Made and sold first low-priced radio, \$7 “Harko,” in early 1920s, bringing radio to the masses; by 1922, Cincinnati-based Crosley Radio was the world’s largest producer of radios. [\[2000\]](#)

William G. “Bill” Crutchfield Jr. (1942 –)

Founded and continues to run Charlottesville, VA-based Crutchfield’s catalog A/V retailer (1974); first CE retailer to launch e-commerce site (1995). [\[2007\]](#)

James Edward Day (1914 – 1996)

EIA special counsel, led defense in Sony v. Universal “Betamax” case to make home recording legal; served as President Kennedy’s postmaster general, implemented Zip Code system. [\[2007\]](#)

Lee de Forest (1873 – 1961)

“Father of Radio”; invented audion “triode” vacuum tube, first practical amplifier (1906), enabling development of radio, television, computers and hundreds of other electronic devices. [\[2000\]](#)

Richard Doherty (1952–2016)

Highly-respected, influential and oft-quoted engineering consultant and consumer electronics journalist with *EE Times*; founded The Envisioning Group engineering consultancy. [\[2018\]](#)

Ray Dolby (1933 – 2013)

Co-inventor of video recording at Ampex in early 1950s; inventor of eponymous noise reduction technology, and eponymous multi-channel cinema and home theater surround sound systems. [\[2000\]](#)

D. Joseph “Joe” Donahue (1926 – 2017)

From engineer to CEO during 40 years at RCA; invented “slurry process” TV tube production; oversaw TV on-screen interface development (1984); leading HDTV Grand Alliance figure. [\[2005\]](#)

Jack Doyle (1929 –)

Established and expanded Pioneer car audio business in U.S.; first and only American CEO and chairman of Pioneer Electronics of America, led company to \$500 million in annual sales. [\[2006\]](#)

Allen Balcom Dumont (1901 – 1965)

TV pioneer; perfected first practical CRTs and first all-electronic TV receivers for Dumont TV brand; founded DuMont TV network (1947), had first hit TV show, Milton Berle’s “Texaco Star Theater.” [\[2000\]](#)

Dean Dunlavey (1925 – 2003)

Attorney for Sony, successfully argued the “Betamax” case before the U.S. Supreme Court (1984), establishing the right for consumers to record broadcast TV programs. [\[2008\]](#)

Bjorn Dybdahl (1943 –)

Founded and continues to run one of the U.S.’s most innovative and successful A/V custom install retailers, Bjorn’s Audio Video (1975) in San Antonio; founding member of CEDIA. [\[2012\]](#)

Thomas Edison (1947 – 1931)

Most prolific inventor in history; 1,093 patents include incandescent light bulb, phonograph, storage battery, motion pictures, central power station and electrical distribution system; “Edison Effect” led to development of vacuum tube; co-founded General Electric. [\[2000\]](#)

Carl Eilers (1925 – 2008)

With Zenith, pioneered both FM stereo resulting in FCC adoption of Stereo FM Broadcast Standard (1961), and TV stereo via MTS multi-channel TV sound (1984). [\[2000\]](#)

Richard Ekstract (1931 –)

Entrepreneurial CE publishing executive; launched more than 20 business and consumer technology periodicals including *Audio Times*, *TWICE* and *Video Review* magazines. [\[2002\]](#)

Harry Elias (1930 – 2017)

35-plus years at JVC, from salesman to COO, one of few Americans to reach high executive status in a Japanese company; served on CEA Board of Directors and chair of Video Division. [\[2005\]](#)

Joel S. Engel (1936 –)

At AT&T with Richard Frenkiel (HoF 2004), developed AMPS, first working cellular network technology, solving cell-to-cell handoff; National Medal of Technology by President Clinton (1994). [\[2004\]](#)

Douglas “Doug” Engelbart (1925 – 2013)

Invented computer mouse (1963); created and demoed window-based point-and-click GUI, hypermedia, collaborative computing, multimedia at “Mother of All Demos” (1968). [\[2012\]](#)

Charlie Ergen (1953 –)

Founded, CEO EchoStar and DISH satellite TV service; helped secure passage of Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act (1999), allowing satellite broadcasters to carry local stations. [\[2012\]](#)

Peter M. Fannon (1948 –)

As president, he successfully organized and led the Advanced Television Test Center (ATTC), helping to develop HDTV, then served as Panasonic’s lead lobbyist in Washington, D.C. [\[2020\]](#)

Hans Fantel (1922 – 2006)

Influential CE journalist, champion of classical music, audiophile equipment; a founding editor of *Stereo*

Review (1958); A/V tech columnist for *The New York Times* (1961-1994). [\[2008\]](#)

Philo T. Farnsworth (1906 – 1971)

Invented all-electronic television; sketched out design as Idaho high school student, achieved image as 21-year-old (1927); fought David Sarnoff for TV patent priority the rest of his life. [\[2000\]](#)

Mike Fasulo (1957 –)

Served as president and COO of Sony Electronics, through the rise of the smartphone and leading the turnaround of Sony’s electronics business in North America, achieving record results. [\[2021\]](#)

Elizabeth Feinler (1931 –)

Director, Network Information Systems Center at Stanford Research Institute (1972-89), led ARPANET Network Information Center (NIC), which became the Internet. [\[2019\]](#)

Leonard Feldman (1928 – 1994)

Co-developed quadrophonic stereo (1970); ran Feldman Labs independent A/V testing company; covered audio for myriad consumer and trade magazines; authored seven books. [\[2003\]](#)

George Feldstein (1941 – 2014)

Founded Crestron home automation company (1974); first to conceive connected home with integrated system controls for A/V distribution, lighting, HVAC, home theater and video security. [\[2015\]](#)

Reginald Aubrey Fessenden (1866 – 1932)

Radio pioneer; first to wirelessly transmit sound (1900); patented “continuous wave” radio transmission alternator (1901); first two-way trans-Atlantic radiotelegraphic communication (1906). [\[2000\]](#)

George Fezell (1914 – 1989)

