



News

University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California

April 15, 2011

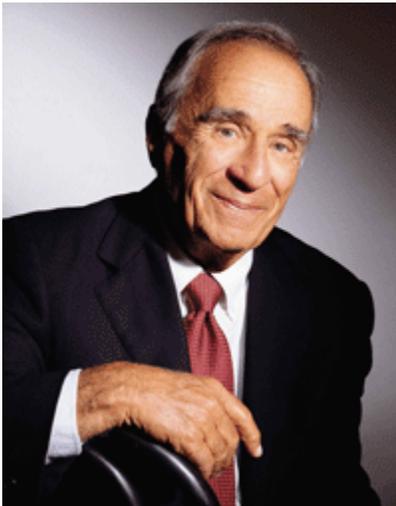
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Contact: Stacia Momburg

805-756-6260; smomburg@calpoly.edu

Friend of Cal Poly and Audio Pioneer Sidney Harman Dies at Age 92



SAN LUIS OBISPO – Sidney Harman, founder of Harman International Industries, Inc., publisher of Newsweek magazine and friend of Cal Poly, died of Tuesday, April 12, of complications from acute myeloid leukemia. He was 92.

Harman was a significant contributor to the completion of the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center. In 1996, his generous gift of JBL Professional and Harman International audio equipment brought rich sound amplification to productions at the PAC. The hall was named to honor Sidney Harman.

“Cal Poly has lost a wonderful and generous friend,” said Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong. “Sidney was a true renaissance man who immersed himself in the competitive world of business and the cultural world of the arts. He was a leader and innovator in industry who served his community responsibly. He will be missed. I know

the Cal Poly community joins me in extending our deepest sympathies to Jane, his six children and 10 grandchildren.”

Harman was active in education, government, industry and publishing. In 1953, he founded Harman/Kardon, Inc., the company produced high-quality home and car audio systems, including JBL, Infinity and Mark Levinson. The company was also the first to produce the FM Tuner.

Harman also served as chairman emeritus of Harman International Industries, Inc. and as U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce in 1977 and 1978, and he wrote the best-selling book “Mind Your Own Business: A Maverick’s Guide to Business, Leadership and Life.”

In 2010 he bought Newsweek magazine for \$1 and assumed nearly \$70 million in debt. It was his long-time goal to own the magazine.

Harman was married to Jane Harman, a former Democratic member of Congress who represented California’s 36th congressional district, which included Redondo Beach and Manhattan Beach. Jane Harman currently leads the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

###

[CP Home](#) • [CP Find It](#) • [Get Adobe Reader](#) • [Help Accessing Public Affairs Web Content](#)

[Cal Poly News Web](#) • [Cal Poly Magazine](#) • [Cal Poly Update](#)
E-newsletter

[Giving to Cal Poly](#)

Public Affairs Office
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

polynews [at] calpoly.edu