

## General Information

### OBITUARY

#### FOR DR. SALEM MASRY



Dr. Salem Masry, the founder of what is now Teledyne-CARIS, passed away on February 1, 2020 in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada after a long battle with Parkinson's disease and its complications. He was 81 years old.

Salem was born in Asyut, Egypt, a city of Coptic Christians. He earned a Bachelor Science degree in Civil Engineering, then a PhD in photogrammetry from University College London, before becoming one of the founding members of the Department of Surveying Engineering at the University of New Brunswick in 1966. Salem's students at UNB remember him as loyal, patient, calm, with a strong work ethic.

Salem was a pioneer in the field of digital mapping and founded a company in 1979 to commercialize the results of his research, which he called Universal Systems (eventually CARIS and now Teledyne-CARIS). CARIS grew to be the leading company in ocean mapping and hydrographic charting software. Dr. Masry personally interviewed each potential new employee, who all remember him for his compassion, intelligence, work ethic, amazing memory and quick-witted sense of humor. He touched many lives with his bright spirit and will be greatly missed.

The Canadian Hydrographic Association has established a biennial CHA-Sam Masry Award, to be awarded to an individual at future Canadian Hydrographic Conferences who has contributed significantly to the Hydrographic Industry in Canada and Internationally. Two indicators of the success of Sam Masry's vision for hydrographic processing software are:

In the entrance atrium to the Valparaíso headquarters of Servicio Hidrográfico y Oceanográfico de la Armada de Chile (SHOA) are four clocks, each on one of the four walls. Three of these clocks keep time in world capitals (Washington, London, Monaco). The fourth clock keeps time in Fredericton, New Brunswick, where CARIS is located.

In September 1999 at an IHO workshop in Trieste on "Modern Management of a Hydrographic Service", in response to a question about standardization, Captain Robert Ward from Australia said to the assembly "The most important influence for international hydrographic standardization is the widespread adoption of CARIS software by IHO Member States."