Implemented Magnavox’s innovative factory-direct model; member of EIA’s Board of Governors, chair of Consumer Division, instrumental in forming Consumer Electronics division, now CTA. [\[2005\]](#)

Larry Finley (1913 – 2000)

Founded International Tape Cartridge Corporation (ITCC) to exclusively license music on 8-track, and ITA (International Tape Association), now CDSA (Content Delivery & Security Association). [\[2012\]](#)

Avery Robert Fisher (1906 -1994)

Founded Fisher Radio; developed first transistorized amplifier, sold first stereo radio-phonograph combo, improved AM-FM stereo tuner design; produced "Rolls Royce" of home Hi-Fi equipment. [2000]

Walter Fisher (1919 – 1994)

President of Zenith, one of industry's top sales and marketing executives; chair of EIA Consumer Electronics Group (CEG), VP of EIA, member of EIA Board of Governors. [2002]

Joseph Flaherty (1930 – 2018)

"Father of HDTV"; CBS chief engineer, on FCC Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service (ACATS), chair of Planning Committee; two lifetime achievement engineering Emmys. [2009]

Sir John Ambrose Fleming (1849 – 1945)

Inventor of the first vacuum tube, the thermionic valve (1904), foundation for all electronic devices for next half century; designed transmitter for first Marconi wireless transmission (1901). [2000]

Frank Freimann (1904 – 1968)

Resurrected nearly bankrupt Magnavox and became its largest stockholder; became president (1950), creating influential selective distribution policy to combat widespread price-cutting. [2000]

Richard Frenkiel (1943 –)

At AT&T with Joel Engel (HoF 2004), developed AMPS, first operational cellular network technology, solving cell-to-cell handoff; National Medal of Technology by President Clinton (1994). [2004]

Rachelle Friedman (1950 –)**Joe Friedman (1945 –)**

Founded iconic New York City-based A/V retailer J&R Music World (1971); grew from 500-square-foot basement on Park Row to occupy entire block of storefronts across from City Hall Park. [2010]

Janus Friis (1976 –)

With Niklas Zennström (HoF 2018), co-founded peer-to-peer music sharing service Kaaza (2000), and Skype (2003), first and now largest internet-based phone- and video-calling service. [2018]

Paul Galvin (1895 – 1959)

Founded Motorola (1928) with brother Joseph; developed first car radio with William Lear (1934); led development and became leading seller of two-way portable "handie-talkie" radios. [2000]

Robert Galvin (1922 – 2011)

Turned Motorola from father's \$290 million maker of car- and two-way radios into globally dominant semiconductor and cellular phone giant with peak annual sales of \$10.8 billion. [2006]

Raymond "Ray" Gates (1920 –)

First American employee of Matsushita Electric Corp. of America (1959), first American president of Panasonic; over 25 years, grew from small product line to a multi-billion-dollar entity. [2002]

Dr. Heinz Gerhauser (1946 –)

Led joint research team to develop real-time music compression algorithm; member of MP3 development team led by Dr. Karlheinz Brandenburg (HoF 2007) at Fraunhofer Institute. [2007]

Hugo Gernsback (1884 – 1967)

Futurist, "Father of Magazine Science Fiction," early promoter of radio; pioneering radio/electronics hobbyist magazine publisher in 1920s; founded Wireless Association of America. [2001]

Robert "Bob" Gerson (1933 – 2019)

CE trade journalist, editor; encouraged Japanese manufacturers and U.S. importers to participate in first CES in 1967; writer/editor at *TV Digest* (1967-1985); founding editor of *TWICE* (1985-2000). [2004]

Levy Gerzberg (1945 –)

Founded Zoran, pioneer and leading supplier of System-on-a-Chip (SoC) devices for digital cameras, DVD players, Dolby Digital sound processors, HDTVs, HDTV converter STBs and color printers. [2014]

Ivan Getting (1912 – 2003)

VP for engineering and research at Raytheon, oversaw development of the first three-dimensional, time-difference-of-arrival position-finding system, foundational GPS technology. [2010]

Charles “Charlie” Ginsburg (1920 – 1992)

Led six-member team at Ampex, including teenaged Ray Dolby (HoF 2000), to develop first commercial video tape recorder (VTR) (1956), revolutionizing TV production and home entertainment. [\[2000\]](#)

Saul Gold (1933 –)

For 30 years executive director of NATM buying group, known as “The 40 Thieves,” for getting the lowest wholesale prices; largely responsible for making buying groups a respected force. [\[2005\]](#)

Peter Carl Goldmark (1906 –1977)

CBS Labs inventor and engineer, invented first color TV system (1940), and 33 RPM vinyl LP record standard (1948); awarded National Medal of Science by President Carter (1977). [\[2000\]](#)

Kathy Gornik (1947 –)

Co-founder, with Jim Thiel (HoF 2018) and president of Thiel Audio (1976), leading audiophile speaker brand; chair of CTA Executive Board, Audio Division and Small Business Council. [\[2018\]](#)

Gordon Gow (1919 – 1989)

President of McIntosh Laboratory, one of the earliest hi-fi component makers; with founder Frank McIntosh, co-designed the 50W-1, the first high-powered/low distortion audio amplifier. [\[2017\]](#)

Marcia Grand (1947 –)

Influential VP, publisher of *TWICE* magazine, consumer technology industry’s leading trade publication, from its founding in 1986; has attended every CES from inaugural show in 1967. [\[2017\]](#)

Manning “Manny” Greenberg (1927 – 2006)

Influential and respected consumer electronics trade journalist at *HFD* over 30-plus-year span, mentor to many current CE trade journalists; influenced elimination of the Chicago CES. [\[2013\]](#)

Henry Harold “Hine” Gregg (1911 – 1974)**Fansy Gregg (1917 – 2004)**

Founders of Indianapolis-based h.h. gregg A/V and appliance retailer (1955); grew from one small storefront into nearly 200-store national chain generating more than \$2 billion in sales. [\[2012\]](#)

Kazuo “Kaz” Hirai (1960 –)

