

## Clifford L. Sayre, Jr Biography

The Gerber engineering instruments in this collection belonged to my father, Clifford L. Sayre, Jr. Cliff was in the Navy ROTC at Duke University. He graduated in 1947 with a B.S. in mechanical engineering and was commissioned as an ensign in the US Navy. He served on the USS Hobson (DMS-26) until 1949. He then attended Stevens Institute of Technology. At Stevens, he was a Fellow of the Experimental Towing Tank, where he performed model testing of seaplanes and high-speed planning watercraft, while completing his M.S. in mechanical engineering, specializing in fluid mechanics. He was recalled to active duty as Lieutenant JG in the US Navy in 1952 due to the Korean War.

While on active duty from 1952-53, he was assigned to the David Taylor Model Basin in Carderock, Maryland as a project engineer where he was responsible for full-scale and model testing projects in ship and seaplane hydrodynamics. He began his doctoral studies in mechanical engineering at the University of Maryland while continuing to work on projects in hydrodynamics at the DTMB. He joined the University of Maryland faculty as an assistant professor in 1955 and received his Ph.D. in 1961. He continued on the faculty at University of Maryland through 1987 as a full professor and served as associate Dean of Engineering for several years during his tenure

While at the University of Maryland, he pursued his passion for teaching and enhanced the curriculum of the engineering department. He was particularly interested in the process of design and was instrumental in establishing the Senior Level Design Projects course in Mechanical Engineering. He extended this focus on the hands-on approach to learning engineering by adapting these methods to create an engineering college-wide freshman-level project design course to introduce engineering students to the concepts of design. He also had significant involvement in an engineering summer program for minority scholars and women to encourage them to enter and succeed in the field of engineering. He authored an early book on computer aided design in 1985; "Design and Graphics Using the Apple Computer – an Engineer's Guide." During his career, he received numerous awards from industry and academic organizations, as well as the College of Engineering and various University of Maryland graduating classes recognizing his exceptional contributions to the teaching of engineering, including the first College of Engineering Outstanding Teaching Award in 1986. In 1993, he was appointed Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland and in 1998 received an A. James Clark School of Engineering Outstanding Commitment Award.

Marie Sayre Cole