

KENT L. MOSHER, P.E.

April 6, 1936 – August 28, 2009

By Kit Cartwright, 2009-2010 ASHRAE Iowa Chapter Historian

Former ASHRAE Iowa Chapter President, Kent Mosher passed away on August 28th, 2009. Not only will his tireless dedication to HVAC systems design and engineering be remembered, but also his unwavering friendship and glowing sense of humor.

Mr. Mosher was born in Milo, Iowa to Stephen and Mary Derrough Mosher. He attended school in Pleasantville and graduated from Knoxville High School in 1954. Kent was starting running back on the Knoxville varsity football team, until a broken arm prematurely ended his career in football. After graduation, he attended the University of Iowa, later transferring to Iowa State University where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

He began his long career with Anheuser Busch in St. Louis as a maintenance engineer. Around 1963, Kent moved back to Iowa to work as a mechanical engineer with Stevenson, Flanagan & Schilling, where he would expand his foundation in HVAC engineering design. Later on, he worked as an engineer for the Des Moines mechanical contractor, Stroh Corporation, eventually becoming president of the company. He then started several of his own companies, the first being Allied Mechanical in West Des Moines. Finally, Kent would incorporate Mosher Engineering Company in West Des Moines.



Even though he had a retirement party in 2001, he continued to work almost every day. Kent was known for his rigorous work ethic, where, by some accounts, he may have produced 2 designs per week, on average, for 15 years! He enjoyed working and being at the office. Any long distance travel was largely viewed by Kent as wasted time he could have spent in the office, working on designs. Legend has it that Kent kept a large bowl of chocolate in the office just for a little extra boost of energy for sleepy employees. He also had a wonderful sense of humor, as anyone who worked with him can attest. He would routinely break a stressful situation by belting out one of his famous catch phrases, like "Grippers!" or "She's an old girl, but she looks like a squirrel!" Kent was notorious for never throwing anything away.

Throughout his career, Kent worked on a multitude of various building types and HVAC systems. Some believe that Kent had touched, either as a designer, contractor, or citizen, just about every building in Central Iowa. He worked on projects ranging from schools to office buildings, from churches to outlet malls. He would prefer smaller

projects but would not shy away from larger ones. Over his career, Kent was aligned with projects such as:



Walnut Hills YMCA

- State of Iowa IPERS Building, which was one of the first medium pressure, dual duct systems in Iowa.
- A Keokuk Church, which was the one of the first forced air, electric heating systems in the area (as opposed to baseboard heating).
- Walnut Hills YMCA, which incorporated a coil runaround loop for pool energy recovery.
- Grimes Auto Campus, which utilized high-efficiency packaged rooftop units.

Mr. Mosher served as ASHRAE Iowa Chapter President from 1972-1973. He was also active in other associations such as ASME as well as being a charter member of CSI. Kent also served as a past chairman of the Polk County Plumbing Board.

Kent had rural roots and stayed active in the home farm operation all his life. He enjoyed his farming heritage and even collected farm toys from his childhood. He also enjoyed hunting with family and friends and being outdoors. He would make deer hunting an annual Thanksgiving Day event with his longtime friend and associate, Al Bassett. Kent belonged to a Road Rally Club, the Iowa Ski Club, Singles Again, and the Cyclone Booster Club. He will be missed.



Grimes Auto Campus