He became president and CEO of Sony Corp. during a challenging time and with his “One Sony” strategy, turned the company into an innovation powerhouse across multiple product categories. [\[2020\]](#)

Andrew “Andy” Grove (1936 – 2016)

Co-founder of Intel with Gordon Moore (HoF 2006) and Robert Noyce (HoF 2000); named CEO (1987), largely credited with building Intel into PC market chip leader. [\[2006\]](#)

Jaap Haartsen (1963 –)

“Father of Bluetooth”; with Ericsson led development of, drove standardization for, and played key role to obtain worldwide regulatory approval of Bluetooth in mid-1990s. [\[2016\]](#)

Eli Harari (1945 –)

Co-founded and led SanDisk (1988); helped launch and lead flash memory revolution; company became global leader in flash memory cards with \$4.8 billion in revenue. [\[2011\]](#)

Sidney Harman (1920 – 2011)

Co-founder of Harman Kardon (1953); with partner Bernard Kardon developed first receiver; chair and CEO of Harman International; Undersecretary of Commerce in Carter administration. [\[2000\]](#)

Arlene Harris (1948 –)

“First Lady of Wireless”; founder of GreatCall and Jitterbug cellphone and service (2006), simplified cell service and hardware for seniors; first woman inducted into Wireless Hall of Fame. [\[2017\]](#)

Eddy Hartenstein (1950 –)

Founder, chair and CEO of DirecTV, first small dish DBS service in North America, now second-largest pay TV provider in the U.S.; led regulatory and technology shifts to ease market entry. [\[2008\]](#)

Karl Hassel (1896 -1975)

Co-founded Zenith with childhood friend Ralph Mathews as Chicago Radio Laboratory (CRL) (1919) in Mathews’ parents’ home to manufacture amateur radio equipment. [\[2009\]](#)

Vic Hayes (1941 –)

“Father of Wi-Fi”; at NCR, led decade-long (1985-1997) effort to sort through incompatible, competing wireless protocols and shepherd spectrum allocation issues to establish Wi-Fi standard. [\[2015\]](#)

George Heilmeier (1936 – 2014)

At RCA's David Sarnoff Research Center, led team to develop LCD technology for use in TV screens in the mid-1960s; VP at Texas Instruments (1977), helped invent DSP technology. [\[2006\]](#)

Ahti Heinla (1972 –)

Co-founder and co-creator of Kaaza peer-to-peer music service (2000), and Skype (2003), first and now largest internet-based phone- and video-calling service. [\[2018\]](#)

Heinrich Hertz (1857 – 1894)

Discovered and demonstrated production of radio waves (1888); experiments on electric waves triggered invention of wireless telegraph and radio. [\[2000\]](#)

William Hewlett (1913 – 2001)

With David Packard founded HP in Palo Alto garage with just \$538 (1939); developed first handheld calculators, plain paper inkjet printers; National Medal of Science by President Reagan (1983). [\[2005\]](#)

Ted Hoff (1937 –)

At Intel, proposed "computer on a chip," led design of Intel 4004 chip, world's first microprocessor (1971) to help make Intel world's leading designer, maker and seller of microprocessors. [\[2013\]](#)

Nicholas "Nick" Holonyak (1928 –)

At GE, invented light-emitting diode (LED) (1962), first used commercially in Hamilton Pulsar watch (1972); presented National Medal of Science by President George H.W. Bush (1990). [\[2006\]](#)

Stanley Hubbard (1933 –)

Chairman and CEO of Hubbard Broadcasting; one of first and most persistent proponents of direct broadcast satellite (DBS); formed United States Satellite Broadcasting (USSB) (1981). [\[2011\]](#)

Norm Hunt (1938 – 1986)

Co-founder of Magellan; developed GPS programming and software that became foundation for first consumer portable GPS device, Magellan GPS NAV 1000 (1989). [\[2016\]](#)

Masaru Ibuka (1908 – 1997)

Co-founder with Akio Morita (HoF 2000) of Sony; under technical leadership, introduced first transistorized TV set, first solid-state videotape recorder, Walkman, MiniDisc and PlayStation. [\[2000\]](#)

Lloyd Ivey (1951 –)

Found MiTek (1971) in Evanston, IL, to make speakers for college students at nearby Northwestern; has become one of the U.S.'s largest manufacturers of car and home audio electronics. [\[2014\]](#)

Darrell Issa (1953 –)

Co-founded Directed Electronics (1982), pioneering and leading car security system maker; two-term CTA chair; U.S. Congress (2000-19, and 2021-currently), fought for important consumer technology legislation. [\[2017\]](#)

Irwin Jacobs (1933 –)

Co-founder (1985), CEO and chair of Qualcomm, largest cell phone processor maker; developed CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) cell phone technology (1989). [\[2009\]](#)

Peter Laurtis Jensen (1886 – 1961)

Speaker pioneer; co-developed first dynamic horn speaker (1909); co-founded Magnavox (1917); first commercial moving coil radiator (1926), first magnet dynamic (1930), first car (1931) speakers. [\[2001\]](#)

Steve Jobs (1955 – 2011)

Co-founder of Apple (1976); led intro of varying mass market firsts: home PC (Apple II, 1977), PC with GUI OS (Mac, 1984), MP3 player (iPod, 2001), online music store (iTunes, 2003), smartphone (iPhone, 2007), app store (2008), tablet PC (iPad, 2010). [\[2009\]](#)

Eldridge Reeves Johnson (1867 – 1945)

Founded, with flat record inventor Emile Berliner (HoF 2001), Victor Talking Machine Company (1901); created Victorola-brand gramophones; adopted Nipper and "His Master's Voice" logo. [\[2000\]](#)

Ken Kai (1940 –)

Built OEM supplier Pioneer America in the mid-1960s into one of the leading, most respected A/V suppliers; established U.S. market for Japanese CE companies; introduced laserdisc. [\[2004\]](#)

Jerry Kalov (1936 – 2005)

President/CEO or COO of Jensen (1970-1980), JBL and Harman International (1980-83), Cobra (1985-97); EIA chair (1996-97); influential CE figure and advisor. [\[2004\]](#)

