



Industry Mourns Passing of Neville Swanson

It is with great sadness that the EICF announces the passing of Mr. Neville Swanson. Neville was a doyen of the investment casting industry's trade associations, serving as Vice President of the British Investment Casting Trade Association (BICTA) from 1995 until 1997 and as President until 1999. Neville was also active as a Board member of the European Investment Casters Federation and President from 2002 until 2004.

Neville was a chemistry graduate from St Edmunds College, Oxford, and during his BICTA Presidency arranged the 1999 conference at the Randolph Hotel Oxford (a favourite of Oxford graduates) and presided over the 40th BICTA anniversary dinner.

In 2003, the EICF was incorporated as a limited company and Neville together with David Ford, launched a campaign to attract new members and provide a service to members including technical workshops, collaborative research and international conferences. Today's successful EICF owes much to Neville's support and professionalism.

A man from Kent, Neville was a keen cricketer and lived a short distance from the Worcestershire County Cricket Club. He was also a consummate speaker and will be remembered for his entertaining renditions at conference dinners.

Above all he will be remembered as a friend and colleague who was always willing to assist with professional support and kindness.



(L-R): Jean Pierre Suberville, R&R European Sales Mgr. (retired), Mark Bijvoet, R&R European Technical Mgr. (retired), Neville Swanson, and Hassan Madani, Pres. HTM Tradeco Ltd. (R&R European Sales & Admin)

Remembering Neville Swanson

Neville Swanson joined Ransom & Randolph (R&R) in 1990 and was R&R's first European-based employee. In his role as UK Sales Manager, Neville was responsible for expanding the United Kingdom market. Investment casting was new to Neville and he had to learn the process. Located in Worcester, Neville worked with BSA Precision Casting and Lost Wax Development to educate himself, gaining long-term friendships in the process.

Over the years, Neville became very knowledgeable of the industry and was actively involved with BICTA and the EICF, eventually serving as EICF President (2002-2004). He made many strong business and personal relationships. "Neville was an educated English gentleman, who always showed genuine concern and was accessible. He always acted with integrity, was honest and consistent, inspired others to put in excellent team effort, and was very supportive. For me, he was a great teacher and a genuine colleague. It has been a great honor and privilege to have known and worked with him," said Hassan Madani, President of HTM Tradeco, R&R's Sales and Administration partner in Europe.

In the early 1990s, Neville partnered with Mike Hendricks, current Vice President of Technology for R&R, for technical support of the UK market. Mike recalls, "I spent a week every month in the UK and Europe and learned a lot from and about Neville. He was a great colleague and a good friend. He always knew the best pubs in all the towns we travelled to, even if he had never been there before. During these trips, I always looked forward to being invited to dinner at Neville's house with him and his wife Angela."

R&R recognized Neville's success in the UK in 1996, presenting him with an Outstanding Achievement award for the rapid growth of sales in the UK and Europe. His dedication and service to the industry was unquestionable.

Neville retired from R&R in 2003, but the friendships he made lasted a lifetime. In July 2019, some of his R&R colleagues, past and present, gathered with Neville to reminisce and share stories of their years working together and serving the industry.