It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Elder Owen Troy, who served as the Communication Director of the North American Division from 1980 until his retirement in 1995. Troy was living in Berrien Springs, Mich. with his wife Ann and next door to their daughter Carmelita. He suffered numerous injuries from a fall at his home last week and passed away early on Sunday morning, March 2.

Born on June 10, 1927, at the White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, Calif., he grew up in Pasadena, Calif., where his father worked as a pastor. They also lived in Huntsville, Ala. and Chicago, Ill. Troy graduated from Pacific Union College and was hired by the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He received his Masters of Religious Communication degree from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich.

In 1964 Troy was called to serve in West Africa as a missionary to the countries of Sierra Leone and Ghana, a position he held until 1966. He also served in the country of Trinidad and Tobago from 1971 to 1977. In 1980 Troy was elected as the first Communication Director of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, where he was instrumental in the creation of the department and the role that it played in the internal and external communications of the church.
“Owen was a visionary who took communication in new directions for the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” says Kermit Netteburg, who followed Troy as Assistant to the NAD President for Communication in 1995. “He helped the Church return to a focus on public audiences and away from one that was more internally focused. He was truly the first communication director in the division and initiated much of the Church’s first Internet-based communications. He also stressed that the Church start researching new forms of communication”.

Troy also served on the board of Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), the first 24-hour television network that featured the message of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a position he held for 17 years. Troy and his wife, Ann, moved to Thompsonville, Ill., the home of 3ABN, in 2005, so that they could work as volunteers at the network, and lived there until 2010 when they moved to Berrien Springs, Mich.

Troy is survived by his wife Ann, daughter Carmelita and son Owen.

**Memorial Service and Fund**

The memorial service will be at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 19, at the Michiana Fil-Am Seventh-day Adventist Church, 8454 Kephart Lane, Berrien Springs, MI  49103-9569

In lieu of flowers the Troys are asking that donations be made to 3ABN for the Owen Troy Fund.