Robert Elliot “Bob” Kahn (1938 –)

Along with Vint Cerf, the pair led the development of TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol), the fundamental communications protocols that determine how data is packaged, addressed, transmitted, routed and received over the Internet. [2020]

Dean Kamen (1951 –)

One of world’s most prolific inventors; Segway, the stair-climbing iBot wheelchair, Slingshot water purifier; founder of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). [2017]

Min-Hwan Kao (1949 –)

Co-founder, with Gary Burrell (HoF 2013), of Garmin, which helped launch GPS phenomena; first GPS products deployed by U.S. armed forces in the first Gulf War. [2013]

Priit Kasesalu (1972 –)

Co-founder and co-creator of Kaaza peer-to-peer music service (2000), and Skype (2003), first and largest internet-based phone- and video-calling service. [2018]

William Kasuga (1915 – 2013)

Co-founded Kenwood (1961) as a distribution company for another Japanese CE maker, gradually built into brand synonymous with quality stereo systems. [2003]

Mikio Katayama (1957 –)

Chief director of LCD development at Sharp, led development to create first large screen LCD TVs, Aquos (2001) to establish now defacto TV display technology. [2013]

Atwater Kent (1873 – 1949)

Founded Atwater Kent Radio, leading radio brand in 1920s/1930s; popular “breadboard” radios, constructed on wood planks with no case; engineering standards activist in RMA, CTA forerunner. [2003]

Jack Kilby (1924 – 2005)

At Texas Instruments, built first integrated circuit/semiconductor chip; recognized as co-inventor with Fairchild’s Robert Noyce (HoF 2000) making digital era possible; physics Nobel Prize (2000). [2000]

Paul Klipsch (1904 – 2002)

Founded Klipsch; invented corner horn speaker, developed Klipschorn loudspeaker, longest continuously made speaker; 12 patents in acoustics, 3 in ballistics, 8 in geophysics. [2004]

Nancy Klosek (1956 –)

Long-time consumer tech reporter/editor; editor-in-chief of *Dealerscope* and *Connected Design*, she has been an influential journalist in the CT industry for 40 years. [2021]

Henry Kloss (1929 – 2002)

Founded or co-founded Acoustic Research, KLH, Advent, Cambridge SoundWorks; invented or co-invented acoustic-suspension speaker, projection TV and compact portable stereo. [2000]

In Hwoi Koo (1907 – 1969)

Founding chair of LG; “noiseless” business management turned LG from cosmetics and sundries maker into \$120-billion global entity; founded GoldStar, Korea’s first CE company. [2012]

John C. Koss Sr. (1930- 2021)

Founder of still family-run Koss headphones in Milwaukee, WI; co-invented first stereo headphones, the SP/3, in 1958, marketed as “private listening units.” [2000]

Richard Kraft (1928 – 2021)

First U.S. president/COO of Panasonic North America; expanded company’s North American manufacturing; helped usher in HDTV; holds 13 U.S. patents for TV electronics. [2010]

Ray Kurzweil (1948 –)

Inventor, entrepreneur and futurist; inventions include CCD flat-bed scanner, omni-font optical character reader, print-to-speech reading machine for the blind, text-to-speech and music synthesizers. [2017]

Ken Kutaragi (1950 –)

Created Sony PlayStation (1994), the first optical-disc-based video game platform; first video game console to ship 100 million units, became best-selling video game console. [2008]

David Lachenbruch (1921 – 1996)

Dean of CE trade journalists; spent 45 years at *TV Digest*, starting in 1950; chronicled nearly every major development in the TV industry; coined terms “consumer electronics” and “camcorder.” [2000]

Howard Ladd (1921 – 2015)

Founded Concord, bought and merged Sanyo-Fisher; introduced first cassette audio tape deck, one of the first stereo cassette boomboxes, first all-in-one stereo compact music systems. [2006]

Hedy Lamarr (1914 – 2000)

Hollywood star; during WWII with George Antheil (HoF 2014) invented frequency hopping, which evolved into spread spectrum, foundation upon which wireless communication is based. [2014]

James B. Lansing (1902 – 1949)

Pioneering audio engineer and speaker designer, manufacturer; founded speaker companies JBL and Altec-Lansing; developed speakers for use with the first “talkie,” *The Jazz Singer* (1927). [2000]

Mike Lazaridis (1961 –)

Co-founder, co-chairman, co-CEO of Research In Motion (RIM); developed the BlackBerry smartphone, world’s most popular smartphone between 2000-2010. [2017]

William Powell “Bill” Lear (1902 – 1978)

Collaborated with friend Elmer Wavering (later Motorola president) to build first practical car radio in the 1930s; invented and marketed automotive 8-track tape format in the 1960s. [2002]

Byung-Chull Lee (1910 – 1987)

Founded Samsung Trading Company (1938) and Samsung Electronics (1969), now the world’s leading TV maker; played leading role in building South Korea’s industrial landscape. [2012]

David Lee (1956 –)

Founder of Silicon Image; developed and led adoption of DVI PC (1998) and HDMI (2003) digital interface standards; awarded Technology and Engineering Emmy for HDMI (2009). [2014]

Noel Lee (1948 –)

Founder Monster Cable, maker of the first line of premium speaker and component cables; revolutionized high-end accessory business, vastly increasing retailer revenue stream and profits. [2015]

Peter Lesser (1935 –)

Founder, X-10 USA (1975), first mass market and pioneering DIY smart home automation system, protocol and company; member CEA executive board (1999-2010), executive advisor (2005-2010). [2018]

Art Levis (1936 – 1991)

Influential editor; Dempa English language editor; *TV Digest* reporter; *Consumer Electronics Monthly* editor;

International Thomson Retail Press editorial director; *Video Magazine* EIC. [2005]

Warren Lieberfarb (1943 –)

“Father of DVD”; president of Warner Home Video, leading home video company; pleaded, consulted and bargained with fellow home theater executives to bring movies to DVD. [2008]

