

## Ion Cepoi, Engineer

(n. August 29, 1924 – d. March, 24, 2016)



Ion Cepoi was born on 29 August 1924, in Ochiul-Alb (Balti, Basarabia); he was married to Stela.

**Studies:** Secondary School (Lyceum = High School) in Iasi; Military School in Botosani. In 1944 he studied at a Military School in Germany (specialty: Antitank defense). In Magdenburg he registered in a Technician School, in order to be able to emigrate in the USA.

In 1951, he established himself in Toledo (Ohio) and registered at the Faculty of Electronics of the University Purdue (Lafayette, Indiana). Then took classes in Electro-Technics and Electronic Engineering at the California University at Los Angeles (UCLA) and South-California University (USC). He also took courses of Management and Law at the Van Norman University, where he obtained a PhD degree in Law (1971).

**Activity:** for 30 years he worked on secret projects in American Companies: Westinghouse Electric Co., Hughes Aircraft and North American Co., where he has devised and participated in the application and development of the equipment for transmission through high voltaic tension of noise and microwaves, for the installation of the Tridimensional Radar (3-D-RADAR).

Beginning with the year 1961, he worked in the Department of Research and Development of Hughes Aircraft Co. in Los Angeles, at the conception and development of microwaves components for different airplanes and rockets.

From 1971 he was hired at the North American Rockwell Company, where he worked for the Bomber B-1 and rockets projects.

In the last 20 years he oriented his activity in personal investments (construction) as well.

**Publications:**

He published articles of Romanian national interest, as:

- “The contribution of Basarabia in the economy of Grand Romania” in the “America” newspaper and radio channel “Voice of America”, 1960);
- “Lincoln and Cuza – a Comparison” (America, 1985);
- Jean Negulesco, a Life of Creative Endeavor ;
- Henri Coanda Centenar 1886-1986 – Romanian Contribution to the History of Aviation;

- Aron Cotrus – Post-Mortem Poems;
- The importance of Basarabian Poets in the preservation of the maternal language (ARA Journal, nr. 12);
- The fight of the Basarabian Church against the russification;
- Anton Crihan – picks through letters from friends, homages and memorials.
- He gave numerous interviews for radio and TV.

### **Memberships:**

Member: in IEEE, of the Society of Technical Engineers of Microwaves, of the Council of World Business of Southern California, of the Ethnic Council of Southern California, honorary member of the Romanian-American Academy of Sciences and Arts and of the Romanian Cultural Foundation (Romania); member of the Society “The Romanian Future” from Los Angeles (and over 20 years he was the President of this Society, founded in 1926); the first President of the Society “Doina” of the Romanian Americans of Las Vegas, founded at the suggestion (initiative) of Mr and Mrs Cepoi in February 2000; Member and President of the Parish Council of the Saint Mary Church in Las Vegas.

He lived in Las Vegas with his wife, Stela, a great animator of the Romanian Cultural life of America.

### **Bibliography:**

- 1) Romanians in the Occidental (Western) Science and Culture, ARA – Davis, 1996, p. 70 .
- 2) Antology of Romanian Cultural Personalities, E. Popescu, 1940-1990, San Diego, 1991, p. 239-240.
- 3) America – Romanian Newspaper, Cleveland (Ohio), 18-V-1995. p. 1.
- 4) Curierul Romanesc, Bucuresti.
- 5) Universul, Los Angeles.
- 6) Meridianul, Los Angeles.
- 7) Romania from New York to Los Angeles, Emanuel Tanjala and Dan Cristian Turturica, Ed. Nemira, Bucharest, 1997, p. 167-174.