

**TAGA HONORS AWARD 1990**

to

**ROBERT H. DOWNIE**

*for his over 40 years of dedicated service to the printing industry as chairman of the LTF (GATF) Research Committee and a member of the GATF Board of Directors; past president and present member of the Executive Committee of R&E; member of the Board of Trustees of RIT and the Board of the RIT Research Corporation; and inventor of graphic arts systems and materials, TAGA honors Robert H. Downie.*



**ROBERT H. DOWNIE**, prominent printing technologist and executive, was born in Scotland where he received a BS degree in Physics in 1946 from Edinburgh University. He emigrated to Canada that year and came to the U.S. in 1950 when he joined the Marathon Corporation which later became part of American Can Co. In 1962 he was named Associate Director of the new Princeton Laboratory of American Can Co. During this period, he served as chairman of the Research Committee of LTF which became GATF in 1963. He was an inspirational leader and he and his group at Marathon were granted many significant patents on paper converting systems, functional coatings and printing processes among which were the wraparound letter-press press, the B-11 chemically etched rotary die-cutter, and a special contact screen for gravure.

In 1969, Bob Downie moved to Bell and Howell Co. In 1967, he became VP and General Manager, R&D for Moore Business Forms, in which capacity he served until 1980 when he was named Senior VP Development of the Moore Corp. These were the highlight years of Bob's career and services to the industry. During these years he served as President of R&E and is still on its executive committee; he became a member of the RIT Board of Trustees and the Board of the RIT Research Corp.; and was elected a member of the GATF Society of Fellows.

In 1982, Bob left Moore to join International Imaging Materials and in 1986 he started R. H. Downie Development Co. L.P. and serves as its President. Besides his many talents in printing and allied technologies, Bob is a great humorist and an accomplished story teller and raconteur.