Dr. Jae Lim (1950 –)

MIT rep to HDTV Grand Alliance; ex-officio member of FCC’s Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service; helped design MIT/GI System part of final HDTV format. [2016]

Donald “Don” Linder (1943 –)

For Motorola, lead designer and led engineering team during six-month program to develop first mobile phone, the DynaTAC (1972-73); VP, director of Motorola cellular research lab until 2001. [2008]

David B. Lorsch (1959 – 2022)

Founded Phoenix, AZ-based DBL Distributing catalog accessory company (1989); changed perception of accessories from a poor stepchild of CE industry into a retailer’s primary profit center. [2016]

Jack Luskin (1928 – 2017)

Founded Luskin’s, Baltimore-area retailer (1948); local celebrity known as “the cheapest guy in town”; pioneered low-price CE and appliance retailing; operated 48 stores at peak; VP, NATM. [2005]

Katsuhiko Machida (1943 –)

President, CEO, chair of Sharp (1998-2012); gambled all-in on LCD as future of HDTV, transformed struggling Sharp into LCD TV pioneer; helped resurrect Japan’s economy. [2013]

James C. “Cowboy” Maloney (1911 – 1976)

Founded Cowboy Maloney’s Electric City in Jackson, MS; first retailer to launch DirecTV and Sirius Satellite Radio; turned family-operated lumber yard into 13-store CE chain. [2014]

Saul Marantz (1911 – 1997)

Founded Marantz (1953), hi-fi music system pioneer, made industry standard turntables, amplifiers, speakers; first receiver with combined preamp, power amplifier and tuner. [2000]

Guglielmo Marconi (1874 – 1937)

Radio pioneer; first to successfully demonstrate wireless telegraphy (1895); sent first wireless message across Atlantic (1901); founded British Marconi (1897); shared physics Nobel Prize (1909). [\[2000\]](#)

Fujio Masuoka (1943 –)

For Toshiba, invented flash memory (1984); developed flash memory chip “digital film” manufacturing process (1989); awarded Medal with Purple Ribbon by Emperor Akihito (2007). [\[2011\]](#)

Ralph H.G. Mathews (1897 – 1982)

Co-founded leading radio/TV maker Zenith with childhood friend Karl Hassel (HoF 2009) as Chicago Radio Laboratory (CRL) (1919) in parents’ home to manufacture amateur radio equipment. [\[2009\]](#)

Konosuke Matsushita (1894 – 1989)

Founded Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. in 1918, which became one of world’s largest, most innovative electronics companies via Panasonic, Technics and JVC brands. [\[2000\]](#)

Masaharu Matsushita (1912 – 2012)

Led Panasonic, which became the world’s largest CE company, over 40 years; championed development and introduction of VHS and camcorder, ushering in home video age. [\[2005\]](#)

Frank McCann (1931 – 2004)

Led public affairs and public relations for RCA for 40 years; led PR for HDTV Grand Alliance; significant contributor to Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service (ACATS). [\[2010\]](#)

Gerald “Jerry” McCarthy (1941 –)

President, Zenith Sales Company; instrumental in launching host of innovative TV products during 30-year career, helped radically alter ways CE products are distributed and sold. [\[2014\]](#)

“Commander” Eugene McDonald Jr. (1886 – 1958)

Founded Zenith (1921); oversaw development, sale of first portable and AC radios, automatic push-button radio tuners, wireless TV remotes; first president NAB (1923); helped establish FCC. [\[2000\]](#)

John McDonald (1930 – 2008)

President of Casio; over 25-year career, led development of pocket calculators, electronic watches and portable

LCD TVs; EIA Board of Governors member, chair of CEA Executive Board. [\[2007\]](#)

Frank McIntosh (1906 – 1990)

Founded McIntosh Laboratory (1949), one of the earliest hi-fi component makers; co-designed the 50W-1, the first high-powered/low distortion audio amplifier. [\[2017\]](#)

Robert “Bob” Metcalfe (1947 –)

Co-invented Ethernet (1973); founder 3Com (1979); VP technology IDG (1995-2000); awarded National Medal of Technology from President George W. Bush (2004). [\[2011\]](#)

James E. “Jim” Meyer (1954 –)

He was an executive at RCA/GE and Thomson, and CEO at SiriusXM where he was instrumental in combining Sirius with XM to form SiriusXM the leading audio entertainment company in the U.S. [\[2020\]](#)

Bernie Mitchell (1934 – 1982)

First president of U.S. division of Pioneer Electronics of America, expanded company product portfolio, helped company revenues grow 100-fold in a decade; president of Advent (1980). [\[2015\]](#)

Mitch Mohr (1923 – 2017)

Founder Cellulphone (1983), pioneering LA-based cellular phone distributor; first authorized agent for what became Verizon Wireless 13 months before cellular service was launched in LA. [\[2017\]](#)

David Mondry (1923 – 1997)**Eugene Mondry (1930 – 2008)**

Brothers grew single Detroit-based electronics store founded by their father (1933) to 18-store Highland chain through 1970s; developed influential strategies to improve customer retail experience. [\[2010\]](#)

Gordon Moore (1929 –)

Co-founded Fairchild Semiconductor (1957) and Intel (1968); devised Moore’s Law, predicting number of transistors on a chip would double every 18 months. [\[2006\]](#)

Akio Morita (1921 – 1999)

Co-founded Sony (1946), Sony Corp. of America (1960), first Japanese company to list shares on Wall Street; led launch of VCR with Betamax (1975), Walkman (1979), PlayStation (1994). [\[2000\]](#)

Walter “Walt” Mossberg (1947 –)

Arguably most influential tech reporter of digital era; *Wall St. Journal* “Personal Technology” columnist for 25-plus years; founded All Things Digital conference; co-founded *Re/Code* web site. [2014]

Earl “Mad Man” Muntz (1914 – 1987)

L.A. used car sales/engineer, developed first car stereo; invented Muntz Stereo-Pak 4-track system, forerunner of 8-track; “Muntzing”: used minimum number of parts to make low-cost TVs. [2001]

Dr. Shuji Nakamura (1954 –)

Inventor, long-sought blue LED, plus green and white LED, essential for full-color flat screen displays; invented blue laser diode for Blu-ray; awarded physics Nobel Prize (2014). [2019]

Aaron Neretin (1928 – 2011)

CE trade editor, publisher, analyst for 50-plus years; Fairchild Publications/*HFD* (1950-1965), editor/publisher *Merchandising* (1965-1978), founded market intelligence firm Neretin Associates. [2009]

Robert Noyce (1927 – 1990)

Co-invented microchip/integrated circuit; founded Fairchild semiconductor division (1957); co-founded Intel (1968); National Medal of Science (1980), National Medal of Technology (1987). [2000]

Norio Ohga (1930 – 2011)

44 years at Sony as president, CEO, chair; led adoption of compact cassette, CD, MiniDisc and PlayStation; facilitated purchase of CBS (now Sony) Records, Columbia (now Sony) Pictures. [2004]

Pierre Omidyar (1967 –)

Created online auction sales concept and founded eBay (1995); created new market for goods between unknown sellers and buyers. [2013]

David Packard (1913 – 1996)

Co-founded prototypical Silicon Valley tech company HP with William Hewlett (HoF 2005) in Palo Alto garage with just \$538 (1939); developed first handheld calculator, plain paper inkjet printer. [2005]

Chuck Pagano (1954 –)

ESPN technical chief; built first HDTV production studio; led creation, distribution of consumer digital content; arguably

most responsible for making HD broadcast industry-wide standard. [2016]

Woo Paik (1948 –)

At General Instrument, led development of DigiCipher, digital compression basis for digital TV broadcasting; led development of VideoCipher, defacto satellite scrambling standard. [2004]

Dr. Bradford Parkinson (1935 –)

U.S. Air Force colonel, led and pushed development, implementation and launch of GPS in the mid-1970s; co-recipient of Charles Stark Draper Prize, engineering Nobel Prize (2003). [2010]

Bill and Barbara Pearse (1941 –) (1943 –)

Founders of Ultimate Electronics stores (1968 to 2005) focusing on customer service and product demos with an emphasis on selling limited distribution upscale brands. [2021]

Jerry Pearlman (1939 –)

CEO, chief architect of Zenith’s HDTV strategy (1987) and representative to Grand Alliance; led first U.S. HDTV research consortium, Zenith and AT&T (1989); drove for earliest deployment. [2016]

Frederik Philips (1905 – 2005)

Vice director, president of Philips, light bulb factory co-founded by his father (1891); tripled revenues, launched TV factories in Asia and Latin America; saved 382 Jewish workers during WWII. [2010]

Sol Polk (1917 – 1988)

Co-founded Chicago’s Polk Bros. prototype chain retailer (1935); known for aggressive “let’s make a deal” approach; first U.S. retailer to sell color TVs and microwave ovens; NARDA president. [2002]

Alexander Poniatoff (1892 – 1980)

Founded Ampex; developed, manufactured first commercial magnetic tape audio recorder (1948); initiated, supported development of first videotape recorder (1956). [2001]

Valdemar Poulsen (1869 – 1942)

Danish inventor of “telegraphone,” first functional magnetic audio wire recorder (1898); laid groundwork for all future magnetic audio, video and data recording and storage technologies. [2000]

Michael Ramsay (1950 –)

Co-inventor, with Jim Barton (HoF 2013) of TiVo, the first consumer digital video recorder (DVR) (1999). [2013]

Robin Raskin (1954 –)

A pioneering consumer technology journalist, editor, and children and internet safety expert, she founded Living in Digital Times in 2006, as a conference series at CES. [2020]

Don Rea (1935 –)

Co-founder with Ed Tuck and Norm Hunt (HoF 2016) of Magellan; led development of the first consumer handheld GPS device, the Magellan GPS NAV 1000 (1989). [2016]

A.J. Richard (1909 – 2005)

Chair, P.C. Richard & Sons New York City-based retailer (1947); turned hardware store founded by his father (1909) into 50-store TV, electronics, appliance chain. [2006]

John Roach (1938 – 2022)

President, CEO Radio Shack, chair Tandy Corp.; helped establish home PC market with TRS-80 PC (1977); founded Computer City (1991), Incredible Universe (1992). [2006]

Ed Roberts (1941 – 2010)

At garage-based Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems (MITS), designed, built and sold the first successful PC, the Altair 8800 kit (1974); inspired first gen of home PC entrepreneurs. [2000]

Michael Romagnolo (1944 –)

Founded San Diego's DOW Stereo/Video (1969) on \$1,000 investment, expanding to 10 stores in next 14 years; national launching pad for cutting edge products such as DVD and HDTV. [2018]

Donald Rumsfeld (1932 –)

General Instrument CEO, representative to HDTV Grand Alliance; oversaw development of digital high-definition compression and digital satellite TV transmission. [2016]

Sam Runco (1948 –)

Founded Runco (1986), pioneering projection TV maker; first projector with built-in line doubler; developed controller to switch from 4:3 aspect ratio to anamorphic widescreen before HDTV. [2011]

David Sarnoff (1891 – 1971)

He was a very powerful technology figure of 20th century; turned RCA into the world's biggest technology company;

led development and sales of radios, phonographs and television; established first national radio and TV networks. [2000]

Steven Sasson (1950 –)

At Kodak, invented the first digital camera (1975); captured 0.01 MP images in 23 seconds to standard audio cassette; sparked rapid development that revolutionized photography. [2007]

Jack Sauter (1924 – 2007)

Group VP, RCA; played major role in marketing, sales and consumer adoption success of color TV and VHS VCR (1977), leading to home video revolution. [2002]

Kees Schouhammer-Immink (1946 –)

Philips optical disc researcher (1967-1998); played key role in R&D of mass data storage products for 25-plus years; worked with Sony to develop CD; holds 5 foundational CD, DVD patents. [2003]

Richard "Dick" Schultze (1941 –)

Founder, CEO, chair of Best Buy, U.S.'s largest CE retail chain; started as Sound of Music in Minnesota (1966), changed to Best Buy (1983); pioneered superstore "big box" concept. [2007]

Wilfred Schwartz (1928 – 2019)

Founded Federated Group (1970), in L.A., first deep discount CE superstore in U.S.; established new CE retail model; grew from one store to 67 outlets, became Southland's dominant CE retailer. [2015]

Hermon Hosmer "H.H." Scott (1909 – 1975)

Founder of H.H. Scott, pioneering audiophile component brand (1947); set standards in fledgling hi-fi stereo equipment business in 1940s and 1950s. [2000]

Dieter Seitzer (1933 –)

Member of MP3 development team at Fraunhofer Institute (1993); led development of audio compression for phone line transmission (1970); developed first DSP for audio compression (1979). [2007]

Dr. Fritz Sennheiser (1912 – 2010)

Founded Sennheiser in abandoned farmhouse (1945); developed first open-back headphone, HD 414 (1968), of which more than 10 million were sold; first open electret phones, the 2000 (1977). [2008]

John Shalam (1933 –)

Founded Audiovox (Vox) (1965); played key role to establish after-market car audio, security, mobile video businesses; acquired RCA, Acoustic Research, Jensen, Advent and Phase Linear brands. [2009]

Claude Shannon (1916 – 2001)

Influential MIT, Bell Labs researcher; “A Mathematical Theory of Communication” paper (1948) created foundation for digital data comms revolution, considered Magna Carta of Information Age. [2011]

Richard Sharp (1947 – 2014)

First president (1984), CEO (1986) of Circuit City; expanded from dozens to hundreds of stores and revenues from \$175 million to \$12.6 billion, one of the U.S.’s premier big box retailers. [2008]

Yuma Shiraishi (1929 –)

Victor Company of Japan (JVC) engineer, co-developed, introduced and promoted VHS video tape standard with product developer/marketer Shizuo Takano. [2000]

William Shockley (1910 – 1989)

Bell Labs engineer, oversaw development of transistor by John Bardeen and Walter Brattain (HoF 2000) (1947); improved device to enable commercialization; shared Physics Nobel Prize (1956). [2000]

Ross Siragusa Sr. (1906 – 1996)

Founded Admiral (1934); during Depression, transformed small radio and phonograph company into one of top three makers of TVs; one of first companies to produce color TVs. [2000]

Dr. H. Gene Slottow (1921 – 1989)

Co-inventor, with Dr. Donald Bitzer (HoF 2006) and Robert Willson (HoF 2006), of flat plasma display technology at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1964). [2006]

George Smith (1930 –)

At Bell Labs, with Willard Boyle (HoF 2012) co-developed charged-coupled device (CCD), first digital imaging chip, to make digital photography possible; shared Physics Nobel Prize (2009). [2012]

Steve Smith (1953 –)

Editor-in-chief of *TWICE* magazine, leading *CE trade* magazine (2000-2015); *HFD CE* section editor (1987), editor *SCES HFD Show Daily* (1990), editor *TWICE CES show daily* (1994). [2016]

Alvin “Al” Sotoloff (1931 – 2009)

Exec at Philadelphia’s Silo Appliance City (1962-82), helped grow into one of first big-box CE chains; handled buying for all NATM members; merged several retailers into Audio/Video Affiliates. [2010]

Joel Spira (1927 – 2015)

Founded Lutron (1961), pioneering home automation company, leading “smart” lighting, shade controls; first solid-state light dimmer; innovated “mass customization” production techniques. [2016]

Jules Steinberg (1921 – 2010)

Transformed NARDA from small association into major marketing force within CE industry; aided success of early CES events by holding annual convention in New York in 1970s; *TWICE* columnist. [2003]

Walton “Walt” Stinson (1948 –)

Co-founded Denver’s ListenUp (1972), one of most successful A/V specialty retailers in U.S.; co-founder, first full-term president of PARA (1979); dubbed dean of A/V specialty retailers. [2009]

Charles Tandy (1918 – 1978)

Transformed near-bankrupt nine-store Boston-based Radio Shack into 6,500 outlets generating sales of more than \$1.2 billion, the largest, most iconic CE retailer of all time. [2017]

Shizuo Takano (1923 – 1992)

JVC product developer/marketer; co-developed, introduced and promoted VHS (Video Home System) with engineer Yuma Shiraishi (HoF 2000); known as father of VHS. [2000]

Kenjiro Takayanagi (1899 – 1990)

Matsushita, JVC engineer, inventor; first to successfully transmit and receive image on a CRT (1928), speeding development of TV; developed first two-headed VTR (1959), helped develop VHS. [2003]

Jaan Tallinn (1972 –)

Co-founder and co-creator of Kaaza peer-to-peer music service (2000), and Skype (2003), first and now largest internet-based phone- and video-calling service. [2018]

Ching Tang (1947 –)

Kodak researcher; discovered, led development of OLED technology (1987) with Steven Van Slyke (HOF 2013); developed numerous passive and active OLED commercialization innovations. [2013]

Neil Terk (1947 – 2003)

Founded Terk Antenna, most recognizable name in antennas known for high design; served on CEA Executive Board, Board of Directors, chair of accessories division, antenna subdivision. [2009]

Nikola Tesla (1856 – 1943)

Invented electro-magnetic AC induction motor; built first AC electrical power station (Niagara Falls, 1893) and AC power distribution systems; invented remote radio control; demonstrated wireless power; awarded more than 100 patents, created 700 inventions. [2000]

James Edward “Jim” Thiel (1947 – 2009)

Founded Thiel Audio, leading and legendary audiophile speaker brand (1976) in Lexington, KY, garage; speakers regularly won numerous awards from varying audiophile magazines. [2018]

Nat Tiffen (1925 – 2006)

Founded, with brothers Leo and Sol, Tiffen Filters (1946); developed innovative filters for consumer and pro still and video cameras; awarded two Oscars and an Emmy for technical achievement. [2016]

Dr. Floyd Toole (1938 –)

Influential, innovative Harman International psychoacoustic engineer; designed industry-standard test to measure “good” sound, leading to speaker design changes. [2015]

Victor Tsao (1951 –)**Janie Tsao (1953 –)**

Co-founded Linksys (1988); first affordable internet router (1996); first Fast Ethernet PCMCIA Card for notebook PCs, first Wi-Fi routers (1999); first 802.11g wireless router (2002). [2014]

Ed Tuck (1931 – 2017)

“Serial” venture capitalist; co-founder with Don Rea and Norm Hunt (HoF 2016) of Magellan; supported development of first consumer handheld GPS device, the Magellan GPS NAV 1000 (1989). [2016]

Joseph Tushinsky (1910 – 1988)

Inventor, musician, optics innovator, chair of the board of Sony Superscope and Marantz; first American import-distributor of Sony tape recorders; played major role in developing hi-fi industry. [2003]

Len Tweten (1927 – 2020)**Jim Tweten (1951 – 2021)**

Father/son founder/CEO of Seattle’s Magnolia Hi-Fi; started as stationary store (1954), added hi-fi gear (1967), peak of 350-plus locations; *Audio/Video’s* “Retailer of the Year” 21 years. [2013]

Cynthia Upson (1957 – 2007)

CEMA/CEA PR executive for 20-plus years; VP communications department (1991); promotion helped create home theater and digital TV markets, made CES indispensable event for media. [2010]

Steven Van Slyke (1956 –)

Researcher at Kodak; with Ching Tang, co-developed OLED technology (1987), first used in Pioneer car radios (1999). [2013]

Edgar Villchur (1917 – 2011)

Invented industry-standard acoustic suspension speaker; founded Acoustic Research (1954), which sold a third of all speakers by mid-1960s; invented now-standard hearing aid tech. [2018]

Andrew Viterbi (1935 –)

Co-founded Qualcomm (1985); created signal interference suppression Viterbi algorithm, part of digital cellular telephony and digital satellite systems (1967); co-developed CDMA. [2011]

Jack Wayman (1922 – 2014)

EIA/CEMA/CEA/CTA exec, leader, face of CE industry for 50 years; invented CES (1967); chair of Home Recording Rights Coalition; as industry spokesperson promoted CE via media tours. [2000]

Larry Weber (1947 –)

Pioneering plasma display researcher; co-founded Plasmaco (1987); worked with Fujitsu, which unveiled the first color plasma display (1993); first to demonstrate 60-inch plasma HDTV (1999). [2010]

Arthur “Art” Weinberg (1915 – 1989)

Social historian, educator, editor, journalist; coverage of Summer CES in Chicago for HFD in 1970s helped grow CE industry; Midwest bureau chief for HFD. [\[2007\]](#)

Tim Westergren (1965 –)

Co-founded Pandora (2005), first internet streaming music service; co-wrote algorithm to connect songs by understanding musicological content to help consumers discover new music. [\[2014\]](#)

George Westinghouse (1846 – 1914)

Founder, Pittsburgh-based Westinghouse Electric Corp.; financed Nikola Tesla (HoF 2000) and co-developed AC power production, transmission systems; invented AC electrical transformers. [\[2001\]](#)

Meg Whitman (1956 –)

President, CEO of eBay; grew from 30 employees, 500,000 subscribers, \$4 million annual revenue to 15,000 employees, hundreds of millions of subscribers, \$8 billion annual revenue. [\[2013\]](#)

Richard Wiley (1934 –)

FCC chair (1974-77); played pivotal role in development and adoption of DTV standard; advocated all-digital system, created Grand Alliance to cooperatively develop HDTV standards. [\[2009\]](#)

Roberta Williams (1953 –)

Co-founder of Sierra On-Line (later known as Sierra Entertainment), created graphic adventure games with titles such as “Mystery House,” the “King’s Quest” series and “Phantasmagoria.” [\[2021\]](#)

Robert Willson (1937 –)

Co-inventor, with Dr. Donald Bitzer (HoF 2006) and Dr. Gene Slottow (HoF 2006), of flat plasma display technology at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1964). [\[2009\]](#)

John Winegard (1921 – 2002)

Founded Winegard Antenna (1948); developed familiar “yagi” rooftop TV antenna; first antenna maker to use print/radio ad program, floor displays, celebrity endorsements. [\[2005\]](#)

Steve “Woz” Wozniak (1950 –)

Co-founded Apple with Steve Jobs (HoF 2009); designed and built the first recognized home PC, the Apple I, and first commercially successful home PCs, Apple II, Apple IIe. [\[2004\]](#)

Alan Wurtzel (1933 –)

CEO, Circuit City (1972-1986), chair (1984-1994), vice-chair (1994-2001); transformed father Samuel’s small Virginia-based Wards electronics stores into leading nationwide big box CE chain. [\[2003\]](#)

Hiroshi Yamauchi (1927 – 2013)

President, Nintendo; inherited small family-run playing card business at age 22; over 53 years, he built a multibillion-dollar global video game powerhouse, with both games and hardware. [\[2016\]](#)

Dr. Hiroshi Yasuda (1944 –)

Chair ISO Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) working group, key figure in the development of JPEG digital photo compression standard; co-founder MPEG (Motion Pictures Expert Group). [\[2017\]](#)

Owen D. Young (1874 –)

Founded and board chair of RCA (1919-1933), which became leading seller of radios, phonograph players and records, and leading radio network (NBC); chair of General Electric (GE) (1922-1939; 1942-44); *Time Magazine* Man of the Year (1929). [\[2019\]](#)

Niklas Zennström (1966 –)

With Janus Friis (HoF 2018), co-founded peer-to-peer music sharing service Kaaza (2000), and Skype (2003), first and now largest internet-based phone- and video-calling service. [\[2018\]](#)

Vladimir Zworykin (1889 – 1982)

Westinghouse, RCA engineer; developed “iconoscope” TV camera and “kinescope” TV receiver in early 1920s; led RCA all-electronic TV development. [\[2000\]](#)